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HISTORY

OF

WORCESTER COUNTY,

MASSACHUSETTS,

WITH

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

OF MANY OF ITS

PIONEERS AND PROMINENT MEN.

COMPILED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF

D. HAMILTON HURD.

VOL. I.

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1889
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PHILADELPHIA:
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PUBLISHERS' PREFACE.

In presenting the within History to the people of Worcester County the Publishers desire to state that when the preparation of the work had been finally decided upon, an earnest effort was made to secure the leading literary talent of this section of the Commonwealth to prepare the manuscript. The result was a gratifying success. Those most familiar with the historic literature of the County were engaged, whose names appear at the head of their respective chapters. These gentlemen approached the task with a spirit of impartiality and with a determination to prepare a work which should reflect credit alike upon the County, its citizens and themselves, and the Publishers feel that no effort has been spared either by Publishers or writers to faithfully present the history of the territory embodied herein, from its Indian occupancy to the present proud position it occupies among the counties of the Commonwealth.

Philadelphia, February 20, 1889.

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Settlement.

of Common Pleas was established, to be held in each county at specified times and places, with four judges to be appointed by the Governor from within the county. This court was substantially the same as the Inferior Court of Common Pleas. The judges of the old court were appointed to the new, and no changes occurred until 1795, when Michael Gill, of Princeton, and Elijah Brigham, of Westboro', succeeded Moses Gill, who was chosen Lieutenant-Governor, and Samuel Baker. In 1798 John Sprague, of Lancaster, succeeded Artemas Ward, who resigned, and in 1800 Dwight Foster, of Worcester, succeeded Michael Gill. In 1801 Jonathan Warner succeeded John Sprague, and at a later date Benjamin Heywood, of Worcester, was appointed, completing the list of judges of this court up to its abolishment, June 21, 1811.

At the above date an act was passed providing that the Commonwealth, except Dukes County and the county of Nantucket, should be divided into six circuits as follows: the Middle Circuit, consisting of the counties of Suffolk, Essex and Middlesex; the Western Circuit, consisting of the counties of Worcester, Hampshire and Berkshire; the Southern Circuit, consisting of the counties of Norfolk, Plymouth, Bristol and Barnstable; the Eastern Circuit, consisting of the counties of York, Cumberland and Oxford; the Second Eastern Circuit, consisting of the counties of Lincoln, Kennebec and Somerset; and the Third Eastern Circuit, consisting of the counties of Hancock and Washington; and that there shall be held in the several counties, at the times and places now appointed for holding the Courts of Common Pleas, a Circuit Court of Common Pleas, consisting of one chief justice and two associate justices, to whom were to be added two sessions justices from each county to sit with the court in their county.

This court was abolished on the 14th of February, 1820, and the Court of Common Pleas established with four justices, one of whom, it was provided by law, should be commissioned chief justice. On the 1st of March, 1843, the number of judges was increased to five; March 18, 1845, to six; and May 24, 1851, to seven. On the 5th of April, 1859, the court was abolished, and the present Superior Court established, with ten judges, which number was increased May 19, 1875, to eleven, and to thirteen February 27, 1888.

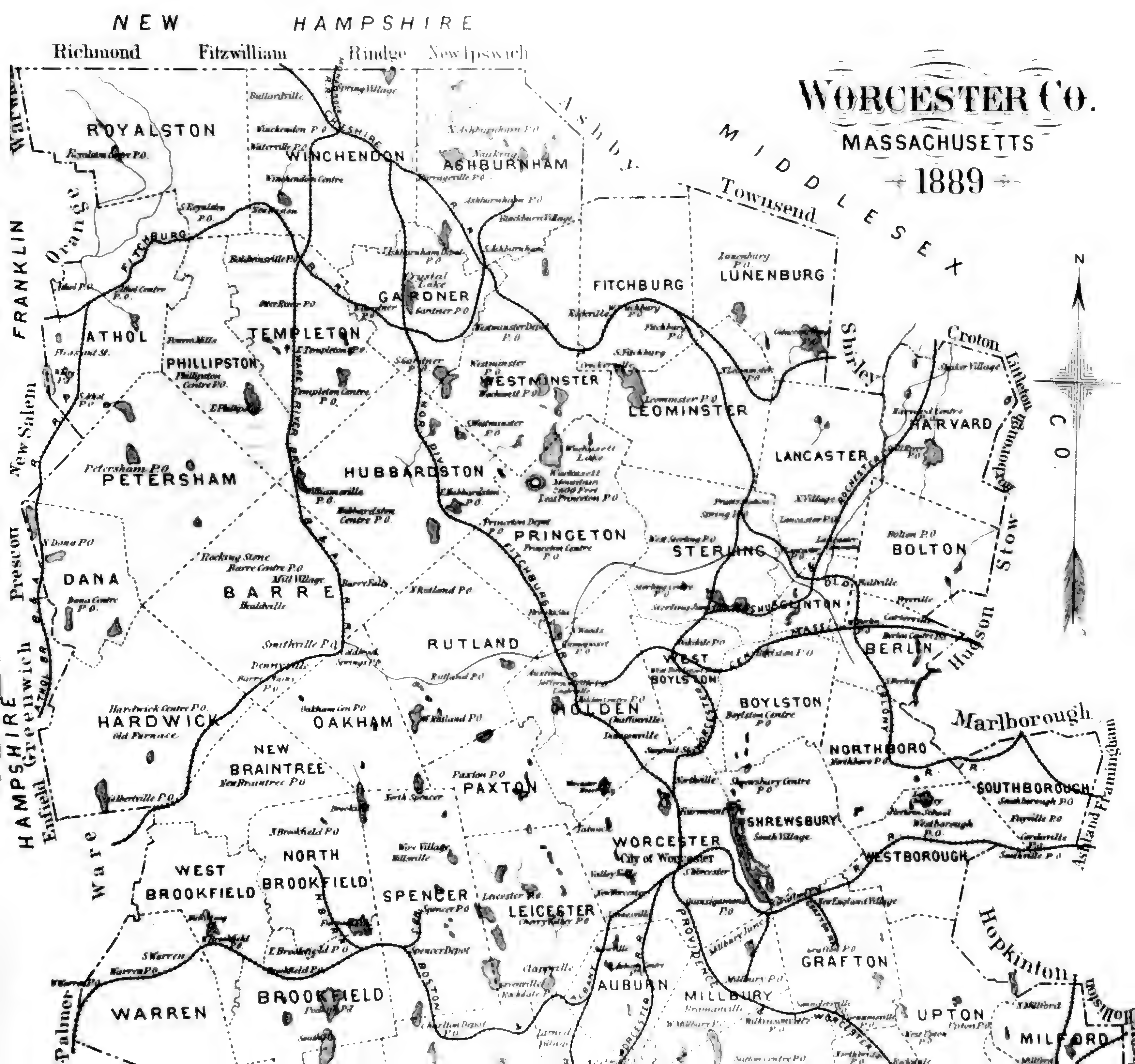
The judges of the Common Pleas Court, founded in 1820 and terminating in 1859, were Artemas Ward, chief justice, commissioned 1820; John Mason Williams, commissioned as judge in 1820, and chief justice in 1839; Solomon Strong, 1820; Samuel Howe, 1820; David Cummins, 1828; Charles Henry Warren, 1839; Charles Allen, 1842; Pliny Merrick, 1843; Joshua Holyoke Ward, 1844; Emory Washburn, 1844; Luther Stearns Cushing, 1844; Daniel Wells, chief justice, 1845; Harrison Gray Otis Colby, 1845; Charles Edward Forbes, 1847; Edward Mellen, 1847, and chief justice, 1854; George Tyler Bigelow, 1848; Jonathan Coggswell Perkins, 1848; Horatio Byington, 1848; Thomas Hopkinson, 1848; Ebenezer Rockwood Hoar, 1849; Pliny Merrick, 1850; Henry Walker Bishop, 1851; George Nixon Briggs, 1853; George Partridge Sanger, 1854; Henry Morris, 1855; and David Aikin, 1856,—the last five of whom, with Judges Mellen and Perkins, composed the bench at the time of the abolishment of the court.

The judges of the Superior Court, since its foundation, in 1859, have been Charles Allen, commissioned chief justice 1859; Julius Rockwell, commissioned 1859; Otis Phillips Lord, 1859; Marcus Morton, Jr., 1859; Seth Ames, 1859, chief justice, 1867; Ezra Wilkinson, 1859; Henry Vose, 1859; Thomas Russell, 1859; John Phelps Putnam, 1859; Lincoln Flagg Brigham, 1859, chief justice, 1869; Chester Isham Reed, 1867; Charles Devens, Jr., 1867; Henry Austin Scudder, 1869; Francis Henshaw Dewey, 1869; Robert Carter Pitman, 1869; John William Bacon, 1871; William Allen, 1872; Peleg Emory Aldrich, 1873; Waldo Colburn, 1875; William Sewall Gardner, 1875; Hamilton Barclay Staples, 1881; Marcus Perrin Knowlton, 1881; Caleb Blodgett, 1882; Albert Mason, 1882; James Madison Barker, 1882; Charles Perkins Thompson, 1885; John Wilkes Hammond, 1886; Justin Dewey, 1886; Edgar Jay Sherman, 1887; John Lothrop, 1888; James R. Dunbar, 1888; Robert R. Bishop, 1888.

The Circuit Court of Common Pleas, founded June 21, 1811, had a jurisdiction which was at various times extended and diminished. Its history was closely connected with that of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace. The latter court remained substantially the same during the life of the Province and up to June 19, 1807, when it was enacted that it should consist of one chief justice, or first justice, and a certain number of associate justices for the several counties, to be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Council. These justices were to act as the General Court of Sessions in the place of the justices of the peace.

On the 19th of June, 1809, the powers and duties of the General Court of Sessions were transferred to the Court of Common Pleas, and on the 25th of June, 1811, it was enacted "that from and after the first day of December next, an act made and passed the 19th day of June, 1809, entitled 'An Act to transfer the powers and duties of the Courts of Sessions to the Courts of Common Pleas,' be and the same is hereby repealed, and that all acts and parts of acts relative to the Courts of Sessions, which were in force at the time the act was in force, which is hereby repealed, be and the same are hereby revived from and after the said first day of September next."

On the 28th of February, 1814, it was enacted that the act of June 25, 1811, "be repealed, except so far as it relates to the Counties of Suffolk, Nantucket and Dukes County, and that all petitions, recogni-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MASSACHUSETTS
1889
NEW HAMPSHIRE
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Fitzwilliam
Rindge
New Ipswich
MIDDLESEX CO.
FRANKLIN
HAMPSHIRE
Ashby
Townsend
Shirley
Croton
Littleton
Boxborough
Stow
Hudson
Marlborough
Framingham
Ashland
Hopkinton
Orange
New Salem
Prescott
Greenwich
Enfield
Ware
Palmer
Warwick
N
ROYALSTON
WINCHENDON
ASHBURNHAM
FITCHBURG
LUNENBURG
ATHOL
TEMPLETON
GARDNER
PHILLIPSTON
WESTMINSTER
LEOMINSTER
HARVARD
LANCASTER
PETERSHAM
HUBBARDSTON
PRINCETON
STERLING
BOLTON
DANA
BARRE
RUTLAND
WEST BOYLSTON
BERLIN
HARDWICK
OAKHAM
HOLDEN
BOYLSTON
NORTHBORO
SOUTHBOROUGH
NEW BRAINTREE
PAXTON
SHREWSBURY
WESTBOROUGH
WEST BROOKFIELD
NORTH BROOKFIELD
SPENCER
LEICESTER
WORCESTER
City of Worcester
GRAFTON
AUBURN
MILLBURY
UPTON
MILFORD
WARREN
BROOKFIELD
Wachusett Mountain 2600 Feet
Wachusett Lake
Crystal Lake
Petersham P.O.
Rocking Stone
Barre Centre P.O.
Old Furnace
Princeton Depot
FITCHBURG R.R.
WARE RIVER R.R.
BOSTON & ALBANY R.R.
PROVIDENCE
WORCESTER
OLD COLONY
MASS. CENTRAL

PETERSHAM
HUBBARDSTON
PRINCETON
STERLING
BOLTON
DANA
BARRE
RUTLAND
LANCASTER
BERLIN
Hudson
Stow
Prescott
HARDWICK
OAKHAM
HOLDEN
BOYLSTON
Marlborough
NEW BRAINTREE
PAXTON
NORTHBORO
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HAMPSHIRE
Enfield
Ware
WORCESTER
City of Worcester
SHREWSBURY
WEST BROOKFIELD
NORTH BROOKFIELD
SPENCER
LEICESTER
WESTBOROUGH
Ashland
Framingham
GRAFTON
AUBURN
MILLBURY
UPTON
Hopkinton
WARREN
BROOKFIELD
SUTTON
MILFORD
HOPEDALE
NORTHBRIDGE
CHARLTON
OXFORD
STURBRIDGE
MENDON
Palmer
HAMPDEN
Brimfield
Holland
DUDLEY
SOUTHBRIDGE
WEBSTER
DOUGLAS
UXBRIDGE
BLACKSTONE
Bellingham
Union
Woodstock
Thompson
CONNECTICUT
Burrillville
RHODE ISLAND
Smithfield
Cumberland

zances, warrants, orders, certificates, reports and processes made to, taken for, or continued, or returnable to the Court of Sessions in the several counties, except as aforesaid, shall be returnable to, and proceeded in, and determined by the respective Circuit Courts of Common Pleas, which was established June 21, 1811." It was further provided "that from and after the first day of June next, the Circuit Courts of Common Pleas shall have, exercise and perform all powers, authorities and duties which the respective Courts of Sessions have, before the passage of this act, exercised and performed, except in the Counties of Suffolk, Nantucket and Dukes County." And it was further provided that the Governor, by and with the advice of the Council, be authorized to appoint two persons in each county who shall be session justices of the Circuit Court of Common Pleas, and sit with the justices of said Circuit Court in the administration of the affairs of their county and of all matters within said county of which the Courts of Sessions had cognizance. The affairs of the county were thus administered until February 20, 1819, when it was enacted "that from and after the first day of June next an act to transfer the powers and duties of the Courts of Sessions to the Circuit Courts of Common Pleas, passed February 28, 1814, be hereby repealed," and it was further provided "that from and after the first day of June next the Courts of Sessions in the several counties shall be held by one chief justice and two associate justices, to be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Council, who shall have all the powers, rights and privileges, and be subject to all the duties which are now vested in the Circuit Courts of Common Pleas, relating to the erection and repair of jails and other county buildings, the allowance and settlement of county accounts, the estimate, apportionment and issuing warrants for assessing county taxes, granting licenses, laying out, altering and discontinuing highways, and appointing committees and ordering juries for that purpose."

The management of county affairs remained in the hands of the Court of Sessions until March 4, 1826, when that part of its duties relating to highways was transferred to a new board of officers denominated "Commissioners of Highways." It was provided by law "that for each county in the Commonwealth, except the Counties of Suffolk and Nantucket, there shall be appointed and commissioned by His Excellency the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, to hold their offices for five years, unless removed by the Governor and Council, five commissioners of highways, except in the Counties of Dukes and Barnstable, in which there shall be appointed only three, who shall be inhabitants of such county, one of whom shall be designated as Chairman by his commission." It was further provided that the commissioners should report their doings to the Court of Sessions for record, and that said court should draw their warrants on the county treasurer for the expenses incurred by the commissioners in constructing roads laid out by them.

On the 26th of February, 1828, the act establishing the Courts of Sessions, passed February 20, 1819, and the act in addition thereto, passed February 21, 1820, the act increasing the numbers and extending the powers of the justices of the Courts of Sessions, passed February 6, 1822, and the act in addition to an act directing the method of laying out highways passed March 4, 1826, were repealed. The repealing act provided that "there shall be appointed and commissioned by His Excellency, the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Council, four persons to be county commissioners for each of the counties of Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk and Worcester, and three persons to be county commissioners for each of the other counties of the Commonwealth, except the county of Suffolk," "that the clerks of the Courts of Common Pleas within the several counties shall be clerks of said county commissioners," and "that for each of the counties in the Commonwealth except the counties of Suffolk, Middlesex, Essex, Worcester, Norfolk and Nantucket, there shall be appointed and commissioned two persons to act as special county commissioners." Under this law Jared Weed, Aaron Tufts, William Eaton and Edmund Cushing were appointed in 1828, and served until 1832, when James Draper succeeded Aaron Tufts. No further changes occurred in the board until 1835, when, on the 8th of April in that year, a law was passed providing that in every county, except Suffolk and Nantucket, the judge of Probate, the register of probate and clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, should be a board of examiners, and that on the first Monday in May, in the year 1835, and on the first Monday in April in every third year thereafter, the people should cast their votes for three county commissioners and two special commissioners. Under this law John W. Lincoln, William Crawford and Ebenezer D. Ammidown were chosen in 1835; William Crawford, Samuel Taylor and Ebenezer D. Ammidown, in 1838; William Crawford, David Davenport and Charles Thurber, in 1841; William Crawford, Jerome Gardner and Joseph Bruce, in 1844; the same in 1847; Otis Adams, Bonum Nye and Asaph Wood, in 1850, and the same in 1853. On the 11th of March, 1854, it was provided by law that the county commissioners then in office in the several counties, except in Suffolk and Nantucket, shall be divided into three classes, those of the first class holding their offices until the day of the next annual election of Governor, those of the second class until 1855, and those of the third class until the election in 1856, the commissioners then in office determining by lot to which class each should belong, and that at each annual election thereafter one commissioner should be chosen for three years. Under the new law the office of commissioner has been filled by Otis Adams, Bonum

Nye, Asaph Wood, Zadock A. Taft, James Allen, Velorus A. Taft, Amory Holman, J. W. Bigelow, William O. Brown, Henry G. Taft, H. E. Rice, George S. Duell and James H. Barker.

The Superior Court of Judicature which was finally established June 26, 1699, but which had been in operation since the act of November 25, 1692, which was disallowed by the Privy Council, formed a part of the judicial system of the province until February 12, 1781. It has been found difficult by some to draw the line between the death of the Superior Court of Judicature and the birth of the Supreme Judicial Court. An act was passed February 12, 1781, fixing the salaries of the justices of the Supreme Judicial Court, and yet the law establishing that court was not passed until July 3, 1782. Sufficient light is thrown on this discrepancy to explain it by an act passed February 20, 1781, which in its preamble uses the language, "Whereas by the Constitution and Frame of Government of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the style and title of the Superior Court of Judicature is now the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," and which in the body of the act uses the further language, "That the Court which hath been or shall be hereafter appointed and commissioned according to the Constitution as the Supreme Judicial Court of the Commonwealth, etc." During its existence the judges on its bench were:

	Commissioned		*Commissioned*
William Stoughton	1692	Thomas Greaves	1737
Thomas Danforth	1692	Stephen Sewall	1739
Wait Winthrop	1692	Nathaniel Hubbard	1745
John Richards	1692	Benjamin Lynde	1745
Samuel Sewall	1692	John Cushing	1747
Elisha Cooke	1695	Chambers Russell	1752
John Walley	1700	Peter Oliver	1756
John Saffin	1701	Thomas Hutchinson	1761
Isaac Addington	1702	Edmund Trowbridge	1767
John Hathorne	1702	Foster Hutchinson	1771
John Leverett	1702	Nathaniel Ropes	1772
Jonathan Corwin	1708	William Cushing	1772
Benjamin Lynde	1712	William Browne	1774
Nathaniel Thomas	1712	John Adams	1775
Addington Davenport	1715	Nathaniel P. Sargent	1775
Paul Dudley	1718	William Reed	1775
Edmund Quincy	1718	Robert Treat Paine	1775
John Cushing	1729	Jedediah Foster	1776
Jonathan Remington	1733	James Sullivan	1776
Richard Saltonstall	1736	David Sewall	1777

The chief justices of the court were, William Stoughton, 1692; Isaac Addington, 1702; Wait Winthrop, 1708; Samuel Sewall, 1718; Benjamin Lynde, 1718; Paul Dudley, 1745; Stephen Sewall, 1752; Thomas Hutchinson, 1761; Benjamin Lynde, 1769; Peter Oliver, 1772; William Cushing, 1775.

The Supreme Judicial Court, which superseded the Superior Court of Judicature, was established by law February 20, 1781. It was established with one chief justice and four associate justices, which number was increased to six in 1800, and the State divided into two circuits—the East, including Essex County and Maine, and the West, including the remainder of the State except Suffolk County. In 1805 the number of associates was reduced to four, and in 1852 increased to five. In 1873 the number of associates was increased to six, making the court as since constituted to consist of seven judges, including the chief justice.

The judges of the court have been

	Commissioned		*Commissioned*
William Cushing	1781	Richard Fletcher	1848
Nathl. Peaslee Sargent	1781	George Tyler Bigelow	1850
James Sullivan	1781	Caleb Cushing	1852
David Sewall	1781	Benj. Franklin Thomas	1853
Increase Sumner	1782	Pliny Merrick	1853
Francis Dana	1785	Ebenezer Rockwood Hoar	1859
Robert Treat Paine	1790	Reuben Atwater Chapman	1860
Nathan Cushing	1790	Horace Gray	1864
Thomas Dawes	1792	James Denison Colt	1865
Theophilus Bradbury	1795	Dwight Foster	1866
Samuel Sewall	1800	John Wells	1866
Simeon Strong	1801	James Denison Colt	1868
George Thacher	1801	Seth Ames	1869
Theodore Sedgwick	1802	Marcus Morton	1869
Isaac Parker	1806	Wm. Crowninshield Endicott	1873
Theophilus Parsons	1806	Charles Devens	1873
Charles Jackson	1813	Otis Phillips Lord	1875
Daniel Dewey	1814	Augustus Lord Soule	1877
Samuel Putnam	1814	Wolbridge Abner Field	1881
Samuel Sumner Wilde	1815	Charles Devens	1881
Levi Lincoln	1824	William Allen	1881
Marcus Morton	1825	Charles Allen	1882
Lemuel Shaw	1830	Waldo Colburn	1882
Charles Augustus Dewey	1837	Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.	1882
Samuel Hubbard	1842	William Sewall Gardner	1885
Charles Edward Forbes	1848	Marcus Perrin Knowlton	1887
Theron Metcalf	1848		

The chief justices of the court have been William Cushing, 1781; Nathaniel Peaslee Sargent, 1790; Francis Dana, 1791; Theophilus Parsons, 1806; Samuel Sewall, 1814; Isaac Parker, 1814; Lemuel Shaw, 1830; George Tyler Bigelow, 1860; Reuben Atwater Chapman, 1868; Horace Gray, 1873; Marcus Morton, 1882.

The administration of probate affairs up to the accession of President Dudley, in 1685, was in the hands of the County Court; Dudley assumed probate jurisdiction, but delegated his powers in some of the counties to a judge, appointed by himself. Under the administration of Andros he assumed jurisdiction in the settlement of estates exceeding fifty pounds, while judges of probate had jurisdiction in estates of a lesser amount. The provincial charter gave jurisdiction to the Governor and Council in all probate matters, who claimed and exercised the right of delegating it to judges and registers of probate in the several counties. On the 12th of March, 1784, a Probate Court was established by law, of which the judge and register were to be appointed by the Governor, until, under an amendment of the Constitution, ratified by the people May 23, 1855, it was provided by law that in 1856, and every fifth year thereafter, the register should be chosen by the people for a term of five years. In 1856 a Court of Insolvency was also established for each county, with a judge and register, and in 1858 the offices of judge and register of both the Probate and Insolvency Courts were abolished, and

the offices of judge and register of probate and insolvency were established. It was also provided that the registers of probate and insolvency should be chosen by the people for a term of five years, in that year and every fifth year thereafter. In 1862 the Probate Court was made a Court of Record.

The judges of probate in Worcester County have been

John Chandler, of Woodstock	1731 to 1740
Joseph Wilder, of Lancaster	1740 to 1756
John Chandler, of Worcester	1756 to 1762
John Chandler, Jr., of Worcester	1762 to 1775
Jedediah Foster, of Brookfield	1775 to 1776
Artemas Ward, of Shrewsbury	1776 to 1778
Levi Lincoln, of Worcester	1776 to 1783
Joseph Dorr, of Ward (Auburn)	1783 to 1801
Nathaniel Paine of Worcester	1801 to 1836
Ira M. Barton, of Worcester	1836 to 1844
Benj. F. Thomas, of Worcester	1844 to 1848
Thomas Kinnicutt, of Worcester	1848 to 1857
Dwight Foster, of Worcester	1857 to 1858
Henry Chapin, of Worcester (P. & In.)	1858 to 1878
Aden Thayer, of Worcester (P. & In.)	1878 to 1888
Wm. T. Forbes, of Westboro (P. & In.)	1888

During the short life of the Court of Insolvency the judges were Alexander H. Bullock and W. W. Rice, and the register was John J. Piper. The registers of Probate have been John Chandler, Jr., of Worcester; Timothy Paine, of Worcester; Clarke Chandler, of Worcester; Joseph Wheeler, of Worcester; Theophilus Wheeler, Charles G. Prentice, John J. Piper (P. & In.), Charles E. Stevens (P. & In.) and Frederick W. Southwick (P. & In.).

During the existence of the Massachusetts Colony the executive officer of the court was called either "beadle" or "marshal," except under Dudley, when he was called "provost marshal," and under Andros, when he was called "sheriff." Since the union of the Plymouth and Massachusetts Colonies, and the establishment of the province of Massachusetts Bay, in 1692, he has been called "sheriff." Under the province charter he was appointed by the Governor, and continued to be after the adoption of the Constitution until 1831. On the 17th of March in that year a law was passed providing that the Governor should appoint and commission sheriffs for terms of five years, and giving him power to remove them from office at pleasure. Under the nineteenth article of amendments of the Constitution, ratified by the people in 1855, a law was passed in 1856 providing that in that year, and every third year thereafter, a sheriff should be chosen by the people of each county at the annual election.

The sheriffs of Worcester County have been as follows:

	Appointed
Daniel Gookin	1731
Benjamin Flagg (*vice* Gookin, deceased)	1743
John Chandler (*vice* Flagg, deceased)	1751
Gardner Chandler (*vice* Chandler, made judge)	1762
Simeon Dwight (under the new order)	1775
William Greenleaf (*vice* Dwight, deceased)	1778
John Sprague	1788
Dwight Foster (*vice* Sprague, resigned)	1792
William Caldwell	1793
Thomas W. Ward	1805
Calvin Willard	1824
John W. Lincoln	1844
James W. Estabrook	1851
George W. Richardson	1853
	Chosen
J. S. C. Knowlton	1856
A. B. R. Sprague	1871

In the colony of Massachusetts the clerks of the courts were appointed by the courts. Under the Province the clerks of the County Courts and of the Superior Court of Judicature, and afterwards of the Supreme Judicial Court, until 1797, were distinct, and the clerk of the two latter courts had his office in Boston. The courts continued to hold the appointment of clerks until 1811, when it was transferred to the Governor and Council. In 1814 it was given to the Supreme Judicial Court, and so remained until 1856, when it was provided by law that in that year, and every fifth year thereafter, clerks should be chosen by the people in the several counties. The clerks of the courts in Worcester County have been as follows:

	Appointed
John Chandler (2d)	1731
Timothy Paine	1751
Levi Lincoln	1775
Joseph Allen	1776
William Stedman	1810
Francis Blake	1814
Abijah Bigelow	1817
Joseph G. Kendall	1832
Charles W. Hartshorn	1848
Joseph Mason	1852
	Chosen
Joseph Mason	1856
John A. Dana	1876
Theodore S. Johnson	1881

Timothy Paine, the second on the list of clerks, was appointed joint clerk with John Chandler, and continued sole clerk after the promotion of Mr. Chandler to the bench.

The assistant clerks have been,—

William A. Smith	1847 to '64
John A. Dana	1864 to '76
Wm. T. Harlowe	1876 to —

During the colonial period and up to 1715 clerks of courts were registers of deeds, but on the 26th of July, in that year, it was provided by law "that in each county some person having a freehold within said county to the value of at least ten pounds should be chosen by the people of the county register of deeds for the term of five years." This practice continued until 1855, having been confirmed and renewed by a law of 1781. In 1855 it was provided that in that year and every third year thereafter a register of deeds should be chosen for the term of three years. The registers of deeds in Worcester County have been:

	Chosen
John Chandler (2d)	1731
Timothy Paine	1761
Nathan Baldwin	1775
Daniel Clapp	1784
Oliver Fiske	1816

Artemas Ward	1821
Alexander H. Wilder	1846
Harvey B. Wilder	1873
Charles A. Chase	1876
Harvey B. Wilder	1877

On the 6th of June, 1856, an act was passed providing that three terms of the Common Pleas Court should be held annually in the town of Fitchburg, and thus that town became a half-shire. On the 29th of February, 1884, it was enacted by the General Court that Worcester County should be divided into two districts for the registry of deeds, one of which, including the city of Fitchburg and the towns of Lunenburg, Leominster, Westminster and Ashburnham, should be called the Northern District and the other, including the remainder of the county, the Worcester District; the places of registry for the two districts being Fitchburg and Worcester. It was also provided that the register then in office should continue as the register of the Worcester District, and that the Governor should appoint a register for the Northern District, who should serve until a register was chosen and qualified in his place. On the 15th of June, 1885, it was provided by law that the County Commissioners should cause copies of deeds to be made in one district belonging to the other not exceeding twenty years prior to August 1, 1884. The register at Fitchburg, under the new law, has been and continues to be Charles F. Rockwood.

It was provided by law by the Court of the Massachusetts Colony in 1654, that each county should annually choose a treasurer. After the formation of the province this provision was renewed by an act passed in 1692, and again renewed the 23d of March, 1786, and remained in force until 1855, when it was provided that a treasurer should be chosen in each county in that year, and every third year thereafter, for the term of three years. The treasurers of Worcester County have been Benjamin Houghton, John Chandler (2d) and John Chandler (3d) from 1731 to 1775; Nathan Perry, from 1775 to 1790; Samuel Allen, from 1790 to 1831; Anthony Chase, from 1831 to 1865; Charles A. Chase, from 1865 to 1876, and Edward A. Brown, from 1876 to date.

The only courts remaining to be mentioned are the Police and District Courts. The only Police Court is that in Fitchburg, of which Thornton K. Ware is justice, and David H. Merriam and Charles S. Hayden are the special justices. The Police Court of Worcester, of which Wm. N. Green was justice, no longer exists. There are seven District Courts. The First Northern Worcester Court is held at Athol and Gardner, and has jurisdiction in Athol, Gardner, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Templeton and Hubbardston. Its officers are Charles Field, justice; James A. Stiles and Sidney P. Smith, special justices. The First Southern is held at Southbridge and Webster, and has jurisdiction in Southbridge, Sturbridge, Charlton, Dudley, Oxford and Webster. Its officers are Clark Jillson, justice; Henry T. Clark and Elisha M. Phillips, special justices. The Second Southern Worcester is held at Blackstone and Uxbridge and has jurisdiction in Blackstone, Uxbridge, Douglas and Northbridge. Its officers are Arthur A. Putnam, justice; Zadoc A. Taft, and William J. Taft special justices. The Third Southern Worcester is held at Milford, and has jurisdiction in Milford, Mendon and Upton. Its officers are Charles A. Dewey, justice, and James R. Davis and Charles E. Whitney, special justices. The First Eastern Worcester is held at Westborough and Grafton, and has jurisdiction in Westborough, Grafton, Northborough and Southborough. Its officers are Dexter Newton, justice, and Benjamin B. Nourse and Luther K. Leland, special justices. The Second Eastern Worcester is held at Clinton, and has jurisdiction in Clinton, Berlin, Bolton, Harvard, Lancaster and Sterling. Its officers are Christopher C. Stone, justice, and Herbert Parker, special justice. The Central Worcester is held at Worcester, and has jurisdiction in Worcester, Millbury, Sutton, Auburn, Leicester, Paxton, West Boylston, Boylston, Holden and Shrewsbury. Its officers are Samuel Utley, justice; George M. Woodward and Hollis W. Cobb, special justices, and Edward T. Raymond, clerk.

It is not proposed to include in this chapter any allusion to the judges and members of the bar who have illustrated the judicial history of Worcester County. Another chapter will be specially devoted to sketches of their character and lives. Until 1836 the bar was divided into two classes, attorneys and barristers, though after 1806, under a rule of court, counselors, were substituted for barristers, and in 1836 the distinction between counselors and attorneys was abolished. The writer will be excused if he repeats in this place substantially what he has written elsewhere concerning American barristers.

The term "barrister" is derived from the Latin word *barra*, signifying "bar," and was applied to those only who were permitted to plead at the bar of the courts. In England, before admission, barristers must have resided three years in one of the Inns of Court if a graduate of either Cambridge or Oxford, and five years if not. These Inns of Court were the Inner Temple, the Middle Temple, Lincoln's Inn and Gray's Inn. Before the Revolution this rule seems to have so far prevailed here as to require a practice of three years in the Inferior Courts before admission as a barrister. John Adams says in his diary that he became a barrister in 1761, and was directed to provide himself with a gown and bands and a tie-wig, having practiced according to the rules three years in the Inferior Courts. At a later day the term of probation was four years, and at a still later, seven. There are known to have been twenty-five barristers in Massachusetts in 1768—eleven in Suffolk County: Richard Dana, Benjamin Kent, James Otis, Jr., Samuel Fitch, William Read, Samue Swift, Benjamin Gridley, Samuel Quincy, Robert

Auchmuty and Andrew Casneau, of Boston, and John Adams, of Braintree; five in Essex: Daniel Farnham and John Lowell, of Newburyport, William Pynchon, of Salem, John Chipman, of Marblehead, and Nathaniel Peaslee Sargent, of Haverhill; one in Middlesex: Jonathan Sewell; two in Worcester: James Putnam, of Worcester, and Abel Willard, of Lancaster; three in Bristol: Samuel White, Robert Treat Paine and Daniel Leonard; two in Plymouth: James Hovey and Pelham Winslow, of Plymouth; one in Hampshire: John Worthington, of Springfield, then in that county. Fifteen others were added before the Revolution—Sampson Salter Blowers, of Boston, Moses Bliss and Jonathan Bliss, of Springfield, Joseph Hawley, of Northampton, Zephaniah Leonard, of Taunton, Mark Hopkins, of Great Barrington, Simeon Strong, of Amherst, Daniel Oliver, of Hardwick, Francis Dana, of Cambridge, Daniel Bliss, of Concord, Joshua Upham, of Brookfield, Shearjashub Bourne, of Barnstable, Samuel Porter, of Salem, Jeremiah D. Rogers, of Littleton, and Oakes Angier, of Bridgewater. How many barristers were admitted in Worcester County at later dates the writer has been unable to discover, but it is known that in 1803 Levi Lincoln had been added to the roll.

The following entry in the records of the Superior Court of Judicature will throw light on the methods which prevailed concerning the admission of barristers:

Suffolk SS. Superior Court of Judicature at Boston, third Tuesday of February, 1781; present—William Cushing, Nathaniel P. Sargeant, David Sewall and James Sullivan, Justices; and now at this term the following rule is made by the court and ordered to be entered, viz.: whereas learning and literary accomplishments are necessary as well to promote the happiness as to preserve the freedom of the people, and the learning of the law when duly encouraged and rightly directed, being as well peculiarly subservient to the great and good purpose aforesaid, as promotive of public and private justice; and the court being at all times ready to bestow peculiar marks of approbation upon the gentlemen of the bar, who, by a close application to the study of the science they profess, by a mode of conduct which gives a conviction of the rectitude of their minds and a fairness of practice that does honor to the profession of the law, shall distinguish as men of science, honor and integrity, Do order that no gentleman shall be called to the degree of barrister until he shall merit the same by his conspicuous bearing, ability and honesty; and that the court will, of their own mere motion, call to the bar such persons as shall render themselves worthy as aforesaid; and that the manner of calling to the bar shall be as follows: The gentleman who shall be a candidate shall stand within the bar; the Chief Justice, or in his absence the Senior Justice, shall, in the name of the court, repeat to him the qualifications necessary for a barrister at law; shall let him know that it is a conviction in the mind of the court of his being possessed of those qualifications that induces them to confer the honor upon him; and shall solemnly charge him so to conduct himself as to be of singular service to his country by exerting his abilities for the defence of her constitutional freedom; and so to demean himself as to do honor to the court and bar.

In the act passed July 3, 1782, establishing the Supreme Judicial Court, it was provided that the court might and should from time to time make record and establish all such rules and regulations with respect to the admission of attorneys ordinarily practicing in said court and the creation of barristers at law. Under the provisions of this act the court adopted the following rule:

Suffolk, SS At the Supreme Judicial Court at Boston the last Tuesday of August, 1783; present—William Cushing, Chief Justice, and Nathaniel P. Sargeant, David Sewall and Increase Summer, Justices; ordered that barristers be called to the bar by special writ to be ordered by the Court and to be in the following form:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

To A. B., Esq., of —— Greeting: We, well knowing your ability, learning and integrity, command you that you appear before our Justices of our Supreme Judicial Court next to be holden at —— in and for our County of —— on the —— Tuesday of —— then and there in our said court, to take upon you the State and degree of a Barrister at law. Hereof fail not. Witness, ——, Esq., our Chief Justice at Boston, the —— day of ——in the year of our Lord ——, and in the —— year of our Independence ——. By order of the Court. ——, Clerk.

Which writ shall be fairly engraved on parchment and delivered twenty days before the session of the same Court by the Sheriff of the same County to the person to whom directed, and being produced in Court by the Barrister and there read by the clerk and proper certificate thereon made, shall be redelivered and kept as a voucher of his being legally called to the bar; and the Barristers shall take rank according to the date of their respective writs.

In 1806 the following rule was adopted by the court, which seems to have substituted counselors for barristers:

Suffolk SS. At the Supreme Judicial Court at Boston for the County of Suffolk and Nantucket, the second Tuesday of March, 1806; present—Francis Dana, chief Justice, Theodore Sedgwick, George Thatcher and Isaac Parker, Justices; ordered: First. No Attorney shall do the business of a counsellor unless he shall have been made or admitted as such by the Court. Second. All attorneys of this Court who have been admitted three years before the sitting of this Court, shall be and hereby are made Counsellors, and are entitled to all the rights and privileges of such. Third. No Attorney or Counsellor shall hereafter be admitted without a previous examination, etc.

The rule of the Supreme Judicial Court, adopted in 1783, was issued under the provisions of the law of 1782 establishing that court, but the rule adopted by the Superior Court of Judicature in 1781 seems to have been made in obedience to no law, but under the general powers of the court. It is not known at precisely what period barristers were introduced into the Provincial courts, but it is probable that until 1781 the English custom and methods and qualifications were substantially followed without any rule of court.

The earliest sessions of the courts were held in the meeting-house in Worcester, which was built in 1719 on the Common. This meeting-house stood until 1763. In 1732 it was decided to built a court-house. The land for its site was given by Judge Jennison and it was erected in 1733. The county tax in that year was apportioned as follows:

	£	s	d.		£	s	d.
Worcester	22	15	4	Rutland	7	16	0
Lancaster	62	16	8	Westborough	18	2	0
Mendon	36	0	0	Shrewsbury	14	14	0
Woodstock	32	0	0	Oxford	14	4	0
Brookfield	27	1	4	Sutton	24	10	0
Southborough	17	6	0	Uxbridge	12	0	8
Leicester	13	19	4	Lunenburg	7	16	0

This court-house was situated near the site of the present brick court-house near Lincoln Square, and was opened February 8, 1734. It is believed that its dimensions were thirty-six feet by twenty-six. In 1751 a new building was erected, forty feet by thirty-six, on the Court Hill, corner of Green and Franklin

Streets, and is now used as a residence. The corner-stone of the brick building, now in use, was laid October 1, 1801, under the direction of a building committee composed of Isaiah Thomas, William Caldwell and Salem Towne. The original building, since enlarged, was fifty and a half feet long and forty-eight and a half feet wide, and was opened September 27, 1803, when Chief Justice Robert Treat Paine, of the Supreme Judicial Court, delivered an address. At the February meeting of the County Commissioners in 1842 it was decided to build another court-house, and the granite structure, now chiefly in use, was erected at a cost of one hundred thousand dollars on the site of the house of Isaiah Thomas, which was removed to the rear and is still standing. This building, which was originally one hundred and eight feet long and fifty-seven wide, was enlarged in 1878. It was opened September 30, 1845, on which occasion an address was delivered by Chief Justice Lemuel Shaw.

With regard to the erection of the first jail there seems to be some confusion as to dates. As nearly as can be ascertained, what was called a cage was built before 1732, and in that year the Court of Sessions ordered that, "in lieu of the prison before appointed, the cage, so-called, already built be removed to the chamber of the house of Deacon Daniel Haywood, innholder, and be the jail until the chamber be suitably furnished for a jail and then the chamber be the jail for the county and the cage remain as one of the apartments." The inn of Deacon Haywood stood on the site of the present Bay State House. In 1734, no jail having been built, the Court of Sessions hired a part of the house of Judge Jennison for prisoners; very soon after this time, probably in 1734, a jail was built on the west side of Lincoln Street. In 1753 a new jail was built farther down the same street, thirty-eight feet long and twenty-eight wide. In December, 1784, the Court of Sessions provided for the erection of a stone jail, sixty-four feet by thirty-two and three stories high, on the south side of Lincoln Square, which was completed September 4, 1788. This building was pronounced by Isaiah Thomas, then the editor of the *Spy*, as in public opinion the most important stone building in the Commonwealth, next to King's Chapel in Boston. It was built of rough quarry stone from Mill-Stone Hill by John Parks, of Groton, who gained a high reputation by his work. In 1819 a house of correction was built, fifty-three feet by twenty-seven, where the present jail stands on Summer Street. In 1832 it was rebuilt with forty cells, each seven feet by three and a half, and with three rooms for close confinement. In 1835 a part of the building was arranged for a jail, and in 1873 it was altered, remodeled and enlarged to its present dimensions. A jail and house of correction were also built in Fitchburg when that town was made a half-shire.

Under the Constitution of Massachusetts, adopted by a convention of the people at Cambridge, Sept. 1, 1779, it was provided that there should be forty districts in the State, created by the General Court for Councilors and Senators, and until the General Court should act in the premises, the several districts, with the number of Councilors and Senators, in each should be as follows: Suffolk county with six; Essex, six; Middlesex, five; Hampshire, four; Plymouth, three; Barnstable, one; Bristol, three; York, two; Dukes County and Nantucket, one; Worcester, five; Cumberland, one; Lincoln, one, and Berkshire, two. On the 24th, 1794, Suffolk was changed to four, Essex to five, Middlesex to four, Hampshire to five, Bristol to two, Plymouth was added to Dukes and Nantucket with three, Bristol was changed to two, Norfolk, which had been incorporated March 26, 1793, received three, and Lincoln was added to Hancock and Washington, which had been incorporated with two. The apportionment was again changed June 23, 1802, when the number for Worcester was changed to four; again February 24, 1814, February 15, 1816, and at various other times, which it is unnecessary to recount. By the thirteenth article of amendment of the Constitution, adopted by the Legislature of 1839–40, it was provided that a census of the legal voters of the State, May 1, 1840, should be taken, and that on the basis of the census the Senators should be apportioned among the counties by the Governor and Council, with not less than one Senator in each county. By the twenty-second article of amendment adopted by the Legislature of 1856–57, and ratified by the people May 1, 1857, it was provided that a census should be taken and forty Senatorial districts created by the General Court, and that in 1865 and every tenth year thereafter a census should be taken, and a new apportionment made. From the time of the adoption of the Constitution up to the time of the creation of Senatorial districts the following persons were chosen Senators to represent Worcester County: Moses Gill, of Princeton, Samuel Baker, of Berlin, Joseph Dorr, of Ward, Israel Nichols, of Leominster, Jonathan Warner, Jr., of Hardwick, Seth Washburn, of Leicester, John Sprague, Abel Wilder, Amos Singleterry, John Fessenden, Joseph Stone, Jonathan Grout, Timothy Bigelow, Salem Towne, Josiah Stearns, Daniel Bigelow, Peter Penneman, Timothy Newell, Elijah Brigham, —— Taft, —— Hale, Francis Blake, Seth Hastings, Solomon Strong, Levi Lincoln, Jr., Moses Smith, Thomas H. Blood, Daniel Waldo, Salem Towne, Jr., Aaron Tufts, Benjamin Adams, Nathaniel Jones, S. P. Gardner, Silas Holman, John Spurr, Oliver Crosby, James Phillips, James Humphrys, Samuel Eastman, Lewis Bigelow, John Shipley, Nathaniel P. Denny, Joseph G. Kendall, William Eaton, Nathaniel Houghton, William Crawford, Jr., Jonas Sibley, B. Taft, Jr., Joseph Bowman, John W. Lincoln, Joseph Davis, Edward Cushing, Joseph Estabrook, Lovell Walker, David Wilder, Samuel Mixter, William S. Hastings, James Draper, Rufus Bullock, Charles Hudson, Ira M. Barton, Samuel Lee, Rejoice Newton, Charles Russell, George A. Tafts, Waldo

Flint, Charles Allen, Linus Child, Ethan A. Greenwood, William Hancock, James G. Carter, Thomas Kinnicutt, Artemas Lee, James Allen, Charles Sibley, Samuel Wood, Jedediah Marcy, Benjamin Estabrook, Nathaniel Wood, Ch. C. P. Hastings, Emory Washburn, Alexander De Witt, Solomon Strong, Isaac Davis, Ariel Bragg, Daniel Hill, Joseph Stone, John G. Thurston, Stephen Salisbury, Calvin Willard, Jason Goulding, George Denny, Nahum F. Bryant, Alfred D. Foster, Alanson Hamilton, John Brooks, Alexander H. Bullock, Ebenezer D. Ammidown, Paul Whitin, Ebenezer Torrey, Pliny Merrick, John Raymond, Amasa Walker, Edward B. Bigelow, Francis Howe, Giles H. Whitney, Moses Wood, Freeman Walker, Elmer Brigham, J. S. C. Knowlton, Albert Alden, Sullivan Fay, Elisha Murdock, Ivers Phillips, Charles Thurber, Anson Bugbee, Joseph W. Mansur, Joseph Whitman, H. W. Benchley, Albert A. Cook, Edward Denny, Jabez Fisher, Alvan G. Underwood, F. H. Dewey, Velorous Taft, J. F. Hitchcock, George F. Hoar, William Mixter, Ohio Whitney, Jr.

Under the new system of Senatorial districts Worcester County was divided into districts by itself, unconnected with other counties until the apportionment made on the basis of the census of 1885, and was represented by Worcester County Senators up to and inclusive of the year 1886. During this period the following gentlemen represented the various districts of the county: J. M. Earle, John G. Metcalf, Oliver C. Felton, Charles Field, Goldsmith F. Bailey, S. Allen, Dexter F. Parker, Ichabod Washburn, Hartley Williams, E. B. Stoddard, Alvah Crocker, Winslow Battles, William R. Hill, Moses B. Southwick, Wm. Upham, Nathaniel Eddy, Sylvester Dresser, Rufus B. Dodge, Asher Joslin, John D. Cogswell, Emerson Johnson, Jason Gorham, Freeman Walker, Henry Smith, George Whitney, Charles Adams, Jr., William D. Peck, T. E. Glazier, Israel C. Allen, Solon S. Hastings, Joel Merriam, Abraham M. Bigelaw, John E. Stone, Thomas Rice, Benjamin Boynton, Charles G. Stevens, Hosea Crane, William Russell, Milo Hildreth, Lucius W. Pond, Moses D. Southwick, Ebenezer Davis, George S. Ball, F. H. Dewey, George M. Rice, Adin Thayer, George F. Thompson, George F. Very, Edward L. Davis, John D. Wheeler, Charles A. Wheelock, J. H. Wood, S. M. Greggs, Jeremiah Getchell, Aaron C. Mayhew, Luther Hill, Frederick D. Brown, Lucius J. Knowles, George W. Johnson, A. W. Bartholomew, Henry L. Bancroft, Washington Tufts, Emery L. Bates, John G. Mudge, George M. Buttrick, Baxter D. Whitney, N. L. Johnson, Moses L. Ayers, John H. Lockey, Francis B. Fay, Henry C. Greeley, George A. Torrey, Amasa Norcross, C. H. B. Snow, Elisha Brimhall, George S. Barton, Henry C. Rice, William Knowlton, Ebenezer B. Linde, James W. Stockwell, Alpheus Harding, Charles H. Merriam, Wm. Abbott, Charles T. Crocker, Thomas J. Hastings, Chester C. Corbin, John M. Moore, Daniel B. Ingalls, George W. Johnson, Charles B. Pratt, Charles P. Barton, Theodore C. Bates, Edward P. Loring, John D. Washburn, Charles E. Whitin, Charles A. Denny, Thomas P. Root, Martin V. B. Jefferson, Henry S. Nourse, Arthur F. Whitin, William T. Forbes, Charles A. Gleason, Allen L. Joslin.

Under the census of 1885 a new apportionment was made, under which the Senators for 1887 were chosen in 1886. Under this apportionment there were four districts confined to the county and one other, including Athol, Barre, Dana, Gardner, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, Oakham, Petersham, Phillipston, Rutland and Templeton in Worcester County, and Amherst, Belchertown, Enfield, Granby, Greenwich, Hadley, Pelham, Prescott, South Hadley and Ware in Hampshire County, and called Worcester and Hampshire District. Under this apportionment the Senators have been Edwin T. Marble, William T. Forbes, Irving B. Sayles, Harris C. Hartwell, Charles A. Gleason, Silas M. Wheelock and George P. Ladd.

The districts as formed under the census of 1885, with a ratio of 11,382 for one Senator, are as follows:

First Worcester District.—Wards 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of Worcester, with 10,786 legal voters.

Second Worcester District.—Berlin, Blackstone, Bolton, Boylston, Clinton, Grafton, Harvard, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Northborough, Northbridge, Shrewsbury, Southborough, Upton, Uxbridge and Westborough, with 11,433 legal voters.

Third Worcester District. — Auburn, Brookfield, Charlton, Douglas, Dudley, Leicester, Milbury, North Brookfield, Oxford, Paxton, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Sutton, Warren, Webster and West Brookfield, with 11,217 legal voters.

Fourth Worcester District.—Fitchburg, Holden, Lancaster, Leominster, Lunenburg, Princeton, Sterling, West Boylston, Westminster and Wards 2 and 3 of Worcester, with 12,099 legal voters.

Worcester and Hampshire District.—Athol, Barre, Dana, Gardner, Hardwick, Hubbardston, New Braintree, Oakham, Petersham, Phillipston, Rutland and Templeton in Worcester County, and Amherst, Belchertown, Enfield, Granby, Greenwich, Hadley, Pelham, Prescott, South Hadley and Ware in Hampshire, with 11,127 legal voters.

This sketch of Worcester County would be incomplete without some allusion to the various organizations which have the county as the field and boundary of their operations. The Worcester County Musical Association had its origin in a musical convention held in Worcester in 1852. Its officers are, Edward L. Davis, president; William Sumner, vice-president; A. C. Munroe, secretary, and J. E. Benchley, treasurer. The Worcester County Musical School, which has been in existence some years, was organized to furnish instruction "in piano, organ, singing, violin, flute, guitar, harmony and elocution," with an efficient corps of instructors. Besides the Worcester Agricultural Society there are in the county five distinct societies—the Worcester West holding its annual

exhibitions at Barre; the Worcester Northwest holding its exhibitions at Athol; the Worcester North at Fitchburg; the Worcester Southeast at Milford, and the South Worcester. The Worcester Horticultural Society was formed in 1840. The Worcester County Homœopathic Medical Society was organized in 1866, and its present officers are: E. A. Murdock, of Spencer, president; E. L. Mellus, of Worcester, vice-president; Lamson Allen, of Southbridge, recording secretary and treasurer, and John P. Rand, of Monson, corresponding secretary. The Worcester County Law Library Association was organized in 1842, and is composed of the members of the county bar.

The Worcester County Mechanics' Association was incorporated in 1842. Its officers are: Robert H. Chamberlain, president; Ellery B. Crane, vice-president, and William A. Smith, clerk and treasurer.

The Worcester County Retail Grocers' Association was organized in 1881, and its officers are: Samuel A. Pratt, president; C. G. Parker, vice-president; E. E. Putnam, secretary, and James Early, treasurer.

The Worcester County Society of Engineers was formed in 1886. Its officers are: A. C. Buttrick, president; Charles A. Allen, vice-president; A. J. Marble, secretary, and E. K. Hill, treasurer.

The Worcester County Stenographers' Association was organized in 1887, and its officers are: Edna L. Taylor, president; F. L. Hutchins, vice-president; George E. Vaughn, secretary, and John F. McDuffie, treasurer.

The Worcester District Medical Society was organized in 1804. Its officers are: George C. Webber, of Millbury, president; J. Marcus Reed, of Worcester, vice-president; W. C. Stevens, of Worcester, secretary, and S. B. Woodward, of Worcester, treasurer.

Of county religious associations there are five belonging to the Orthodox Congregationalist denomination. The Worcester Central Conference includes the Worcester churches and those of Auburn, Berlin, Boylston, Clinton, Holden, Leicester, Oxford, Paxton, Princeton, Rutland, Shrewsbury, Sterling and West Boylston.

The Worcester North includes the churches of Ashburnham, Athol, Gardner, Hubbardston, Petersham, Phillipston, Royalston, Templeton, Westminster and Winchendon, with two churches in Franklin County.

The Worcester South includes the churches of Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Millbury, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, Uxbridge, Webster and Westborough.

The Brookfield Conference includes the churches of Barre, Brookfield, Charlton, Dana, Dudley, Hardwick, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Oakham, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Warren and West Brookfield, with four towns outside the county. The Middlesex Union Conference includes the churches of Fitchburg, Harvard, Lancaster, Leominster and Lunenburg, with eleven churches in Middlesex County.

Of County Baptist Associations there are two—the Wachusett, including the churches in Barre, Bolton, Clinton, Fitchburg, Gardner, Harvard, Holden, Leominster, Sterling, Templeton, West Boylston, Westminster and Winchendon, and the Worcester Association, including the churches of Worcester, Brookfield Grafton, Leicester, Millbury, Northborough, Oxford, Southbridge, Sturbridge, Spencer, Uxbridge, Webster and Westborough.

Of the Methodist denomination there are, strictly speaking, no county organizations. The New England Conference, extending from the seaboard to the Connecticut Valley, is divided into four districts, which include most of the Methodist Churches in the county.

Of the Unitarian denomination there is the Worcester Conference of Congregational and other Christian societies, which was organized at Worcester December 12, 1866. It includes the churches of Athol, Barre, Berlin, Bolton, Brookfield, Clinton, Fitchburg, Grafton, Harvard, Milford, Hubbardston, Lancaster, Leicester, Leominster, Mendon, Northborough, Petersham, Sterling, Sturbridge, Templeton, Upton, Uxbridge, Westborough, Winchendon and Worcester. There is also a Ministers' Association belonging to this denomination.

Of the Episcopal, Universalist and Catholic denominations there are no county organizations, and sketches of their various churches will be included in the histories of the towns in which they are located.

The Worcester County Bible Society was organized September 7, 1815, under the name of "The Auxiliary Bible Society of the County of Worcester," but has been more lately known as the Bible Society of Worcester.

In closing this sketch a list of the present officers of Worcester County should be added. It is as follows: Judge of Probate and Insolvency, William T. Forbes; Register of Probate and Insolvency, Frederick W. Southwick, of Worcester; Sheriff, Augustus B. R. Sprague, of Worcester; Clerk of the Courts, Theodore S. Johnson, of Worcester; Treasurer, Edward O. Brown, of Worcester; Register of Deeds of Worcester District, Harvey B. Wilder, of Worcester; Register of Deeds of Northern District, Charles F. Rockwood, of Fitchburg.

County Commissioners: George S. Duell, of Brookfield, term expires December 1, 1888; William O. Brown, of Fitchburg, term expires December 1, 1889; James H. Barker, of Milford, term expires December 1, 1890.

Special Commissioners: Thomas P. Root, of Barre, term expires December 1, 1889; Charles J. Rice, of Winchendon, term expires December 1, 1889.

Commissioners of Insolvency: Rufus B. Dodge, Jr., of Charlton; David H. Merriam, of Fitchburg; Andrew J. Bartholomew, of Southbridge; Daniel B. Hubbard, of Grafton.

Trial Justices: James W. Jenkins, of Barre; George S. Duell, of Brookfield; Chauncey W. Carter

and Hamilton Mayo, of Leominster; Charles E. Jenks, of North Brookfield; Frank B. Spalter, of Winchendon; Luther Hill, of Spencer; Horace W. Bush, of West Brookfield; John W. Tyler, of Warren, and Henry A. Farwell, of Hubbardston.

CHAPTER II.

THE BENCH AND BAR.

BY CHARLES F. ALDRICH.

"It is not they who are oftenest on men's lips, who are clothed with a visible authority, who bear the sword and the ensign of State, that contribute most to the well-being of a community; but he, rather, who sits apart in severe simplicity, and, in the supremacy of intellectual and moral strength, adjusts the relation between man and man; and, with an authority mightier than his who wields a sceptre, silently moulds the State, and interprets and dispenses the laws that govern it."—*Rev. Alonzo Hill, remarks on the life of Pliny Merrick.*

By the act incorporating this county, passed by the General Court of the Province in 1731, provision was made for four annual terms of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace, and of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas, and for an annual session of the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Gaol Delivery.

The jurisdiction of justices of the peace and of judges of Probate supplemented that of these more formal tribunals, and the whole constituted a system of judicial machinery which served the needs of the community, with but little amendment from 1699 until the adoption of the State Constitution. With several changes of title and some amplification to adapt it to the increased business and complexity of interests in the modern highly organized society, its principal features subsist in the system of to-day.

The Superior Court was composed of a chief and four associate justices. Its jurisdiction covered "all matters of a civil and criminal nature, including appeals, reviews and writs of error. . . . as fully and amply to all intents and purposes whatsoever, as the Courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas and Exchequer within his Majesty's Kingdom of England." It also possessed very limited equity powers. The home government had always exhibited a jealous disposition to keep the Provincial courts closely hemmed in by the rules of the common law. Except in cases of the breach of the condition of a bond or a mortgage, when the court might prevent the exaction of the strict forfeiture on payment of proper damages, no part of the great system of equity jurisprudence, which, in England, was then well advanced, was permitted to take root here. This early discouragement has seemed, until very recent years, to prejudice the minds of our law-makers and our courts against the granting or the exercise of jurisdiction in equity.

The judges were appointed by the Governor and his Council, and might, and frequently did, hold various other offices at the same time. Hutchinson, when chief justice, was also Lieutenant-Governor, member of the Council and judge of Probate for Suffolk. The principle of appointment to judicial office thus established has been ever since adhered to in this Commonwealth, and it is to be hoped that no demand for popular elections will cause a seat upon the bench to be set up as a prize of the caucus. By the provision of the State Constitution the good sense of our judges, and the increase in the number of men competent and willing to perform the duties of the various offices, our courts have, in the main, been presided over by men who held no other public office, and gave all their energies to the labors of their judicial station. It has thus most happily been true of the administration of Massachusetts justice, that it has been singularly free even from the suspicion of partisan bias, and has retained the confidence alike of bar and laity. Until the Revolution no resident of Worcester County attained the dignity of justice of the Superior Court.

The Inferior Court of Common Pleas was composed in each county of four justices, three of whom constituted a quorum for transacting business. Its jurisdiction covered civil actions of every nature, according to the course of the common law. From its decision an appeal lay to the Superior Court.

The Court of General Sessions of the Peace was held at the same times with the Common Pleas by the justices of the peace for the county or such a number of them as were designated from time to time. Its jurisdiction as a judicial tribunal covered only criminal matters, and hence was limited to the trial of offenses for which the punishment did not extend to death, loss of member, or banishment. The same tribunal had a supervision and control of the administration of the county finances, the laying out of highways, etc., similar to the present powers of County Commissioners.

Justices of the peace held courts in their various places of residence, and were authorized to hear and decide in a large variety of civil actions where the damage did not exceed forty shillings. When the title to land was concerned, however, the issue was deemed too important for any court of less dignity than the Common Pleas. In criminal matters their jurisdiction extended to minor breaches of the peace and disorderly conduct, and they could inflict penalties of small fines, whipping and sitting in the stocks. For offences beyond their jurisdiction they were authorized to bind over persons accused to the higher tribunals. From their decisions appeals lay to the Court of Common Pleas.

In the Governor and Council was vested jurisdiction over the probate of wills, the settlement of the estates of deceased persons, the appointment of guardians and the like. It was the custom, however, for

them to appoint substitutes in the various counties, who transacted the ordinary business subject to revision on appeal to the Governor and Council. These deputy courts were recognized by several laws of the province, though their establishment was never specially authorized by any act of the General Court.

The history of the bar of this county is practically covered by the professional activity of four of its members. Joseph Dwight, admitted at the first term of the Court of Common Pleas held in the newly-established county, lived until 1765. John Sprague was admitted to the bar in 1768, and died in 1800. Benjamin Adams admitted in 1792, probably tried causes before Judge Sprague, and as he lived in Uxbridge until 1837, it is most probable that the late Peter C. Bacon, who was admitted in 1830, knew him personally.

When JOSEPH DWIGHT, in 1731, took the oaths of an attorney and became the only member of the Worcester County bar, there were in the province but few educated lawyers. Benjamin Lynde was chief and Paul Dudley an associate justice of the Superior Court, both of whom were thorough lawyers. Through the influence and learning, especially of Dudley, the forms of pleading were being brought into intelligible shape, and the principles of law were becoming more clearly understood by bench and bar. It was not at all essential, however, that a judge should be a lawyer. Many of those upon the Superior bench had no legal education, and of fourteen judges of the Court of Common Pleas for Worcester County before the Revolution, only three were members of the bar. Dwight was born in Hatfield in 1703, and received his education at Harvard, where he graduated in 1722. After his admission to the bar for some years he resided in Brookfield, and was repeatedly elected its Representative to the General Court.

For one year during his service he held the position of Speaker of the House. In 1743 he was appointed to the bench of the Common Pleas, and retained his commission until about the time of his removal to Stockbridge, in Hampshire County, in 1751 or 1752. There he was interested in the efforts which were being made, under the direction of Jonathan Edwards, to educate the Indians. Judge Dwight was appointed a trustee of the schools, and for a year or more remained closely associated with the learned divine, for whom he always testified the highest regard. He soon left Stockbridge for Great Barrington, and resumed judicial functions in the Hampshire County Court until Berkshire was set off, in 1761. For the new county he became chief justice, and so continued till his death, in 1765. With his duties as judge he combined the carrying on of a mercantile business and the functions of an active military leader. He held the rank of brigadier-general, and won the commendation of his superior officers for services against the French.

A contemporary of his, both at the bar and on the bench, was NAHUM WARD, a resident of Shrewsbury, and a judge of the Common Pleas from 1745 to 1762. Not much is recorded of him, though he was in active practice for several years. His son and grandson, each bearing the name of Artemas, filled larger places in the public eye, and each became judge of the same court.

The only other lawyer on this bench until after the Revolution was TIMOTHY RUGGLES, who was born in Rochester, in the county of Plymouth, in 1711, and graduated at Harvard in 1732. He was judge from 1757 until the Revolution, and chief justice after 1762. His father, the Rev. Timothy Ruggles, endeavored to turn the future soldier's thoughts to the study of divinity, but it is probable that the combative instincts of the son, so strongly developed later in life, inclined him to a more stirring field of exertion. When only twenty-five he represented Rochester in the Assembly. There he was instrumental in procuring the passage of an act to prohibit sheriffs or their deputies from making writs, a useful provision of the public statutes to this day. As a lawyer he must have been successful, for while still a resident of Plymouth County, he practiced in other courts, and was often engaged in causes in Worcester County before he removed to Hardwick, about 1753.

The fame of the soldier, however, generally obscures whatever other reputation its possessor may earn. In "Brigadier Ruggles" the judge was almost forgotten. Like Dwight, he was actively engaged in several military operations, and fairly won his distinction by hard service. In 1755 he was next in command to General Johnson in the battle in which the French, under Dieskau, were badly defeated. Illustrative of the brigadier's blunt manners, they say that when during the day something was going wrong, he consoled his superior officer with the remark: "General, I hope the damnable blunders you have made this day may be sanctified unto you for your spiritual and everlasting good," an expression rather of hope for future improvement than of confidence in the present abilities of his leader, which a more politic subordinate would probably have confined to his own thoughts.

It was a matter of course that he took an active part in political affairs. Hardwick sent him as its representative to the Assembly for several years, during two of which he was Speaker of the House. He presided over the convention of delegates from eight Colonies, which met in New York, in 1765, to consider the grievances imposed by the home government. His attachment to the old order of things here manifested itself in his refusal to join in the protest of the convention against taxation by Parliament. As his opinions on this subject had been openly expressed, it is a singular evidence of the great respect in which he was held that he should have been chosen as a delegate. But neither the consistency of his course nor his dignified character excused him in the eye of the Provincial

Legislature. In accordance with their vote he was publicly censured by the Speaker, and from that time his separation from the popular cause became more and more apparent. When the discontent finally became a revolution, he abandoned his property, his dignities, and his home, and took up his part with the supporters of the Crown. At this point, of course, his connection with our county affairs ceased. He died in Halifax, in 1798, having lived to see those whom he had called rebels firmly established as citizens of an independent State.

Eleven other judges of the Court of Common Pleas, previous to the Revolution, were taken from various vocations. They were men chosen for general good sense, for the respect in which they were held by their neighbors, and for their integrity of purpose—qualities which, in the scarcity of trained lawyers, certainly entitled them to superintend the administration of justice.

JOHN CHANDLER, of Woodstock, the first chief justice, was also the first judge of Probate. He was a military officer of some distinction, and represented his town in the General Court, and was chosen afterwards a member of the Governor's Council. His son, bearing the same name, was born in Woodstock in 1693, but removed to Worcester in 1731. He was the first clerk of courts, register of probate and register of deeds for the county in those days when one man could discharge the duties of a multiplicity of offices. While still holding those offices he was appointed sheriff of the county, and was for several years elected selectman and a Representative to the General Court. Later on he was appointed judge of the Court of Common Pleas and judge of the Probate Court, thus succeeding to the dignities of his father. He died in 1763.

Another father and son who occupied seats on the bench of the County Court were the two JOSEPH WILDERS, of Lancaster. The elder was influential in securing to Worcester the distinction of being the county-seat, as he objected to the selection of Lancaster, lest the morals of its people should be corrupted by the sessions of the courts therein. He succeeded the first John Chandler as judge of Probate and held both offices till his death, in 1757.

His son succeeded the second Chandler in the Common Pleas, was Representative of Lancaster in the General Court for eleven years, and was actively engaged in business operations, in his native town, until his death, in 1773.

Of most of the other judges little is known. JONAS RICE was, in 1714, the sole inhabitant of Worcester, all others having been driven away by the depredation of the Indians. His firm courage secured to him, in the rebuilt town, the respect of his neighbors and marked him as a man fit for responsibilities.

Practicing before the court thus composed, beside the three who have been mentioned as elevated to the bench, there were but fourteen lawyers from 1731 until the Revolution. JOSHUA EATON was the first of the profession who settled in Worcester. He was a native of that part of Watertown now Waltham, and was educated at Harvard, where he graduated in 1735, in his twenty-first year. He entered upon the study of the law in the office of Edmund Trowbridge, who was then just beginning his professional career, in the course of which, as leader of the bar of the Province and as judge of the Superior Court, he contributed, perhaps more than any one man before the Revolution, to the advancement of legal science. Trained under this excellent master, Mr. Eaton seems to have started upon a successful practice. The early desire of his parents had been that he should adopt the clerical profession, and after about six years at the bar, his own feelings turned him in the same direction. He studied for the ministry, gave up a good and increasing practice and adopted his new calling with such zeal and energy as to subject him to the censure of the church, which approved of more moderate ministerial devotion. He soon, however, by a more quiet walk and conversation, commended himself to the church in that part of Leicester now Spencer, and there was settled, lived for nearly thirty years, and died, in 1772, respected and beloved by his people.

A fellow-townsman of Eaton, in Leicester, was CHRISTOPHER JACOB LAWTON, a lawyer who had been admitted in Hampshire County in 1726. He practiced for some years in Springfield and in Suffield before his removal to Leicester. Except that he had a clientage of only moderate numbers, little is known of his professional attainments.

STEPHEN FESSENDEN was another student of Judge Trowbridge, who opened his office in Worcester about 1743. But he, too, from some unknown cause, does not appear to have long clung to his professional pursuits.

Perhaps the most learned and able lawyer of this bar previous to the Revolution was JAMES PUTNAM, who came here in 1749, fresh from his studies with Judge Trowbridge, of whose encouragement and advice he seems to have profited more than those we have mentioned. He was born in Danvers in 1725, and after graduating at Harvard in 1746, betook himself to the law with a zeal and industry that resulted in placing him with the leaders of the bar in the Province. Dwight was then the only lawyer residing and practicing in the county, but Putnam had to contend with the leaders from other counties, and was proved a worthy opponent. He obtained a large clientage not only at home, but in Hampshire and Middlesex, and rose, by merit, to the position of Attorney-General of the Province. This office he was holding when the Revolution called upon men to choose between King and country. Like most of the other men of prominence and wealth, Putnam stood by the old order, and like them he thereby lost his home. He was rewarded for his loyalty to the Brit-

ish government by an appointment to the bench of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick. There he added to his reputation as a sound lawyer, and acquired such a name for learning and impartial justice that when a friendly biographer described him as "the best lawyer in North America," the praise did not seem unwarrantably extravagant. He lived until after the inauguration of the first President of the United States of America.

One of the judges of the Common Pleas for ten years was Samuel Willard, of Lancaster. His son, ABEL WILLARD, born in that town in 1732, may, from his father's position, have been naturally inclined to the law. After graduating at the university, he studied in Boston, and was admitted to this bar in 1755. In his native town, then a rival of the county-seat for population and business activity, he found ample opportunity for the exercise of his talents. He illustrated the truth, too often forgotten, that modesty, kindliness and aversion to strife are not inconsistent with the successful practice of the law. He performed the true function of the lawyer in allaying rather than fomenting strife, in endeavoring to keep his client out of threatened difficulties—methods which in no degree interfered with asserting and maintaining his just rights when litigation could not properly be avoided. In 1770 he formed with John Sprague the earliest law partnership in this county. During the war he too left the country and died in England in 1781.

EZRA TAYLOR, of Southborough, is to be included in this list of lawyers, though whether he was regularly admitted to the bar is uncertain. He at any rate practiced law in Southborough, from about 1751 until the Revolution, and continued so to do in Maine, where he removed during the progress of the war.

A pupil of James Putnam was JOSHUA ATHERTON, who was born in Harvard in 1737, and graduated at Cambridge in 1762. He began his practice in Petersham, but did not long remain in this county. After several changes of domicile, he settled in Amherst, in New Hampshire. There he became a leader at the bar, and Attorney-General of the State after the Revolution, and died in 1809.

In 1765, the same year with Atherton, two other young men began their professional careers in this county. DANIEL BLISS was a native of Concord, and a graduate of Harvard in 1760, in his twentieth year. Like Eaton, he was urged towards the ministry by his parents, and somewhat by his own inclination. Some influences turned him aside, and he studied law in the office of Abel Willard. He made Rutland, where he found his wife, the field of his early ventures in business. About 1772 he returned to his first home in Concord. He gained a good position at the bar, and an enviable reputation as a thorough gentleman, but he did not sympathize with the cause of the colonists against the Crown. Thus he, too, became an exile from the country that he evidently loved, and the friends who had honored him. After the war he was appointed a judge in New Brunswick, and fulfilled its duties with credit, as he seems to have discharged all other duties until his death, in 1806.

Contemporary with Atherton and Bliss was JOSHUA UPHAM, of Brookfield. Born in 1741; like nearly all the lawyers we have mentioned, he had the advantage of a college education at Harvard. His class-mate and intimate associate was Timothy Pickering, with whom he maintained a friendship that was interrupted, not broken, by the war. After his graduation, in 1765, he completed his professional studies in two years, and was admitted to the bar a few months later than Bliss. In Brookfield he built up an excellent practice, continually increasing until 1776. It then became no longer possible for one who was not heartily with the popular cause to remain, and he removed to Boston, and later to New York. Either from the failure of some business enterprises in which he was engaged, or perhaps, more probably, on account of his Tory predilections, he left the country after the peace and, like Putnam and Bliss, found opportunity for the exercise of his professional acumen on the bench of New Brunswick. In the last year of his life he was occupied in England in perfecting with the home government a reorganization of the judicial system of the British American provinces. This work he lived to complete, but died in London in 1808.

Two sons of the second Judge John Chandler became members of this bar. Rufus was born in 1747, graduated in 1766 and admitted to the bar in 1768. He studied with James Putnam and practiced in Worcester until the laws became silent in the midst of arms. He naturally imbibed the principles of his father and his preceptor, and his name was included with theirs in an act of banishment, passed while the war was still in progress. He had already left the country, and resided till his death, in 1823, in London.

His brother, Nathaniel, born in 1750, followed closely in his footsteps. After graduating at Harvard in 1768, he took the place of Rufus in Putnam's office, where he studied during the next three years. He chose Petersham for his residence and practice, until at the beginning of the war he took service with the British in New York. Though he thus seems to have taken a much more decided stand against the colonies than his brother, or several others whom we have mentioned, he was able to return to Petersham in 1784 and engage in mercantile pursuits. He did not renew the practice of the law, nor long continue in business, but soon came back to Worcester, where he died in 1801.

Of the lawyers heretofore mentioned, not one remained in practice in this county after the Revolution. Nearly all of them cast in their lot with the supporters of the old *régime*, and the new condition of affairs left them no place in their wonted sphere. Some of them, as has been shown, found room for

increased activity and usefulness in the provinces that still remained subject to England. Some found a refuge in the mother country.

JOHN SPRAGUE forms a connecting link between the bar of the province and that of the independent State. He was born in Rochester, Plymouth County, the birth-place of Timothy Ruggles, in 1740. In the year 1765, when Joseph Dwight, the first member of this bar, died, Sprague graduated from Harvard. His first choice was the profession of medicine, but it evidently did not suit his tastes, for after a few months' trial he abandoned it for the law, and commenced studying in James Putnam's office. Like a host of our New England professional men, he taught school while pursuing his studies, a kind of discipline whose benefits appear in the acquired patience and facility in imparting knowledge of those who have tried it successfully. After his admission to this bar in 1768, he removed to Newport, Rhode Island, and thence to Keene, New Hampshire. Finally he made Lancaster his home, and in a business connection with Abel Willard began a most extensive practice. Thus he continued until it became necessary for him and his partner to decide whether they would become rebels with their countrymen, or cleave to their foreign allegiance. Willard, as has been seen, chose for the latter. Sprague hesitated, as many a conscientious and thoughtful man must have done. He went so far as to leave Lancaster for Boston before the actual outbreak of hostilities. There, however, the advice of friends at home, and his own reflection, induced him to espouse what seemed the weaker cause, and he returned to take his chance with the resisters of oppression.

The end of the June term, 1774, brought to a close the sessions of the Provincial Court of Common Pleas for this county. During the interval before the opening of the new court, in December, 1775, it may well be that no one had time or thought for contests so comparatively trivial as those of the forum. But this state of things could not long continue. The everyday affairs of life must receive attention, though the fate of nations is in suspense. The Provincial Government commissioned judges, and before them Sprague resumed his practice.

After the adoption of the Constitution he represented the county in the State Senate for two years, and among his other public services he was one of the few early advocates of the ratification of the Constitution of the United States. Later on he became high sheriff of the county. Two years before his death, which occurred in 1800, he was appointed chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas, the first lawyer on that bench after the Revolution.

Sprague appears to have taken no prominent part in the stirring scenes that were being enacted about him during the war. The name of another judge, whose career helps us to bridge this interval, is most frequently remembered in connection with his military achievements. ARTEMAS WARD was a justice of the Common Pleas both before and after the Revolution. He was born in Shrewsbury and graduated at Harvard in 1748. His father, Nahum Ward, has already been mentioned as one of the earliest in practice in the county. This is the third instance of a son succeeding his father on the bench of the Common Pleas of this county before the Revolution. That judicial honors and the capacity worthily to wear them may often be transmitted to descendants seems to be a well-established fact in the history of this Commonwealth. Whether Judge Nahum Ward continued in office until the appointment of his son is not certain, but it is stated by one authority that he died in 1762, which was the year in which Artemas became a judge. The latter had not adopted the profession of his father, but soon after leaving college was actively engaged in public affairs. He represented his native town in the Legislature, and was a member of the Governor's Council in 1774, when the home government undertook to remove from the electors of the Province the right to choose councillors and to vest their appointment in the Crown. His acceptance of such an appointment by Brigadier Ruggles had been the final act which placed him in a position entirely hostile to the popular cause. The mandamus councilors, as they were called, were among the latest irritants of an exasperated public sentiment. Before this time, however, Ward had served his apprenticeship as a soldier. He was with Abercrombie in the disastrous expedition against Ticonderoga, and in the hardships and defeat of that campaign his firmness and soldierly qualities seem to have been well tested and approved. Soon afterwards we find him a colonel of militia and busily engaged in matters of drill and evolution. All the while, however, he shared in the growing popular discontent and openly avowed his sentiments. So far did he go in publicly stating his opposition to the measures of Parliament that Sir Francis Barnard publicly deprived him of his commission, and when his constituents elected him a member of the Council, did him the honor promptly to veto the choice.

The first Provincial Congress, of which he was a member, elected him the first of three general officers to whom they committed the charge of the motley assemblage of volunteers which then represented the military power about to engage in strife with Great Britain. When General Ward assumed this command it certainly must have seemed that the result most probable for him was defeat and a rebel's death. He continued as general-in-chief until Washington arrived and took command, when Ward for a time assumed a subordinate position. He soon retired from the service, however, on the plea of ill health. His withdrawal resulted in a breach with Washington which was never healed.

When the courts were re-opened, in 1775, he was made chief justice of the Common Pleas, and in this

office he continued until two years before his death, which took place in 1800. Soon after the war the burden of taxes, necessitated by the great debt contracted during the conflict, the depression of business, so long impaired and interrupted, the sudden release from service of a large number of men who had become almost unfitted for peaceful vocations, combined to produce a feeling of discontent among the people, which in Massachusetts culminated in "Shays's Rebellion." A principal ground of their complaints was the machinery of justice, which compelled the payment of debts, and courts and lawyers were the objects of the bitterest hatred. They adopted as one method of remedying their grievances the plan of preventing the sessions of the courts.

In September of 1786, Judge Ward was to preside over the regular session of his court in Worcester. Threats had been freely made that he would not be permitted so to do, and on the morning when, according to custom, the judges and officers of the court proceeded in a body to the court-house, they found the hill on which it was situated filled with a mob, and the court-house itself with armed men. The judge was too old a soldier to run away from bayonets, and he stoutly pressed on through the throng, and up to face the small body of insurgents who were under the command of an officer, and maintained some appearance of discipline. His entrance to the court-house was prevented, and neither by expostulation or threat was he able to convince the insurgents of the folly and danger of their course. It was impossible to accomplish any useful purpose by carrying his persistence further, and when, on the next day, it was evident that the militia sympathized rather with the insurgents than with the Government, the attempt to hold court was abandoned. Somewhat similar scenes were enacted in other counties, though we do not read of other judges who so resolutely met the law-breakers. The insurrection was rather of a nature to fall to pieces by itself than to require a great show of force, and it was not long before its inherent weakness resulted in its entire collapse.

Timothy Ruggles and Thomas Steele, the associates of Judge Ward on the bench of the Common Pleas just before the Revolution, were loyalists, and by the progress of events became expatriated. When, in 1775, the Provisional Government issued its commission to General Ward as chief, Jedediah Foster, Moses Gill and Samuel Baker were named associates. Of the four, not one was a member of the legal profession.

Mr. Foster was born in Andover, and obtained at Harvard a college education. He early made Brookfield his home, and there was associated in mercantile business with Joseph Dwight, who combined with his professional occupation several other activities. Mr. Foster married the daughter of General Dwight, and three of their direct descendants will hereafter require honorable mention as members of this bar, of whom two were promoted to the bench. Although not educated for the bar, it may be supposed that his association with Judge Dwight gave him some insight into legal principles. At any rate he became sufficiently skillful as a conveyancer to command a considerable business. His judgment was greatly relied upon by neighbors and residents of other towns. Before he was on the bench he was often appealed to to decide controversies or to give advice on perplexing questions. For these services he made it a practice to take no fees, a custom by which, perhaps, many a young attorney might speedily build up a tremendous clientage. In Foster's case, however, it was not true that that which costs nothing was worth nothing. His reputation for probity, wisdom and impartiality was wide-spread, and caused his selection for numerous positions of trust and responsibility. He was at the same time judge of the Common Pleas and of the Probate Courts, a delegate to the Provincial Congress at Concord and a colonel of the militia. In 1776 he was promoted to the bench of the Superior Court of Judicature, the first Worcester County resident who had that honor. A funeral sermon, preached in 1779 by his pastor, Nathan Fiske, testifies to his services to the church, the town and the State.

Judge Moses Gill lived on a magnificent estate in Princeton, which was described by President Dwight, of Yale College, as more splendid than any other in the interior of the State. These lands were the inheritance of his wife. His own fortune, accumulated in mercantile pursuits in Charlestown, his native place, had enabled him to improve and maintain an establishment of extensive proportions. He was born in 1733, and lived in the place of his birth until about 1767, when he began to spend a portion of each year amid the beauties of the Princeton hills. That town he represented in the General Court, and was successively State Senator, Councillor and Lieutenant-Governor. From 1775 until his election to the office of Lieutenant-Governor he was an associate justice of the County Court. Both he and his associate, Samuel Baker, of Berlin, were of the original board of trustees of Leicester Academy. To have been instrumental in establishing an institution which has contributed so largely from among its alumni to the service of the State, and especially to the leadership of the bar of this county, must be counted, perhaps, the greatest of Judge Gill's distinctions.

Of Samuel Baker little can be added, save that for twenty years, until his death in 1795, he faithfully discharged his judicial duties. During a portion of this time he represented his town of Berlin, and was several years a State Senator.

When Judge Foster was promoted to the Superior Court, Joseph Dorr took his place in the lower tribunal. His father, bearing the same name, was the pastor of the church in Mendon for many years, a man repected for his public spirit as well as for his faithful discharge of ministerial duties. The son grad-

uated at Harvard in his twenty-second year in the class of 1752. He was never ordained, but he evidently had some intention of adopting his father's profession, for he preached in the pulpit occasionally. He was a most earnest patriot and fully in sympathy with the principles animating the Revolution. He devoted almost the whole of his time for seven years to the public service without any compensation, and was one of those non-combatants who largely aided the success of the cause by efficient moral support at home. In any conflict all cannot be on the field of action. It is the part of some to foster and preserve the prize of the battle,—the institutions whose existence is at stake. Mr. Dorr was the town clerk and treasurer of Mendon for a number of years. On the records the Declaration of Independence is spread at length in his handwriting, so beautifully legible as to suggest at once the thought that he was not a lawyer. On this bench, however, he presided with dignity and acceptance for twenty-five years, and was also judge of Probate from 1782 to 1800. During the last years of his life he removed to Brookfield, where he died in 1808.

The Court of Common Pleas, presided over in this county by the gentlemen of whom we have spoken, survived almost without change the political disturbances of the time. Appointed in 1775 by the *de facto* government, Ward and his associates continued to discharge the same duties after the Declaration of Independence and under the Constitution of the State.

No mention of this court appears in the Constitution, but in 1782 an act was passed "establishing Courts of Common Pleas." This was in effect a statute declaratory of the law as it was then administered. The jurisdiction granted was the same; the right of appeal, the power to make rules and the regulation of the business of the court were the same as under the province charter.

The court was to consist of "Four substantial, discreet and learned persons, each of whom to be an inhabitant of the county wherein he shall be appointed," and these requirements were well fulfilled by those who were upon the bench in this county when the statute passed.

In the same year with the act just referred to were passed statutes establishing "a Supreme Judicial Court" and "Courts of General Sessions of the Peace," both of which tribunals had been exercising their functions before either Constitution or statute were adopted.

In the convention which formed our State Constitution, it was decided to simplify the rather cumbersome title of the Provincial Court of last resort. Accordingly, all through the Constitution reference is made to a Supreme Judicial Court, instead of the Superior Court of Judicature, Court of Assize and General Gaol Delivery. Among the early enactments of the first Legislature under the new order of things was a statute giving jurisdiction to the Supreme Judicial Court of "all such matters as have heretofore happened or that shall hereafter happen, as by particular laws were made cognizable by the late Superior Court of Judicature, etc., etc., unless where the Constitution and frame of Government hath provided otherwise." After this very explicit recognition of its existence, an act establishing a Supreme Judicial Court passed in 1782 seems, to some extent, a work of supererogation. That act provides for one chief and four associate justices, and grants very broadly jurisdiction over all civil actions and all criminal offences. It further authorizes the control and correction of the proceedings of the inferior courts by writ of *certiorari* and *mandamus*. A full bench was to consist of at least three of the judges. From the rulings of one justice at *nisi prius* exception might be taken to the full bench, which alone had the final decisions of questions of law. Before three judges also were to be decided all capital cases, divorce matters, and probate appeals.

Courts of General Sessions of the Peace, with jurisdiction over minor offences and with power to bind over to the proper tribunals persons charged with graver crimes, were provided for by another act of the same year. Of the numerous justices of the peace who exercised jurisdiction in this court it would be impossible to obtain record or to make mention. Some one or more of the Common Pleas Court usually sat with them at the trial of offences. In 1803 the criminal jurisdiction was transferred altogether from the Sessions Court to the Common Pleas Court, leaving to the former the supervision of county finances, the laying out of highways and the like. After several experiments in giving these latter powers also to the Common Pleas, and after the Court of Sessions had been twice abolished and twice revived, in 1827 the act defining the power of county commissioners was passed, and the Sessions Court finally disappeared. Until 1811 the County Court of Common Pleas remained the tribunal in which was carried on the great bulk of ordinary litigation.

Upon the election of Moses Gill to the Lieutenant-Governorship and his consequent resignation of his seat on the bench, the position was offered to Dwight Foster, but was declined. Michael Gill was thereupon appointed. Of him I learn nothing, save that he was probably a nephew of his predecessor; that he resigned in 1798, and that he was living in 1826. ELIJAH BRIGHAM took the place left vacant by Judge Baker's death in 1795. He was born in Northborough in 1751 and graduated at Dartmouth College in 1778. The study of divinity at first engaged his attention, but that was soon abandoned for mercantile pursuits. Senator, councillor and member of Congress successively, he discharged the duties of each station with propriety, though without leaving a great impress upon the times. He held the office of judge until the abolition of the County Court in 1811. In 1816,

while attending the session of Congress at Washington, he very suddenly died.

DWIGHT FOSTER accepted an appointment to this bench in 1801. He was a son of the earlier judge, and was born in Brookfield in 1757. His classical studies were pursued at Brown, where he graduated in 1774. After studying his profession he commenced its practice at home. At that time there was no other lawyer within twenty miles of Brookfield. As a consequence he early gained a very great practice, which his own abilities enabled him to keep and increase. His health was never robust, so that all through life he was obliged to husband his physical resources. Yet by diligence during his working hours, by a systematic arrangement of his time and by powers of application natural and cultivated, he accomplished an enormous amount of labor. As a conveyancer he was noted for accuracy and neatness, —qualities of whose importance he was no doubt impressed by his father, who had been obliged to acquire what knowledge he had of that branch without the aid of such an education as the son had enjoyed. It was noted of the latter that he made it a constant practice to rise and be at work early, invariably by candle-light in winter. This discouraging propensity is the only fault recorded of him.

His father had been chosen as a delegate to the convention for framing the Constitution, but died before the session began. Dwight, then but twenty-two, was chosen to fill the vacancy,—a proof of the confidence which his townsmen already reposed in his sound judgment and discretion. In 1792 he held the office of high sheriff of the county, and was the same year elected to Congress, where he sat for three terms. Later, he was a member of the United States Senate. For ten years he was the Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, succeeding Judge Sprague, and lived until 1823, active until the last. His manners are described as extremely courteous, and he exercised a generous hospitality at his country home.

In the same year with Judge Foster, BENJAMIN HEYWOOD was elevated to a seat on this bench. He was the son of a Shrewsbury farmer, and had learned and practiced in early life the trade of a carpenter. His strong desire for an education overcame the difficulties in his way, and he prepared for college and entered Harvard in 1771. But here hindrances to the pursuit of knowledge still met him. The country was aroused to arms. With the other young men of the institution, he felt the duty of bearing his share in the impending conflict. At the opening of hostilities he laid aside his books, followed the retreating British forces after Concord fight, and was soon after regularly commissioned an officer of the Provincial Army. He rose to the rank of captain, and discharged the difficult and responsible duties of regimental paymaster with scrupulous fidelity and accuracy. When, at the close of the war, the Continental Congress found itself with a great debt, an army whose pay was largely in arrears, and an empty treasury, a most serious danger threatened the stability of the independence which had been won. The soldiery were naturally discontented and conscious of ill treatment, and conscious also of their strength as a united body. Captain Heywood was one of those who at this juncture assisted Washington to allay the growing impatience and to persuade the men to disband peaceably, in the hope of justice from the tardy people who had profited by their sufferings. When, after peace was finally established, he returned to his native town, he found himself called upon to devote much of his time to the public. His neighbors had learned to appreciate his integrity and the soundness of his judgment. Later, he removed to Worcester, where he cultivated a large farm, portions of which remain in the hands of his descendants to this day. In 1801 he succeeded Judge Dorr, and held office so long as the court existed. He is the last judge of any of the higher courts of this county who was not educated for the legal profession.

John Sprague, who succeeded Artemas Ward as chief of the Common Pleas, was, as has been said, the only member of the bar before the Revolution who continued for any length of time to practice in the courts under the new establishment. His first competitor was LEVI LINCOLN, who was admitted to the bar in Hampshire County, and began practice here as soon as the courts were opened in 1775. Joshua Upham had not then abandoned his Brookfield clientage, but remained only a few months longer. Lincoln was the son of Enoch Lincoln, a farmer of Hingham, and had been apprenticed in youth to a trade. In this employment he evidently found he had no pleasure, and he succeeded, with the assistance of friends who were impressed by his manifest desire and aptness for learning and his serious determination to obtain an education, in fitting himself to enter Harvard College. There he graduated in 1772, in his twenty-fourth year, and began the study of the law in Newburyport. Later, he entered the office of Joseph Hawley, of Northampton, who was then of the highest rank in the profession, as well as in the councils of the patriotic party. His studies were interrupted by the call to arms in April, 1775, but he soon returned to his books, and opened his office in Worcester. At once he was made clerk of the courts, and held the office a little over a year. No doubt the duties interfered too seriously with the great opportunity for professional business which lay before him. Those who had been the leaders in every walk in life, judges of the courts, lawyers, men of wealth and cultivation, had in large numbers adhered to the British cause, and were then in self-imposed exile. To a man of Lincoln's superior ability it was inevitable that the people should look for leadership and advice. His powers matured early under the responsibilities which he was thus compelled to assume. He possessed naturally great firmness of purpose and

a sober judgment, and throughout his long career, much of which was passed prominently before the public eye, what he accomplished was largely due to the fact that what, on sufficient reflection, he felt to be his duty, that he unfalteringly strove to do.

He had none of that long period of weary waiting for clients which serves to some extent to winnow out the wheat from the chaff of modern aspirants for legal honors. After the long vacation and the cessation of general business natural to the beginning of so tremendous a struggle as was then inaugurated, with the first breathing space people realized that their affairs at home still must receive attention. Lincoln at once was overwhelmed with business. In 1779 he was "specially designated to prosecute the claims of government to the large estates of the Refugees, confiscated under the Absentee Act." Mr. Willard says of him: "He was without question at the head of the bar from the close of the Revolution till he left our courts, at the commencement of the present century. His professional business far exceeded that of any other member of the bar. He was retained in every case of importance, and for many years constantly attended the courts in Hampshire and Middlesex." His great success shows that he made the best use of his excellent opportunities. He was a most skillful advocate before juries, pleasing in his address, popular from his known public spirit, eloquent and keen. It must have been a task most congenial to his temperament when, as counsel in the celebrated case involving the liberty of a negro, he was called upon to maintain the equal rights of all men under the laws of his native State. The suit was brought by one Jennison against two of the name of Caldwell, for enticing away a negro slave. Sprague was of counsel for the plaintiff. Lincoln's argument, deduced from the laws of God and nature, from the principles for which the Colonies were even then contending, and from the first article of the Massachusetts Bill of Rights the proposition that in this State at least no man could have the right to say that he was the owner of another. So the court decided, and so, from that day, has been the undisputed law.

With public duties and honors Lincoln's life was replete. He sat in the convention to frame the Constitution of the State, and in the Congress of the Confederation. He was State Senator, Councillor, Lieutenant-Governor. In 1800 he was chosen to represent his district in the Congress of the United States, but had hardly taken his seat when President Jefferson called upon him to enter the Cabinet as Attorney-General. The duties of that station he discharged with ability and faithfulness so marked as to cause Jefferson to accept with the utmost reluctance and with every evidence of regret his resignation, after four years of service.

In the more limited sphere of his native town he was active for good. In the support of the freedom of religious worship, of common-school education, of advancement in the arts and sciences, in support of government against faction and misrule, his voice and influence were ever ready. The latter years of his life he spent in a well-earned retirement, enjoying the delights of literature, which his busy life had only permitted him to sip. In 1820 he died, transmitting to a line of descendants, as an especial legacy, which they have never surrendered, his great quality of faithfulness to duty.

In 1776 Mr. Lincoln was appointed judge of the Probate Court for this county, and held the office for six years. It was not until after the adoption of the State Constitution that a law was passed establishing and defining the jurisdiction of this court. As has been said, the judges appointed from time to time had been in theory the deputies of the Governor and Council, in whom the jurisdiction really resided. In 1783 an act passed providing that an "able and learned person" should be appointed in each county for "taking the probate of wills and granting administration on the estates of persons deceased," for the appointment of "guardians to minors, idiots, and distracted persons," "examining and allowing the accounts of executors, administrators, or guardians," and other kindred matters.

One year after Lincoln, WILLIAM STEARNS, of Lunenburg, entered upon a brief career at the bar, which was cut short by his death in 1784. Before he decided upon making the law his profession he had studied divinity and made a beginning in journalism. He was a lovable man, who, even in the short time he lived, made friends of all about him, and left a reputation for kindness of heart, joined with talents, that promised him a successful career. He was associated with Sprague for the plaintiff in the case of Jennison against Caldwell, to which reference has been made.

The next admission was not until 1780. In that year Dwight Foster, DANIEL BIGELOW and Edward Bangs took the oath. Bigelow was a Worcester man, born in 1752. After graduation at Harvard he tried his hand at pedagogy for a few months. Then, with Stearns, he carried on a newspaper, which lived about a year, when both its editors betook them to the law. Bigelow settled in Petersham, and there won the confidence of the community as a counsellor whose advice it was safe to follow, and as a suitable person to be entrusted with legislative functions. For eight years in House and Senate he represented his constituents with fidelity, and until his death, in 1806, retained the respect which he had fairly earned.

EDWARD BANGS, a native of Hardwick, was pursuing his studies at Harvard when the news spread of the British expedition to Concord, on the 19th of April. He was a member of a company recruited from the undergraduates, which had been drilled in anticipation that their services might be needed in some such emergency. In the irregular warfare of that memorable day he bore his part courageously. With true

chivalry he made no war on the defenceless, and saved the life of a wounded enemy whom others were about to put to death. Although the regular course of studies was interrupted by the exciting scenes that followed, he continued to use his books at home, so that when the recitations were resumed he was ready to proceed with his class, and graduated in 1777, at the age of twenty-one. Chief Justice Parsons, then practicing in Newburyport, became his guide through the mazes of the law, his college classmate, Rufus King, being then also his fellow-student. After admission to the bar, in 1780, he formed a partnership with Mr. Stearns for practice in Worcester, but after two years concluded to try his fortunes alone. In this he achieved a moderate success, though a biographer, from whom most of the material for these sketches is drawn, says of him that "In his arguments on questions of law . . . he conceived the matter well, and was methodical in his arrangement, and made strong points, but was not sufficiently lucid in their enunciation."

In 1805 he formed a partnership with WILLIAM E. GREEN, which continued till his elevation to the bench, in 1811.

For several years he held the office of prosecuting attorney for the county. From the asperities and dry detail of his profession he found relief in the study of the classics, in art, in music and in poetry. He was a great admirer of the beauties of nature and a devoted horticulturist. At one time he tried his hand at editing a newspaper, and was one of the eleven members of this bar who, at different periods of its precarious and stormy existence, endeavored to bear up the *Ægis* which Francis Blake had intended should throw its protection about the national policy of Mr. Jefferson.

During the disturbance of 1786 and '87, known as "Shays's Rebellion," he contributed by pen, voice and arm to the upholding of the cause of order and good government. When the rioters gained such numbers and cohesion as to threaten some serious danger to the State, he felt it his duty to enlist. The privations of the campaign in the winter of 1786–87—brief though it was—were a severe strain upon his health, the effects of which were felt through life.

In 1811 the old system of County Courts was abolished, and the State divided into six circuits, for each of which a Court of Common Pleas was established.

The Western Circuit consisted of Worcester, Hampshire and Berkshire Counties. Each court consisted of a chief and two associate justices, any two of whom might hold the court. The jurisdiction was the same as that of the County Courts which were superseded. Mr. Bangs, who was then county attorney, was promoted to a seat on the new tribunal, and retained that position till the time of his death, in 1818.

The predecessor of Judge Bangs, in the office of county attorney, was Nathaniel Paine; born in Worcester; graduated at Harvard, and through life identified with the town of his birth. He studied law with John Sprague, in Lancaster, who was then in himself the bar of the county. That year (1775), however, saw Levi Lincoln's entry upon his professional career, and young Paine had before him most excellent examples in his instructor and his young rival. With the exception of the four years immediately following his admission to the bar, in 1781, when he lived in Groton, Mr. Paine spent his life in Worcester. There, one says of him, he "acquired a practice at one time greater in extent, it is believed, especially in the collection of debts, than was ever enjoyed by any other professional man in the county." For thirty-five years he discharged the delicate duties of judge of the Probate Court for this county, succeeding Judge Dorr, in 1801. In that court, where the widow and the fatherless, the hapless victim of insanity and the reckless prodigal are brought, in order that the rights, which their own weakness is insufficient to maintain, may be secured to them, it is needful that a man of wide sympathies, of patience and of sound judgment should preside. These qualities Judge Paine possessed, and in his long term of service, which has not its equal for duration in this county, and probably not in the state, they were ripened into the character of a model judge. Some one has observed that, broadly speaking, in the course of a generation, less than Judge Paine's official term, all the property of a county passes through the processes of the Court of Probate.

In 1817 an act was passed "to regulate the jurisdiction and proceedings of the Courts of Probate," by which all provisions of previous statutes were codified and the methods of transacting the business of the court established much as they are in vogue at the present time. In 1823 the system of remuneration by fees was abolished, and fixed salaries established for judges and registers. In Worcester County the judge was allowed six hundred dollars, and the register eleven hundred dollars, the latter office, though of less dignity, commanding a greater salary, inasmuch as it occupied more thoroughly the time of the incumbent. Judge Paine was distinguished for courtesy of manner, for a habit of observation, a faculty of retaining in his memory what he saw or heard, and great facility in communicating his stores of anecdote thus treasured up. He was accordingly a most delightful companion—one who could entertain, by his own colloquial power, or who was ready to add to his acquisition by listening to others. He lived several years after resigning his judicial functions, and died in 1840, at the ripe age of eighty-two.

One of Levi Lincoln's students who obtained a good standing at the bar was SETH HASTINGS, of Mendon. He was born in Cambridge in 1762, and graduated at its university twenty years later. After completing his professional studies, he opened an office in Mendon, and made that town his home till the close of a useful life of just three-score years and

ten. He was not a graceful orator, but a well-grounded lawyer, in whom courts and juries recognized a man who understood his subject, and reasoned it out in logical order. He was a member of Congress for three terms and a State Senator later. In 1819 he was made chief justice of the Court of Sessions. Two of his sons adopted his profession, and practiced in this county.

WILLIAM STEDMAN was another Cambridge man who settled in this county. He graduated from Harvard at nineteen in 1784, and entered the office of Chief Justice Dana to fit himself for practice. Admitted in Essex in 1787, he immediately chose Lancaster for his field, and there obtained a considerable practice as a counsellor. He filled the offices successively of member of the Legislature, member of Congress and clerk of the courts. He was well versed in the learning of his profession, and greatly relied upon as a counsellor, but did not obtain eminence as an advocate. In Congress he was a general favorite and one of the wits of the House. His easy, affable manner, cheerful disposition and ready fund of humor made him popular in every circle. He was a strong supporter of Federalist doctrines. At one time, in retaliation for the imprisonment of some British-born subjects who had become naturalized as American citizens, a party of British officers were arrested in this country. Ten of them were brought by the United States marshal to Worcester for lodgment in the county jail. The affair aroused considerable excitement, and earnest protest was made by Francis Blake, Stedman and others against the use of the jail for such a purpose. Lincoln, on the other hand, supported the demand of the marshal, and, after some hot debate, persuaded the sheriff to permit the incarceration of the prisoners. The sympathizers of the latter endeavored to make the confinement as tolerable as possible, and on one occasion gave them an elaborate dinner-party within the jail. Shortly afterwards the prisoners overpowered their guard, and effected an escape, and suspicion was not unnaturally directed to their late hosts as connivers at the deliverance. This charge was many years later refuted by one of the officers themselves, who declared that no assistance was rendered them by any Americans. Mr. Stedman removed to Newburyport in the latter part of his life, and there died in 1831.

PLINY MERRICK, the elder, was the son of a clergyman in Wilbraham, and, after graduation from Harvard, studied divinity, and for some years preached occasional sermons. He had not sufficient health to undertake the constant labors of a settled minister, and felt obliged to try the milder climate of Virginia. There he was employed as a private tutor, and improved his leisure in the study of the law. Whether he thought the exactions of this profession less arduous does not appear; but he returned to Massachusetts, completed his studies, was admitted to the bar in Plymouth County, and announced his readiness to receive clients in his native town. From there he removed to Brookfield in 1788, and continued in practice till his death in 1814. He gave evidence of fine talents as an advocate, and had much of that rhetorical skill for which his son, the late Judge Merrick, was distinguished. It has been remarked that an unsuccessful lawyer often made a good clergyman, but that one who left the pulpit for the forum rarely bettered his condition. Mr. Merrick seems to have been an exception to this general statement; for he gained a reputation as a sound lawyer, while of his clerical efforts we learn little.

A rival of Merrick for the clientage of Brookfield and its vicinity was JABEZ UPHAM. He was born in that town about the year 1764. His father was a Revolutionary officer, holding the rank of captain at the close of the war. The son more easily, if less gloriously, earned the title of major for peaceful service on the staff of a general of militia. He showed his pluck and persistence, however, by earning his way through the collegiate course. His class graduated in 1785, but Upham disagreed with the faculty as to the just rank which should be assigned him at commencement, and left the college without the degree for which he had made such exertions. He had, however, the more important acquisition, a mind well trained and restored, and later received the diploma which testified to the fact. After three years of study in the office of Judge Foster he entered the ranks of the profession, and looked about him for a place in which to make essay of his powers. One or two attempts in other towns convinced him that on his native heath he was strongest, and in Brookfield he passed his life, too early closed in 1811. Some years before his death he met with an accident which necessitated the amputation of a leg, an operation from whose effects he never fully recovered. He was twice chosen to a seat in Congress, succeeding Seth Hastings as the representative of the Worcester South District. Although he died at forty-seven, when a lawyer is supposed to be at his best, he had obtained a high position, and is spoken of with great respect by contemporaries and men who knew his reputation. His strength lay in a most painstaking investigation of his case, and a persistence in bringing out every point of law or fact on which he relied. Nothing that he thought contributed to the strength of his argument was omitted, even though the patience of his auditors was at times severely tested. Not brilliancy, but unflagging effort was the means of his success.

Not all the members of this bar have been high examples of what is best in character and attainments. Perhaps it is as well to remember by way of warning that in the past, as now, men who have set out with hopes as eager, with ambitions as lofty and with opportunities apparently as favorable as the most successful whom we have called to mind, have fallen in the race or lagged very far behind the

winners of the prizes. A very eccentric character was a lawyer in Leominster. Of that town its local historian remarks that it had been most fortunate in the number of members of the bar there resident, and follows this with the inexplicable *non-sequitur* that for the first half-century of its existence there were no lawyers in the place.

Whatever subtle meaning may have lain in the writer's mind, one of the lawyers must have furnished some topic for tea-table gossip in the quiet village. ASA JOHNSON graduated at Harvard in 1787, at an age when most men are established in life. But his career had theretofore been an exciting one. During the Revolution he had served in the navy of the Confederation, and had come out with quite a handsome share of prize money. With this he determined to secure an education, and fitted himself for the bar with credit. At one time he acquired a sufficient practice to lay by a competency, and was apparently on the road to a respectable position as a country counsellor. He was thoroughly honest, a good classical scholar and fond of his books. He possessed an active intellect, and is described as an agreeable conversationalist, quick at repartee when he could be drawn into any social intercourse. But he was one of those men in whom the social instinct seems either never to have existed or to gradually disappear. His religious views separated him widely from the sympathy of his neighbors in that God-fearing community. He was called an Atheist in the days when a man who doubted the least of the generally received dogmas was looked upon as in serious danger of eternal punishment. Becoming more and more a recluse, and permitting no one to become intimate with him, the most fanciful stories were told of his methods of life. It is said that he cooked and ate cats, owls and reptiles in his lonely home. His only intercourse with his fellow-men, at length, was at the gaming table, and there he dissipated the property he had laid by. In 1820, poor, almost friendless and miserable, he died, an illustration, too often repeated, that man cannot fulfill the aim of his being either to his own satisfaction or with worldly success who lives wholly in and for himself.

PRENTICE MELLEN, who practiced law in Sterling from 1789 to 1791, deserves a passing notice in these chronicles, from the fact that in later years he became chief justice of the highest court of the State of Maine, and in that capacity reflected credit on the State where he was educated, and the bar at which his early impulse in the path of success was received.

The professional life of BENJAMIN ADAMS, covering close on to half a century, is one of those level stretches of beautiful meadow which seems to span the interval between our point of departure and our standing-ground, and to bring nearer to us the lofty hills which we have left, and enable us to compare them with the eminences close at hand. When Adams was admitted to the bar, in 1792, John Sprague held the office of high sheriff, but that same year resigned its duties to give his entire attention to his large professional business. A few years later, as chief justice of the Common Pleas, he doubtless inspired the young advocate with admiration for his learning and dignity. Levi Lincoln was in the full tide of a large and increasing practice, and was already known as the man whose arguments had abolished slavery on Massachusetts soil. The rugged honesty of Artemas Ward secured for him the respect on the bench even of the counsel, who appreciated their superiority in knowledge of the law to the old general, whose profession was rather of arms than of briefs and writs.

Born in Mendon in 1764, Mr. Adams received a liberal education at Brown University. He studied law in Uxbridge with Colonel Tyler, who had been a Revolutionary officer and was the first lawyer practicing in the south part of the county. Tyler does not seem to have obtained much eminence, or to have long remained in practice. Soon after Adams was admitted to the bar he succeeded to the business of his preceptor, who then disappears from history. Possessed of fair abilities and a steady purpose to make the most of them, he acquired a substantial practice and, what was better, the confidence of his townsmen. On the death of Judge Brigham he was elected to fill the vacant seat in Congress, and by successive re-elections retained the office until 1823. In that year he was defeated as a candidate by Jonathan Russell, because of a speech made by Adams in favor of the principle of protection. At that time Daniel Webster had not seen the light which afterwards so clearly illuminated his pathway as to cause him to retrace his steps and forswear his logic. The great statesman lent his matchless powers to exposing the fallacies which Adams upheld, in so forcible a manner that neither he nor any one who has come after him has been able to answer the argument, and the result was Adams's defeat. In very truth he was before his time. An ample fortune which he had accumulated he lost by unfortunate investments in manufacturing enterprises, and it may not be an unwarrantable inference that his own ill success caused him to feel more deeply the need of some protection by the State, for business that in itself was profitless.

He is described as a man of peculiarly even temperament, who did not suffer prosperity or adversity to throw him from his balance. An upright Christian gentleman, he did the duties that lay near him, usefully serving his community in whatever way his hand found to do. In a county whose bar boasted before his death of the fame of the second Levi Lincoln, of Charles Allen and of Emory Washburn; his attainments were not of an order to be loudly heralded. None the less they were a distinct contribution to the welfare of his neighborhood. His talents were honestly put to their best use, so that it could be said the

world was better for his life. In 1837, a few years after the late Peter C. Bacon came to the bar, he died in Uxbridge, where his active life had been spent.

Of the fame of an orator only one who has listened to the magic of the living voice, and felt his own enthusiasm aroused beneath the spell of the vivid eloquence, is fitted to speak with authority. FRANCIS BLAKE was pre-eminently a master of the art of speech. His other titles to remembrance have been subordinated to this in the minds of those who have spoken and written in his praise. The late Judge Thomas, a critic qualified by his skill in the same art, has said of him: "In the Court-House . . . he won by his sweetness and commanded by his dignity; where his learning and logic convinced, where his wit and humor convulsed Bench, Bar and Jury; where his passion aroused to indignation or melted into tears; where now his genius, his eloquence and his name even are but a tradition; where the orb has sunk long since below the horizon; and the eye catches only the last lingering, fading hues of twilight. Such is the history and the fate of forensic eloquence."

Mr. Blake was the son of a Revolutionary officer who lived in Rutland until the boy was five years old, when he removed to Hingham. In that town the Reverend Joseph Thaxter, afterwards a distinguished clergyman, taught the pupils of a grammar-school. Under his excellent instruction Blake made such rapid progress in preparation for college that he entered Harvard much the youngest member of his class and graduated in 1789, when only in his sixteenth year. He was considered one of the brightest and most accomplished scholars of his class; nor do his faculties seem to have been unduly stimulated nor his brain turned by his rapid advancement. He soon began the study of the law in Mr. Sprague's office in Lancaster, and at twenty was admitted to the bar, thoroughly equipped for the race for legal distinction. For a few years he tried the quality of his metal in Rutland, his native village, where he obtained a business sufficient to warrant his entering a larger field. In 1802 he came to Worcester, and there practiced until, in the year preceding his death, his failing health compelled him to give up his severe labors and assume the less exacting duties of clerk of the courts. At the time that he came to Worcester the contest of parties which had resulted in the defeat of the Federalists was still exciting the public mind. Mr. Jefferson's policy was fiercely attacked by the opposition, and Blake's ardent temperament impelled him to eagerly support the administration whose success he had desired. The publication of a newspaper called the *National Ægis* was begun, principally as a result of his efforts, and he undertook the editorial duties. Through a large part of President Jefferson's first term Blake's pen and influence were constantly devoted to the promulgation and defence of the doctrines of the Republicans, as they were then called. In 1804 he retired from the field of journalism, leaving the paper to other hands. Under the editorial guidance of several different members of the bar it passed through various experiences of the uncertainties of newspaper life until its mission ended.

For two years Mr. Blake represented the county in the State Senate, but aside from this held no political office. His real triumphs were in the court-room. For his success there it is instructive to learn that he did not depend upon his abundant resources of intellectual gifts.

Mr. Willard says, "It is a wrong impression that Mr. Blake made but slight preparation in his causes. But few could have discovered more investigation, or have given more satisfactory proofs of diligent and thorough study in the management of his causes. . . . His briefs were remarkably full," and showed "that mental effort had been tasked in a degree to which few in full and successful practice are willing or able to submit."

With powers apparently just developed to their highest value, and the brightest prospect of an honorable career, his physical health gave way. In 1817, when only forty-two, he died poor, as is the lot of most great advocates, but rich in friends and reputation.

One of Mr. Blake's law students and ardent admirers was a Worcester boy, SAMUEL BRAZER, born in 1785. At the outset of his career he was placed in the employ of a mercantile house in Boston, where it was intended that he should fit himself to become one of the substantial merchants of that thriving town. He evinced, however, so decided a taste and aptitude for literary pursuits, that he was allowed to enter Leicester Academy to prepare for college. He had that treacherous facility in acquiring knowledge from books which often leads its possessor to rely on hasty and superficial attention to his tasks. His ready wit and spirit of mischief led him into some pranks which resulted in his incurring the displeasure of his instructors and the abandonment of his plans for a college course.

Entering Blake's office, he found himself in the midst of political turmoil, rather than an atmosphere adapted to profound study, such as so volatile a character most required. He entered with zeal into the exciting controversies of the day, contributed to the *Ægis*, and evidently acquired a taste for politics, which overcame every other interest or ambition. He was by no means unfitted for public life. Numerous prose writings and occasional addresses show a considerable ability, and a few ventures in the realms of poetry prove his command of language and active imagination.

After admission to the bar he began practice in New Salem, but its detail soon became distasteful. He could not reconcile himself to the quiet life of the country lawyer, waiting for clients. He moved to Baltimore, and died there in 1823, without having realized the hopes of his friends or the promise of his youth.

One of the justices of the Supreme Court in the first years of the century was Simeon Strong, who had been distinguished as a lawyer before the Revolution, and had continued practice not only in his county of Hampshire, but in our courts after the war. His son, SOLOMON STRONG, adopted his father's profession, and was admitted to the bar in 1800, just before his father was appointed to the bench. He was born in Amherst in 1780, and received his education at Williams College. Somewhat of a rolling-stone, we find him practicing successively in Royalston, Athol, Westminster and Leominster. Notwithstanding his apparent instability, he had acquired a competent knowledge of the law and retained a good clientage for many years. Two terms in Congress, besides several in the State Legislature, showed that he had the confidence and esteem of his constituents, and his qualifications as a lawyer were recognized by his appointment to the bench of the Circuit Court of Common Pleas upon the death of Judge Bangs, in 1818.

By an act of the General Court, which took effect in 1821, the system of Circuit Courts was abolished, and the Court of Common Pleas for the Commonwealth established. By its provisions four justices were to be appointed, any one of whom could hold a session of the court. The terms were to be held at the same times and places as had previously been provided for the Circuit Courts, and the jurisdiction, rules, and methods of procedure of the new court were changed in no essential particular. The act provides "that the chief justice of said Court of Common Pleas shall, during his continuance in office, receive from the treasury of the Commonwealth, in full, for his services, the sum of twenty-one hundred dollars annually," and the associates in like manner the sum of eighteen hundred dollars. All fees theretofore paid to the justices of the Circuit Courts are directed to be paid into the treasury of the Commonwealth. The change seems, on the whole, to have been principally in the interests of economy, for under the new statute four judges at fixed salaries took the place of ten under the circuit system, who received an uncertain rate of compensation, dependent largely on fees.

The first chief justice was Artemas Ward, then of Newton, son of the old general and judge. Judge Strong was appointed the senior associate, and for twenty-two years, until his resignation, continued to discharge his judicial functions with dignity and credit. He died in Leominster in 1850. During the last years of his life, after his retirement from the bench, his patience was tried by disease and suffering. His cheerful courage sustained him through it all, and added another to his titles to our respect.

When in the first year of the present century Levi Lincoln assumed the duties of Attorney-General of the United States he was in command of the most extensive practice in this vicinity, often called into adjoining counties, and in the foremost rank of advocates in the Commonwealth. During his four years service in Washington he could not have retained the same control of his great clientage as formerly. In 1805 he stated as one of his reasons for resisting the urgent request of President Jefferson that he would remain in the Cabinet, that his duties to his family required his presence at home, and it appears not improbable that he may have been thinking of his son just completing his studies and ready to enter upon a professional career, in the outset of which the father's experience and established business connections would be of infinite value. The son taking up the name, the profession, and the position in the community of his father added, as time went on, new dignities to each.

Born in Worcester in 1782, his reputation is the peculiar pride of the city in whose growth and welfare he always took the profoundest interest, and where he made his home.

He graduated from Harvard in 1802, and studied law in his father's office, though without the advantage of the daily presence and advice of the busy Attorney-General. When he began his practice, however, the senior Lincoln had returned from Washington, and for several years thereafter continued to practice in our courts. The young counsellor needed no outside influence to recommend him to those in search of a sound legal adviser and earnest advocate. He very early made his qualifications apparent, and with such rivals as Jabez Upham, Francis Blake and John Davis, the position of leadership at the bar, to which he attained, was not won without many a hard-fought contest. The power of incessant application and a most determined will were his, and by these he overcame obstacles that sometimes seemed too great for him to cope with. He left the practice of the law at forty-two, and survived all of his cotemporaries in the profession, so that we have not the testimony of those who had heard him as an advocate. But he told friends of "the overwhelming labor which his successes cost him; how he would watch the night out in the study of his cases, and then go in the morning into the court-room, with a throbbing brain, and speak for hours." Efforts of such a character could only be sustained by vigorous physical health, which to the last years of his life Governor Lincoln possessed. As a result of his careful preparation, he acquired a complete mastery of his faculties, so that in the vicissitudes of trials he was ready to use to the best advantage all his mental resources. He had a great command of language and of admirably clear statement, which entitled him to be called an eloquent speaker. Certainly he was a most convincing one. His style was not encumbered with rhetorical ornaments, but plain, substantial and direct. When, in the year of his appointment to the bench of the Supreme Court, he gave up business, he had acquired a position at the bar second to none in the Commonwealth, and a

competent fortune, which raised him above the need of anxiety during the years which he devoted to the public service.

His political honors are naturally those which have most prominently been associated with the memory of his name. In 1812 he was a member of the State Senate, and was a strong supporter of the administration in its measures which resulted in the war with Great Britain. The majority in this State were intensely opposed to the war, and here at the outset of his career Lincoln exhibited his independence of judgment and courage in supporting his convictions. He was rewarded by seeing a strong sentiment built up in favor of sustaining the war after we were engaged. In 1814, as a member of the House of Representatives, he protested with vigor against the resolution which resulted in our participation in the famous Hartford Convention. Defeated by a large majority in the General Court, he drew up a protest which was signed by the minority, and widely circulated through the country, bringing its author into national repute. The convention was held, but its action, beyond furnishing a text for secessionists' arguments in later years, had no result, and aroused but short-lived interest.

For several years Mr. Lincoln represented Worcester in the Legislature—always with credit. In 1822 he was elected Speaker of the House, in which a majority were of the opposite political party. This is an evidence of that remarkable freedom from partisan bias which he displayed on all occasions. Many years afterwards, when a member of Congress, he felt it his duty to reply to an attack which a member of his own party had made upon the President, to whom he was politically opposed, and did it with so much dignity and effect that the supporters of the administration published his remarks. He would not win by any but the fairest means and the most direct arguments.

His promotion was rapid. He left the Legislature for the Lieutenant-Governorship, and while in that office was appointed an associate justice of the Supreme Court. On that bench he remained only a year, but brought to the performance of its duties a learning and a dignified urbanity, which gave evidence that there also he would have added to his reputation, and to that of the court, already distinguished for its high character. In 1825 he received the nomination for the office of Governor of Massachusetts from both political parties. He said that, owing to his judicial position, this was the only way in which he should have considered it proper to accept the nomination. For nine years he held the office by successive re-elections, most of them practically uncontested, and no more faithful or efficient officer has filled the chair. Interested in everything that could contribute to the welfare of the Commonwealth, he imparted a stimulus to internal improvements of all kinds. Canals and railroads, the improvement of agriculture, the upbuilding of manufactures, reforms of the prisons and of hospitals for the insane, the establishment of Normal Schools, all received his energetic attention.

Declining to accept a tenth term as Governor, he was persuaded to take the seat in Congress left vacant by the election of John Davis to the gubernatorial office. There he remained during four Congresses, and again sought to retire among his friends and his home enjoyments, free from the constant turmoil of public life.

During the rest of his life this retirement was broken only at intervals. In 1848 Worcester, having received a charter, organized its municipal government, and called upon him, as its first citizen, to occupy the mayoralty. This duty he cheerfully performed for one year. For twenty years thereafter he lived amid its growing population and thriving industries, always interested in every movement of progress, and contributing by his management of his large landed property to rendering it a city of beautiful streets and home-like residences. Much of his time was devoted to the encouragement of agriculture. In his own fine farm and herd of cattle he took infinite delight, and the Worcester Agricultural Society, of which he was president for thirty years, owed much to his constant care. Though eminently a man of affairs rather than of books, he took a deep and rational interest in scientific and literary investigations.

The American Antiquarian Society acknowledges its indebtedness for his contributions to its library, and his own share in its proceedings.

His pastor, the Rev. Alonzo Hill, speaks of him as a deeply religious man, constant in every good word and work for the church and society which his father had been largely instrumental in establishing. Regular in his attendance on public worship, his erect figure was every Sunday to be seen on his way to the church, a mile from his home, until the infirmities of age in the last year of his life prevented.

One who knew him well says that his great characteristic was faithfulness—a thoroughness in whatever matter, large or small, that he undertook. He had an ambition to possess the respect and good-will of the public, but this ambition was subordinate to the determination to deserve that esteem. No considerations of present advantage or of personal friendship were sufficient to deter him from the course which seemed to him the proper one. This was well illustrated when, as Governor, it became necessary for him to appoint a chief justice of the Supreme Court to succeed Judge Parker. Resisting the claims of an intimate friendship, the urgency of influential supporters and a natural desire to gratify long-standing expectations, he selected a man whom his judgment assured him was best qualified for the office. Long afterwards he used to say that the act of his Governorship on which he looked back with the most complete satisfaction was the giving to the judicial history of the Commonwealth the services of Lemuel Shaw, and

every lawyer must sympathize with this self-congratulation.

During the Civil War he was a most earnest supporter of the government by word and act. Too far advanced in years himself to take the field, his eloquent words incited others and his steady courage sustained the drooping faith of those who doubted our ultimate triumph. His last public service was to act as one of the electors-at-large, and to cast a ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1864. A patriot to the core, with a son and grandson in active service, he never felt that he had done enough for his country while there remained any service which in its hour of need he could perform.

Judge Washburn has well summed up his virtue when he says: "I have little hesitation in saying that I have never known one whose life and character had more of completeness in its composition than his. Among his characteristics were a steadiness of purpose, a quickness in expedients, a judgment cool and well-balanced, discriminating nicely in the selection of agents and the application of means, and withal, a courage that shrunk from no responsibility, and an industry that was alike incessant and unwearied."

Long may such citizens be found among us, long may we recognize and honor them, and God *will* save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

In 1868, the year of Governor Lincoln's death, there passed away a life-long friend who had arrived at an equal length of days. REJOICE NEWTON was a native of Greenfield, and a graduate of Dartmouth College in 1807. After studying law for three years he was admitted in Hampshire County, and was so fortunate as to form a partnership with Francis Blake, then at the height of his successful practice in Worcester. This connection continued for four years, which must have been full of instruction and inspiration to the younger man, while the latter's methodical habits and calm judgment must have been of service to the brilliant orator. After the dissolution of the partnership the friendly relations were still maintained, as is evinced by letters written by Mr. Blake in the last year of his life.

For seven years Newton discharged with efficiency the duties of prosecuting attorney for the county. At the end of that time, in 1826, he formed a partnership with Wm. Lincoln, the scholarly historian, a brother of Governor Lincoln. As a lawyer, he was respected as a safe and careful adviser. In the House and Senate of the State he served usefully several terms. In numerous business enterprises of the city he took an active interest, and his services were in request on boards of directors of financial institutions. By attention to business and judicious investments he accumulated a handsome property, and was able to retire from active pursuits and enjoy his books and his farm during the last ten or fifteen years of his life. Like Governor Lincoln, he had a great fondness for

Heath and woodland
Tilth and vineyard, hive and horse, and herd.

His tastes in this respect he was able to gratify, for his broad acres were his only care for many years. One of the beautiful hills which overlooks the city of his adoption still bears his name, and now, annexed to an adjacent park, reminds us that the farms of a few years ago are becoming the city locations of to-day.

It was remarked of Mr. Newton that, winning or losing in the court-room, his imperturbable temper was never disturbed. Such a command over one's self is invaluable to any man, but to none more than to the advocate, when, in the sharp contests of jury trials, a keen opponent is ready to take advantage of every lapse, and the twelve men are observing as carefully the conduct of the counsel as the statements of the witnesses.

At the ripe age of eighty-five Mr. Newton completely withdrew from that world which had become accustomed to his absence by the strictness of his retirement from active life. The papers of the day, in alluding to his death, spoke of him as one not known to their modern generation.

This bar has contributed largely from its numbers to the ranks of historical scholars. In the case of ISAAC GOODWIN the taste for investigation of the records of the past and for literary work was so strong as to make the ordinary business of the lawyer a distasteful drudgery. Born in the town of Plymouth in 1786, and pursuing his studies there until he was admitted to the bar, in 1808, it would have been strange if he had not imbibed a love and reverence for the tradition of olden time. He did not receive a collegiate education, but, after passing through the common schools, entered the office of Joshua Thomas, a distinguished counsellor in his native town. His first office he opened in Boston, but, after a trial of less than a year, sought a less thoroughly occupied field for his unpracticed efforts in the town of Sterling, in this county. There he undertook such business as came to him, and found leisure for his favorite studies. His contributions to legal literature were works of considerable value. The first, a treatise on the duties of town officers, was a much-needed guide for the conduct of country selectmen through difficulties that not infrequently perplex them. In later years it was the foundation of a larger and more complete work on the same subject by Judge Thomas, which for years remained a standard reference book. Whether such compilations do not as often mislead the lay reader who relies on his own interpretation of their language as they assist him may be doubted, but in the hands of the trained student they prove most useful tools. "The New England Sheriff" was his second venture in this field, and till this day that work is a valued part of a lawyer's library.

In 1826 he removed to Worcester, where he had already formed strong literary friendships with William

Lincoln and Christopher Baldwin, the editors of *The Worcester Magazine*, and other gentlemen of like tastes. For this periodical he wrote a general history of Worcester County, which continued through several numbers, and also a history of Sterling. Both these writings gave evidence of painstaking investigation, and the earnest desire of the author for impartial accuracy. His style is not enlivened by many of the graces of diction, but the plain tale is set down with admirably terse exactitude. To state the facts was the aim he set before him, and to do that well is more than half the power of the successful advocate.

He was often called upon to deliver addresses of an historical nature. His oration on the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the destruction of Lancaster by the Indians, was one of the most noteworthy of these. His death occurred in 1832, when in his forty-seventh year.

For more than twenty years a most prominent figure at all sessions of the higher courts in this county, adding dignity to every occasion, was that of Sheriff Willard. He was a native of Harvard, born in 1784, and entered the bar in 1809, after a course of study in the office of Richard H. Dana, in Boston. For a short time he practiced in Petersham, but soon removed to Fitchburg.

In 1824 Governor Lincoln, with his usual sagacity, selected him for the office of high sheriff of the county. His manner of discharging the duties of that position was a model for all who should come after him. Courteous and respectful to all, he insisted that the decorum which he observed on public occasions should not be infringed by others. With the instincts of the old-school gentleman, he was most careful in his regard for the etiquette to be maintained in his relations to court and bar. To a greater extent than in our modern haste we are apt to imagine, a respect for forms assists rather than retards the proper dispatch of business, and the dignified sheriff, CALVIN WILLARD, ever entered his earnest protest against any attempt to override the established order, on the plea of a more expeditious result. After resigning his office in 1844, he lived in Millbury and Worcester until his death, in the latter city, in 1867.

For forty years of Worcester's steady growth in all the arts of peace her prosperity was shared by SAMUEL M. BURNSIDE. The contrast between the surroundings of his birthplace and of his mature life is striking. He was born in 1783, in Northumberland, then a frontier town in New Hampshire. There his father, a typical frontiersman, who had fought in the French and Indian Wars, had established a home in the wilderness, and had maintained his foothold despite rude climate and desolating savage. Through the Revolution he served in military expeditions, and in the intervals cultivated the land which he had so hardly secured. From such environments the son went out to the life of a steady lawyer, in a community remarkable for the quiet of its every-day life, where nothing more terrible than the sham battles of training-day disturbed the serenity of the inhabitants. He brought with him to his work the same persistent energy which carried the father over difficulties, and placed the son in possession of fortune and reputation. After graduating from Dartmouth in 1805, and a year or two of pedagogic experience, he entered the office of Artemas Ward, then practicing in Charlestown. Mr. Burnside says that the practice of Judge Ward was then immense, and that he was so much of the time absent from his office that his students were left much to their own discretion in their course of study. He had, however, an opportunity to draw conveyances and pleadings under the supervision of his preceptor, which was of great value in forming habits of accuracy and conciseness of expression. In 1810 he was admitted as an attorney in the Supreme Court without having, as was the usual rule, been previously sworn at the bar of the Common Pleas. In the same year he came to Worcester, and commenced business with an excellent preparation for success.

Those who knew him speak of his great industry and his mastery of fundamental principles as the conspicuous elements of his power. Well read in the learning of his profession, he wisely diversified his pursuits by a continued attention to the classics, and in the latter years of his life, during which he gave up active labors these studies provided a constant source of enjoyment for his well-earned leisure. He died in 1850, but his name is still associated with the business interests of the city, where are the evidences of his prosperous career.

EDWARD D. BANGS was the son of Judge Edward Bangs, who has been mentioned. He was born in Worcester in 1790 and studied in his father's office. Admitted to the bar in 1813, he at once formed a partnership with William E. Green, who had been associated with his father previous to the latter's elevation to the bench. Though esteemed a good lawyer and careful of the interests committed to him, he never acquired a fondness for professional labors. His mind rather turned towards purely literary investigations. and in his position as Secretary of State, to which he was elected in 1824, he found duties much more fitted to his tastes. He always seemed to take pleasure in assisting the inquiries of others in his department, and spent the happiest years of his life in the Boston State-House. He was elected a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1820, and was associated in the representation of Worcester with Levi Lincoln. His youth and modesty prevented his taking an active part in the proceedings of that body or of the House of Representatives, where he sat for several years. He succeeded Rejoice Newton in the office of county attorney, but resigned in a few months to assume the Secretaryship

of State. His health had become so impaired in 1836 as to cause his retirement from office, and he lived but two years longer. He was distinguished for his gentlemanly bearing and invariable courtesy of manners—qualities which he inherited from his father. Like him, also, he was a devoted horticulturist—a taste which seems naturally associated with gentle breeding.

Massachusetts was most fortunate in having in her public service, at the same time, two such men as Levi Lincoln and JOHN DAVIS, and that they were trained to command the applause of listening senates in the forensic contests of the Worcester Court-house will always remain the pride and the incentive of the young aspirant for legal honors at our bar. Born in Northborough in 1788, some six years later than Governor Lincoln, and finding more obstacles to his rapid progress in youth than the son of the Attorney-General, Mr. Davis, through life, pressed close upon the footsteps of his predecessor, and in generous rivalry left it doubtful which should deserve best of the republic. He was descended of a line of sturdy yeomen, the first of whom in this country was Dolor Davis, whose name is found upon the Cambridge records in 1634. His father, Isaac Davis, a respected farmer of Northborough, found it a task sufficiently laborious to force from the reluctant soil a comfortable living for his large family, and he of them who would secure an education must struggle for it himself. Until he was nineteen years old John Davis, by his own account, was employed most of his time upon the farm. He, however, found sufficient time for study by himself and in the district schools to fit himself for Leicester Academy, where he made good use of the short time at his disposal, and entered Yale College in 1808. There he graduated in due course with high honors. Francis Blake was, at that time, in the very zenith of his brilliant power, and his reputation attracted to his office the youth emulous of his fame. After three years of study with Mr. Blake, Davis was admitted to the bar in 1815. For a few months he tried the worth of his acquirements in Spencer, and no doubt was satisfied that he could bear his part in a more crowded forum, for he soon came back to Worcester and there set up his standard.

The next year Mr. Blake's failing health compelled him to withdraw from active practice, and Mr. Davis succeeded to his office and his business. Undertaking the task of wearing such a mantle and called upon at once to contend with antagonists so formidable as Lincoln, Newton, and Burnside, his powers were put to proof and rapidly developed. In the ten years that elapsed before he entered Congress and Lincoln became a judge he had attained a commanding position, and had increased the large clientage which he inherited from Blake. As a lawyer it was said of him that he did not possess a considerable familiarity with reported decisions, but that his well-trained judgment and clear perception of the fundamental principles of law generally brought him to a correct conclusion as to what the law ought to be, and he then proceeded to sustain his position by the arguments which had convinced his own mind, and by precedents illustrative of the principles which he maintained. Courts learned to know that his arguments were based on careful reasoning and might be relied on to contribute something towards the decision of the issue, even though they might fail to carry complete conviction. Before juries his evident candor, his plain statement of the facts as he viewed them, and entire comprehension of the way in which his array of evidence would impress the mind of the unprejudiced auditor, give him a power which pressed strongly towards a favorable verdict. Judge Paine remarked of him that he had more common sense than any three lawyers of his acquaintance, and this saving grace was conspicuous in all his actions and utterances.

For a year previous to Mr. Lincoln's promotion to the Supreme Court he joined forces with Mr. Davis in practice. Afterwards the firms of Davis & Charles Allen and Davis & Emory Washburn transacted a large share of the business of the county, and proved most formidable allies until 1834, when Governor Davis finally retired from the courts to give his attention exclusively to public duties. In the discharge of these, as was most natural, he won his most wide-spread distinction.

His political career began with his election to Congress in 1824. During his first term he was rather an observer than an active participant in debate, but in 1827 he attracted attention by his earnest advocacy of the so-called American system. From that time onward he was an able champion of the protective tariff on every occasion, and whatever may be thought of the soundness of his deductions, it is certain that he handled his facts with skill and presented with utmost vigor the now hackneyed arguments which have prevailed with the majority of New Englanders to the present time. His speech in reply to McDuffie, of South Carolina, the leader of the free trade party in the House, was esteemed his most powerful presentation of the case, and gave him a national reputation.

A declaration made in one of his speeches is remarkable by contrast with what any member of Congress at the present day would be able to say on the same subject. In defending his constituents from the charge of self-seeking in their demand for tariff legislation, he says: "During the seven years I have held a seat on this floor, no one has applied to me to ask any favor of the Executive for him, nor has any one sought my assistance in procuring an appointment of any kind, unless it is to be the deputy of some little village post-office." If our representatives could obtain a like exemption from vexatious importunity, their undistracted attention to purely

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legislative duties might bring forth at least some result.

In 1833 Governor Lincoln announced that he should not again be a candidate, and the Whig Convention, with practical unanimity, selected Mr. Davis as their nominee. He accepted with evident reluctance, feeling that his usefulness in Congress was assured, while the new honor brought with it untried responsibilities. His loss to the service of the whole country was deplored outside of Massachusetts, one of the influential journals declaring that he was the right arm of the Massachusetts delegation in Congress.

The Anti-Masonic party, then at the culmination of its strength in this State, had put in nomination John Quincy Adams, and Davis was made to feel it his duty to accept the leadership of his party in a dubious conflict, and such it proved to be. In the popular election there was no choice, but in the Legislature Davis received a majority. The difficult task of acceptably filling the chair which his friend Lincoln had so long adorned he accomplished with credit, and was elected for a second term, but resigned when chosen to fulfill the more congenial duties of United States Senator. In that august body, where he sat from 1835 to 1841, and from 1845 to 1853, he was cotemporary with the triumvirate, Webster, Calhoun and Clay, whose overshadowing greatness tradition continues to magnify. But reading the plain story of the times, it is evident that Senator Davis was a potent factor in moulding legislation, and that his grasp of national questions was in most cases liberal and always strong enough to make itself felt. Not only on the tariff, but on our commercial relations, the fisheries, financial topics and our intercourse with foreign powers, he made his opinion respected by making his knowledge evident.

His two terms of service in the Senate were divided by two years in the State Governorship and two years of private life. He lived but one year after retiring from the Senate, in 1853, to enjoy that contemplation of a life well spent, which he might so deservedly anticipate.

Two years after Mr. Davis' admission to the bar there applied to the examiners for this county a tall, slender youth, whose clear-cut profile, close curling locks and keen glance gave to his countenance an almost classic beauty. As his examination proceeded, the questioners became so interested in the thoroughness of the knowledge he displayed, and the aptness of his replies, that for their own gratification they prolonged their inquiries after they were satisfied of the qualification of the candidate for entrance to the bar.

The young man was CHARLES ALLEN, then in his twenty-first year. His father, Joseph Allen, was clerk of the courts for this county for thirty-three years, succeeding the elder Levi Lincoln in that capacity. He was a fine scholar, and a gentleman of that refined and elegant school of manners often spoken of as old, but by no means obsolete at the present day. Charles Allen was born in Worcester in 1797. Three generations back he counted as his ancestor a sister of Samuel Adams, and the steadfast independence of that old patriot was clearly reflected in his kinsman of the later day. After preparing for college at Leicester Academy he entered Yale when only fourteen. There he remained only a year, severing his connection for reasons that were said by his pastor to reveal "the delicateness of his sensibility, but reflected no dishonor upon him." Immediately he entered the office of Mr. Burnside, then in full practice, and so diligently improved his youthful powers as to meet the examination in 1817 with the result described.

For six years he practiced in New Braintree, and a discriminating eulogist says: "When, some twenty-five or thirty years later, I commenced practice in the same community, the reputation he had won there, in those early years, was still spoken of with admiration and pride by those who had been the clients and friends of the young lawyer, and who had followed him through all his subsequent and more conspicuous public career." In 1824 he removed to Worcester, and became associated with John Davis, who, though ten years his senior, had been but two years longer at the bar. He was not a case lawyer nor a reader of many books. Thoroughly well grounded in leading principles, it was his habit to think out his line of reasoning while pacing his office or walking in the open air. It was said that the definitions of Blackstone were impressed upon his memory almost *verbatim*, and although he gave to every case most careful preparation, it was rather a process of reflection and logical deduction from established premises than a resort to the writings or decisions of jurists who had preceded him. His great power lay in cross-examination. In the use of this most dangerous weapon, more fatal to the unskillful wielder than all the armory of his opponent, he was an adept whose superior, by the testimony of living witnesses, most competent to judge, has not arisen in this Commonwealth from his time to the present. Terrible is the word used by one to describe his treatment of a witness whom he believed to be testifying to an untruth, and with merciless directness question would follow question till the best fabricated story was exposed. He realized, too, the danger of attempting too much with an adverse witness, and never committed the mistake of strengthening the direct testimony of his opponent by permitting its repetition in reply to cross-questioning. His general rule was never to examine an adverse witness; the exception he chose carefully and for sufficient reasons. His intellectual processes were rapid, and all his faculties and stores of knowledge ready at any moment for their best service. With a

remarkable mastery of the rules of evidence, he was able, in the course of trials, as questions arose, to take up his position and defend it by cogent argument upon the instant.

His public services included four years in the lower and three in the upper branch of the State Legislature and four years as a Representative in Congress. In 1848 he was a delegate to the Whig National Convention. The representatives of Massachusetts voted steadily for Daniel Webster, but the leading candidates were Clay and Taylor. Mr. Allen, though up to that time acting with the Whig party, was a stern Abolitionist in faith and word. Hating slavery as a sin, and convinced that the nomination of General Taylor was a truckling to the power of the slaveholders, upon the announcement of the vote, he arose in his place, denounced the act in incisive language, and left the hall and the party, to go home and earnestly engage in the formation of the Free-Soil party.

In 1853 he was a member of the convention called to revise our State Constitution, and there his counsels were sought by the leading lawyers of the State who were found in that body.

But as Judge Allen he was best known and is still remembered in this community. His first judicial appointment was to the Court of Common Pleas in 1842. Two years later he, with most of his associates, resigned, in consequence of a legislative spasm of economy, which reduced their already modest salaries. In 1858 he was appointed chief justice of the Superior Court for Suffolk County, and in the following year was fitly chosen to preside over the newly-commissioned Superior Court of the Commonwealth, which was substituted for the old Court of Common Pleas. On this bench he remained until failing powers induced his resignation in 1867, two years before his death. Twice he was offered promotion to the Supreme Court, and again on the retirement of Chief Justice Shaw, but he preferred to remain where he was. His physical health was not robust, and he hesitated to assume duties that to him might be more laborious. He was admirably fitted to preside at *nisi prius* trials, where the quick grasp of the facts, as they are for the first time presented, the ability readily to conceive and apply the rules of evidence and facility in clear, impromptu statement of the law for the guidance of the jury, are essentials. He was never fond of the patient reading and writing necessary to the preparation of the elaborate opinions of the Supreme Court. One of his friends and admirers says of him that he was an indolent man, never making more than just the absolutely necessary exertion for his purpose, and ever ready to postpone, if possible, the undertaking of new effort. His own explanation of this apparent sloth is found in a remark to Judge Foster: "Few know how much physical weakness I have had to contend with through life, and how much has been attributed to indolence in me, that was caused by the necessity of nursing my health." He possessed, however, an energy of will that roused his latent powers to a height commensurate with any obstacle, as opponents learned to know full well.

Judge Allen was not a scholar. His reading was confined in its scope, yet his mind seemed to broaden and deepen by its own innate law of growth. The concurrent testimony of those who knew him well, with singular unanimity, dwells upon his intellectual strength. "I think . . . for force of intellect he was above any man whom I have known in this commonweath;" "No one who has ever lived in this community was his equal in pure intellectual power;" "He never called any man his intellectual master;" "Among intellectual masters ranked with the very first, not second to Daniel Webster himself," are the expressions of four lawyers, who have had opportunity to form correct opinions of the man.

Though reserved and dignified in manner and little apt to display his feelings, he showed to his chosen friends a kindly nature, ready to share in social intercourse or extend the hospitable hand. Conscientious, independent, reverent of the religious truths in which he firmly believed, fearing his own disapproval and else no mortal man, his was a proud position—as of that

> Promontory of rock
> That, compassed round with turbulent sound,
> In middle-ocean meets the surging shock,
> Tempest buffeted, citadel crowned.

Mr. Allen's most formidable antagonist before the jury for many years was PLINY MERRICK, the son of the gentleman of the same name, of whom we have spoken. He was born in Brookfield in 1794, and graduated from Harvard in the class with the historian Prescott in 1814. He had the advantage of studying his profession in the office of Levi Lincoln, then just entering upon his political career in the State Legislature and in the midst of active practice. After his admission to the bar in 1817, Mr. Merrick made several attempts at settlement before adopting Worcester as his home. For four years he practiced in Taunton, and for a portion of that time was a partner of Governor Morton. In 1824 he returned to Worcester to undertake the duties of prosecuting attorney for the county. In this capacity he acted until the division of the State into districts under an act of 1832. Governor Lincoln thereupon appointed his former pupil attorney for the Middle District, which consisted of Worcester and Norfolk Counties, and he held the office until his promotion to the bench in 1843.

During these nearly twenty years of service in conducting cases for the government in the criminal courts his general practice was continually increasing. He was on several occasions called into the courts of Vermont, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, where his reputation had become known and valued.

His arguments are spoken of as masterpieces of

rhetorical skill. His command of language was unsurpassed by any of his cotemporaries, and his eloquent perorations are still vividly impressed on the recollections of some who have listened to them. With a keen wit and great quickness of apprehension he united an impulsiveness of temperament which sometimes hurried him beyond the positions which he had intended to maintain, but his readiness and his good humor never failed him in these emergencies. Judge Washburn says of him that "it was sometimes difficult for an antagonist to determine whether he was the most effectually subdued by his adroitness or his courtesy."

One of the most conspicuous trials in which he was engaged was that of Professor Webster for the murder of Dr. Parkman. His defence of the prisoner, though somewhat criticised at the time, is now admitted to have been well conducted and a good struggle in a hopeless cause.

In 1843 Mr. Merrick was appointed a judge of the Court of Common Pleas, and held the office until 1848, when he resigned and undertook the presidency of the Worcester and Nashua Railroad. In 1850 he returned to the bench, and after three years was promoted to the Supreme Judicial Court. It was apprehended by many of his associates that the brilliant rhetoric, keen wit and swift mental processes which had formed great part of his strength at the bar would unfit him for the duties of the judge, who must often "halt between two opinions," till he is possessed of all that can be said on either side.

But as a *nisi prius* judge he exibited a most accurate knowledge of the rules of practice and evidence, which facilitated the progress of trials by avoiding the necessity of long arguments as objections were raised. He was quite apt to form a decided opinion on the merits of the case, and in his charge to the jury to make that opinion manifest with a distinctness that the judge of to-day would consider exceptionable.

The present theory is that the presiding judge is to be absolutely without sympathies and without opinions on the right or wrong of the controversy, but to state to the jury the rules of law which shall govern them, in any conceivable aspect of the facts, which may impress them as the true one. To so austere a view of the functions of the judge Mr. Merrick was never able to conform himself. His statements of complicated series of facts were always clear and of assistance to a proper understanding of their relative value, but often of their value in the mind of the judge. In the reports of decisions of the Supreme Court, his opinions, especially upon the criminal law of Massachusetts, are held in high respect. For ten years his services became more and more valuable, and he was recognized as a worthy associate of Lemuel Shaw, our great chief justice. He was an energetic worker and ready to assume even more than his share of the labors of the bench.

In 1856 he removed to Boston, and there resided till his death, in 1867. The last three years of his life were spent in retirement occasioned by disease. Paralysis had suspended the use of some of his limbs. But through it all he sustained his cheerful disposition and powerful will. When his right hand was disabled, he learned to write with his left. Prevented from going abroad, he found in the converse of friends at home the means of keeping his mental faculties in active use.

Mr. Merrick belonged to the political party which was in the minority in this State, and held few elective offices. He served in both branches of the State Legislature at intervals; but, aside from that, his whole attention was devoted to his profession.

JOSEPH THAYER was an example, of which the law does not furnish many, of a lawyer who, without inherited property or remarkable legal attainments, acquired, in the course of an honorable and useful career, a handsome competence. He was born in Douglas in 1792, graduated at Brown University in 1815, and after studying in the offices of Levi Lincoln and of Bezaleel Taft, of Uxbridge, he began practice in that town. Without great learning in the law, he possessed good practical judgment, on which he was accustomed to rely, and which others soon learned to respect. His perception of the real gist of a controversy was seldom at fault, though generally arrived at without the aid of labored reasoning. In financial matters his judgment was remarkably accurate. He became interested in a large number of business enterprises in his community. Both the Blackstone Canal and its successor, the Providence and Worcester Railroad, received, in their inception and progress, his encouragement and assistance.

His townsmen found in him one ready to use his capital in sustaining those under temporary embarrassment, and to risk something rather than see his neighbors go to the wall. He accordingly received and retained their confidence, and was honored by elections to various positions of trust. His political services outside of Uxbridge were in the Constitutional Convention of 1853, to which he was chosen a delegate by general consent, and in the Legislature of the State. He rounded out nearly four-score years of honored and useful life, and died at the residence of Judge Chapin, his son-in-law, in 1872.

It is proper to mention among the prominent men who have been members of this bar, one whose life was spent in other than professional pursuits, but who always felt a pride in his connection with the law, and who so well fulfilled the duties of his station that the bar may well be proud to number him among their honored dead.

STEPHEN SALISBURY, the son of a Worcester merchant bearing the same name, was born in 1798. His father had been successful in establishing in the small town an extensive business and a home where

a refined and generous hospitality was exercised. From the influence of the latter the son went out to Leicester Academy and Harvard College, where he graduated in 1817, carrying with him everywhere the evidence of that home culture in his dignified courtesy and unswerving integrity. He studied law with Samuel Burnside, and was admitted to the bar, though he had no need and probably no intention of making professional labors his life-work. For several years he assisted in the care of his father's property, and in 1829, when he became its sole owner by inheritance, he assumed the duties which he felt that the possession of wealth devolved upon him, with an earnest desire to conscientiously discharge every responsibility. Absolved from the necessity of any labor if he had so chosen, he was one of the most industrious of men. A diligent student, he made himself familiar not only with classic authors, which were perhaps his favorite recreation, but with a great variety of lines of scientific and literary research. For thirty years he presided over the American Antiquarian Society, and frequently contributed from his pen to the publications of that body. His wisdom was sought for in the conduct of financial, charitable and scientific institutions, and to whatever duties he assumed he applied the same conscientious attention. His constant endeavor was to faithfully perform that which he felt it right to undertake. The Polytechnic Institute located in Worcester was a peculiar object of his bounty and his care. As president of its Board of Trustees he was unfailing in his attention to its interests. Till the latest period of his life he was constantly growing in mental breadth, and did not allow age or even later infirmity to repress his eager interest in intellectual pursuits. Elsewhere in these volumes his deeds will more fitly be described, but as he always wished to be counted with the lawyers when they gathered for any occasion of general interest, so we cannot omit to claim some share in his good fame whose training as a law-student must have aided in making him what he was.

For the facts contained in most of the earlier sketches in this chapter the writer is principally indebted to the scholarly address delivered by JOSEPH WILLARD before the bar of the county in 1829. He was then but a little over thirty years of age, but the address is characterized by thorough investigation, by philosophical reflection and by inspiring views of the nobility of the profession which he represented. His father was president of Harvard College, and from a line of ancestors he inherited a scholar's love for the classics and for literary and historical investigation. Born in Cambridge in 1798, he graduated in his nineteenth year, and at once began the study of law in Amherst, New Hampshire. At this time he formed the acquaintance of John Farmer, a zealous antiquarian scholar, whose friendship and advice no doubt gave a bent to the tastes of the young man towards similar studies. After completing his professional studies in the Cambridge Law-School, he began practice first in Waltham, and in 1821 in Lancaster. There for ten years he gave attention to business with considerable success. He could not forego literary work, however, and was one of the writers for the *Worcester Magazine*, a periodical devoted to historical and literary topics, especially those of a local character. His most elaborate work, which appeared in those pages, was a history of the town of Lancaster, which exhibits his habits of careful and minute investigation and his excellent taste and judgment in the selection of his material.

In 1830 he married a Boston lady, and soon afterwards removed to that city, continuing to practice until 1840. In that year he was appointed, by Governor Everett, clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for Suffolk County. This office, through the changes of the style of the court, and after the clerkship became an elective position, he held till a short time before his death. With its duties he made himself thoroughly conversant. On the great multiplicity of questions of practice constantly arising, his opinion came to be regarded as almost equal to a Supreme Court decision. His methodical habits kept the large accumulation of papers and records in perfect order and available for instant reference, and he seems to have transmitted to his son the same capacity for the successful administration of that difficult position.

He found in retirement from practice more leisure for his favorite historical studies. The Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society and the Massachusetts Historical Society, of both of which learned bodies he was an active member, are enriched by his papers on a variety of topics. A work upon which he was engaged at the time of his death was a life of General Knox. The manuscript materials entrusted to him were in a chaotic state, and the labor of arranging the letters and documents taxed his powers for a long time. He became intensely interested in the work, and after his strength was insufficient for any other exertion he insisted on the attempt to go on with this labor of love. But it was not permitted him to complete the task. In 1865 he died, amid the closing scenes of the conflict of arms which had aroused his fervent patriotism and in which had been sacrificed the life of his eldest son.

Mr. Willard had early connected himself with the Free-Soil party. His conscience deeply felt the sin of slave-holding, and he welcomed the war as the means of deliverance from that burden. A letter which he wrote to an English friend, in reply to some hostile criticisms of the English press, was widely circulated and largely instrumental in informing public opinion in England on the true merits of the Northern position.

Twenty-seven years after Mr. Willard's historical sketch of our bar from its beginning, the tale was taken up and carried on in graceful diction, with admirable skill, by EMORY WASHBURN, a cotemporary

and literary associate of Mr. Willard. From this address are borrowed many of the details that have appeared in these pages. Its author was born in Leicester in 1800, and prepared for college in that admirable school, which has been the chief glory of the town. His father died in the lad's seventh year, leaving him to the care of his mother, to whom, through her life, he manifested a most devoted attachment, and of his pastor, Dr. Moore. This gentleman was called to a professorship in Dartmouth College, and took with him his *protégé*, then only thirteen years old. In 1815 Professor Moore became president of Williams College, and thither Mr. Washburn followed his fortunes, and there graduated in 1817. His experience in small colleges made him a firm believer in the superior advantage of the more intimate association of pupils with instructors there possible. He was always a stanch and useful friend of his *alma mater*. Part of his professional studies were pursued in the office of Judge Dewey in Williamstown, and for a year he attended the Harvard Law School. Soon after his admission, in 1821, he opened an office in Leicester, where he remained for seven years. During this period he served his town as clerk and as Representative in the General Court. Becoming interested with the founders of the *Worcester Magazine* in preserving the memorials of the past life of this vicinity, he wrote with great fidelity and published in various numbers of that periodical a history of Leicester and of its academy. In 1828 his mother died, and the chief tie which bound him to the village having thus been broken, he removed to Worcester. That town then had a population of some four thousand, but among them was Lincoln, the Governor of the State; John Davis, dividing his time between the duties of a member of Congress and a lawyer in active practice; Charles Allen and Samuel Burnside.

Mr. Washburn's clients followed him from Leicester and he soon attracted others. In 1831 he formed a partnership with John Davis, succeeding Mr. Allen in that relation. His faculty of making every man who came to him for advice feel that he had found a personal friend, that his cause was in the hands of one who had not only the ability but the sympathetic interest to make the most of it, secured to Mr. Washburn in a remarkable degree the affectionate adherence of hosts of clients. His industry was incessant and untiring, and his success proportionate. Governor Bullock says of him, "His leading competitors at the bar were clearer in statement, more incisive in their arguments. Governor Washburn was never a rhetorician. I perceived, however, that there was a moral power of confidence behind him which was equal to the power of eloquence." "His great source of influence over juries was the kindliness, the genuineness of his nature." Juries believed in the honesty of the man. He was able so thoroughly to identify himself with his client's view of the facts, as to impress others with the sincerity of his own conviction of its truth.

In 1838 he was again a member of the House of Representatives, and presented and ably supported the first report in favor of a railroad from Boston to Albany. In 1841 and 1842 he was chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate. For three years he assumed the duties of a *nisi prius* judge in the Court of Common Pleas, and for two years more resided in Lowell as the agent of a manufacturing corporation, but the practice of the law in the county where he was best known and best beloved was his real vocation, and to it he returned with added zeal and undiminished success.

One of the large number of tasks in which he found pleasure and recreation, in the midst of his most exacting professional cares, was the preparation of the "Judicial History of Massachusetts" down to Revolutionary times, a work involving a vast amount of research and containing most valuable information for the student of the growth of our modes of legal procedure.

While absent in Europe in 1853 he was nominated by the Whigs for Governor of the State, and was elected by a narrow majority. The next year he was defeated by the "Know-Nothings," and returned to the calling for which he was most fitted.

Whether his success was greater as an advocate or as an instructor in the law, may be open to question. In the year 1856 he became Bussey professor of law in the Dane Law School at Cambridge, and for twenty years lectured before successive classes of students with ever-increasing reputation, and adding to the ranks of his devoted admirers every disciple who had the opportunity to listen to the kindly counsel which he mingled with his instruction. It was said of him that "Few professors have enjoyed in so full a measure the confidence and affection of the students of that renowned seat of learning. None have been more fortunate in the effort to inspire the young men of the bar with lofty ideas and pure purposes. It was not his power as a lecturer upon legal topics, though respectable, by which he exerted the greatest influence on the mind and future course of the student, but his private conversations and advice based on long experience . . . and an earnest, unaffected interest in the welfare and prospects of every young man to whom he stood in the relation of instructor and adviser." During his professorship he published a treatise on the "American Law of Real Property," which has passed through several editions, and is the text-book of students and the reliable reference of the practitioner to-day. Both this work and his volume on "Easements," are marked by the most careful investigation of authorities and the presentation in the fullest manner of every phase of the subject. In the effort to cover the whole ground, the writer sometimes becomes prolix, but whatever of force is lost in repetitions is compensated by the addition of prece-

dents and citations. In 1876 he resigned his professor's chair, but even then did not give up his ambition to be useful. As a Representative in the General Court during the last year of his life, he was actively at work in the chairmanship of the judiciary committee, and as senior member of the House exhibited the same fresh interest in public matters as when one of its youngest members he represented Princeton, half a century before. In 1877 he died with mental powers in full activity, and the affectionate eulogies which were pronounced by his fellows in every relationship of his busy life testified to the deep impression which his genial manners and universal sympathy had made upon the hearts of all who knew him.

When Judge Nathaniel Paine retired from his long and honerable service of thirty-five years in the Probate Court he was succeeded by IRA M. BARTON, a counsellor practicing in Oxford. In that town he was born in 1796. During a portion of his course at Brown University he was a room-mate of Horace Mann, whose friendship he enjoyed in their subsequent careers. After graduating in 1819, he studied law with Sumner Bastow, in Oxford, with Levi Lincoln, and at the Harvard Law School, then recently established. He was one of the first three to graduate from that institution. In 1822 he opened his office in his native town, and there continued practice for fourteen years. As an adviser he was careful and conscientious, desirous rather of avoiding danger for his client than of risking his interests by over-boldness. As an advocate he attained considerable success. Not a brilliant orator, his efforts were characterized by an earnest endeavor to perform his duty to the fullest extent, and his well-known integrity secured to him always respectful consideration by courts and juries. From 1836 to 1844 he presided with impartiality in the Probate Court, and by his kindly sympathy maintained the traditions of that tribunal as the guardian and protector of the helpless and the afflicted. Upon his resignation he formed a partnership with the late Peter C. Bacon, to which Mr. Barton's son was admitted later, and for several years the business of the firm was of extensive proportions, and its name familiar beyond the limits of the county. In 1849 his feeble health compelled his retirement from active practice, but did not prevent his acting as counsel in chambers during many years. In this, perhaps the most agreeable branch of legal practice to one of non-combative instinct, he found his judgment sought and relied upon by a large circle of clients. He took his fair share of the responsibility in matters of public interest. For three years he represented Oxford in the Legislature, and was Senator in 1832 and 1834. In the latter year he was appointed one of the commissioners to revise the statutes of the State, and bring into shape, available for use, the mass of public legislation which had grown to be an almost chaotic tangle of repeals and amendments. The plan of this first revision has been substantially adhered to in subsequent codifications. His addresses on several occasions gave proof of tastes for historical investigation, which were not, however, developed to a considerable extent. He lived until 1867.

ALFRED DWIGHT FOSTER should be included in these sketches as one of a line of lawyers who have been ornaments of this bar. His father and grandfather have received notice as judges of our courts, and his son attained the same title with even greater distinction. Mr. Foster was born in 1800, in Brookfield, the residence of his ancestors. After graduating from Harvard, in 1819, he studied with Mr. Burnside, and was admitted to the bar in 1822. After only two years attention to practice, he withdrew from business, and lived a life of quiet and useful leisure until his death, in 1852. He served in one or two public capacities after his removal to Worcester, in 1828, and acquired and retained the entire respect of the community.

One of Judge Washburn's most intimate friends through a score of years, until death severed the ties, was THOMAS KINNICUTT. Born in Rhode Island in 1800, the same year with Mr. Washburn, he graduated with high honors from Brown University in 1822. His law studies were pursued in the school at Litchfield, in the offices of Francis Baylie, of Taunton, and of Governor Davis. In 1825 he was admitted and began business in Worcester. His physical powers were never of the strongest, and his gentle nature shunned the contests of the court-room and the political arena. He did, however, serve several terms in both branches of the State Legislature, and was twice chosen Speaker of the House. He found his true sphere on the bench of the Probate Court, where he succeeded Judge Thomas in 1848, and presided until a short time before his death, ten years later. His winning presence, gentle manners and affectionate disposition endeared him greatly to all with whom he came in contact. With several of the financial institutions of the city he was connected, and his sagacious judgment in their conduct was constantly approved. His was one of those characters which, courting no publicity, by its sweetness and purity helps to brighten the aspect of a world sometimes too busy to even notice the shadows which overspread it.

ISAAC DAVIS[1] was born in Northborough, an agricultural town in the eastern part of this county, June 2, 1799. His ancestors, for seven generations, had been inhabitants of Massachusetts, and possessed marked family traits; conspicuous among them were rugged honesty, energy, independence of character, industry and public spirit.

His earliest progenitor in New England was Dolor Davis, the precise time of whose arrival on these shores is not known, but he is believed to have been

[1] By J. Evarts Greene.

Jefferson Davis

one of the earlier settlers in the Plymouth colony. He is known to have dwelt in Cambridge in 1634, to have married Margery Willard, sister of Major Simon Willard, formerly of Kent, England, and a distinguished soldier in the Indian wars of this colony, and to have died in Barnstable, in the Plymouth colony, in 1673.

Samuel, the younger of Dolor Davis' two sons, married Mary Meads. Simon, the youngest of Samuel's five sons, was born August 9, 1683, and attained the age of eighty years. Of his sons, the oldest—bearing the same name—was born in 1713, married Hannah Gates, lived in the town of Holden and was the father of eleven children. Isaac, the ninth of these, was born February 27, 1749, married Anna Brigham and lived in Northborough. Phineas, the eldest of his eleven children, was born September 12, 1772, married Martha Eager, October 12, 1793, and, like his father and grandfather, was blessed with a family of eleven children.

Isaac, the subject of this sketch, was the fourth of this numerous progeny. In his boyhood the industry of the inland towns of Massachusetts was almost wholly confined to farming, with some few primitive manufactures. Even Boston, the metropolis of New England, and the seat of a large foreign commerce, had scarcely one-fourth as many inhabitants as Worcester has now. Hampshire County, with its rich farming lands, was by far the most populous county in the State, Worcester and Essex approaching it most nearly. Mr. Davis' father was a tanner and currier, an upright and respected citizen. In his household the homely virtues of piety, industry and frugality were cultivated and flourished. The education of the children, begun and continued at home by the example and conversation of their parents, the reading of a few but good books, and the early study of the Bible, was pursued in the district school. The time not so employed was given to the tasks of the shop and the farm.

The district schools of those days laid a substantial foundation for the building of a serviceable and comely edifice of mental attainment and culture, but they did not carry the acquisition of knowledge very far. A boy of an inquiring and eager mind soon learned what they had to teach. The course of school studies having been early completed, Isaac Davis went to work in his father's shop, and might probably have adopted his trade, but for an injury which disabled him for a time from bodily labor. While recovering from this hurt, conscious of mental powers to which the mechanical occupation of his father would not give full scope, even if he should ever be sound enough in body to resume it, his ambition, stimulated, doubtless, by the example of his uncle, John Davis, then beginning the practice of law, in which, as in politics and statesmanship, he made an illustrious reputation, the young man resolved to prepare himself for professional life. The obstacles in his way would now be thought great, but they were not greater than those which the young men of that day who entered the professions were accustomed to surmount, and Mr. Davis' energy and perseverance were amply adequate to the task which he proposed for himself. His parents, burdened with the support of a large family of young children, could give him little assistance, and he depended largely on his own exertions for support and the cost of his education.

He began his preparation for college at Leicester, and completed it at Lancaster Academy, and entered Brown University in 1818, where he was graduated with credit in 1822. Giving lessons in penmanship and teaching school in winter were among the means by which he paid his way through college. After his graduation he accepted the office of tutor in the university, at the salary of four hundred dollars, and at the same time began the study of law in the office of General Carpenter, then one of the leaders of the Rhode Island bar. After a few months' trial of this divided employment he resolved to give his whole time to the law, and, removing to Worcester, entered as a student the office of Lincoln & Davis. The business of the office was large and varied, and gave the student excellent opportunities for learning the practical details of professional work in all its branches. While pursuing his studies Mr. Davis earned something toward his support by employing the time which a young man, less patient of continuous labor and less eager for independence, might have given—and perhaps wisely—to recreation, in copying deeds in the office of the register.

Soon after he entered the office Mr. Lincoln, the senior partner, was chosen Lieutenant-Governor, and the year after was appointed a justice of the Supreme Judicial Court. This appointment and the distinguished political honors, which soon followed, removed him permanently from practice, and upon Mr. Davis' admission to the bar, in 1825, he proposed to his uncle, then conducting the business alone, to become his partner, receiving as his share of the income one-third of the profits of the business in the Court of Common Pleas. This offer was declined, and the uncle advised his nephew to begin practice in one of the smaller towns of the county, where the competition would be less active, with the purpose of removing to Worcester when he had established a business and reputation. But the young lawyer had no liking for a timid policy. He preferred to face the greatest difficulties at once and had no distrust of his ability to surmount them. He therefore opened an office in Worcester, and it was not long before his talents were discovered and employed by clients in such numbers as amply to justify his confidence in himself.

The Worcester bar at that time was very strong. It is doubtful whether in any county in the United States was there then a group of lawyers more remarkable for native ability, legal attainments and

skill in advocacy than those strenuously competing for the professional business of this little town of six or eight thousand inhabitants. Francis Blake, then near the close of his brilliant professional life, who was said by Governor Lincoln to be the most eloquent man he had ever heard at this bar; Pliny Merrick, Emory Washburn, Charles Allen, John Davis, Ira M. Barton, each one of whom would have stood in the front rank of lawyers anywhere, were in the prime of life and in the full tide of their professional activity. Into this distinguished company Mr. Davis came as a competitor for the prizes and honors of the profession, alert, intrepid, confident, as eager for work as for honor, of exhaustless tenacity and endurance. His office dockets show that, within three years of his admission to the bar, he had been employed in more than two thousand cases. Long before the end of that period his uncle had changed his mind about the partnership, and had offered the successful young lawyer much better terms than he had refused to concede a year before. But Mr. Davis was not then willing to be second in the management of his professional business, even to a man so eminent as his uncle, John Davis, then was.

His success was remarkable, and the labor which his constantly growing practice required was beyond the capacity of most men. As his fortunes improved his interests and cares extended beyond the lines of his profession. He had an intelligent concern for the growth and welfare of the town, and everything which promised to advance its prosperity or its intellectual, moral or religious improvement engaged his attention and received the advantage of his helpful counsel, powerful advocacy and financial support. His surplus earnings were sagaciously invested in real estate and in the shares of many industrial and financial corporations. His mind had that happy mixture of enterprise and prudence which led him to avoid, as if by instinct, though really by acute intelligence, wide knowledge of business and swift computation of the elements of success or failure, undertakings which, though plausible, lacked substantial merit, and to support by his capital and credit others in which, while many prudent men deemed them hazardous, his shrewd insight discovered the germs of sure and productive growth.

His services as trustee and director of moneyed and manufacturing corporations were highly valued. He was for many years president of the Quinsigamond Bank, of the State Mutual Life Insurance Company and of the Merchants' and Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, a director of the Providence and Worcester Railroad Company, and a large stockholder in other railroads, in the Washburn Iron Company and in many other industrial enterprises. His good fortune gave, and his helpful spirit prompted him to improve, frequent opportunities of aiding at a critical moment men of enterprise and merit, whose business, generally sound, was straitened or threatened with disaster by temporary causes. If his judgment approved the risk, his assistance had no bounds except the limit of his own resources. His confidence in the men whom he trusted or in the reasonableness of their hopes was rarely, if ever, misplaced. There are many prosperous men and valuable industries in Worcester to-day that, but for his liberality, guided by a cool and accurate judgment, would have been wrecked by disaster in their beginnings. Mr. Davis did not in such cases make hard conditions, or regard his advances of money or credit as speculations from which, in the event of success, he had the right to exact extraordinary profits in consideration of unusual risks. He counted with confidence upon success and expected no greater returns than from other prudent investments. He had, however, the further reward, most gratifying to a man of his public spirit, of the consciousness of having given help when it was needed, deserved and efficacious; having promoted the well-being of the community and gained the esteem of his fellow-townsmen.

Mr. Davis, in early manhood, adopted the political principles of the Democratic party. If his conduct had been guided by motives of personal advancement only or chiefly, this would have been an unwise step, for that party has been pretty constantly out of power in the State, and especially in the city and county. His party connection, however, did not prevent Mr. Davis' election to several positions of political importance. He was twice elected to the State Senate, in 1843 and 1854; once to the House of Representatives, in 1852; to the Governor's Council in 1851; to the State Constitutional Convention of 1853 and three times to the mayoralty of Worcester, in 1856, 1858 and 1861. The Democratic party three times made him its candidate for the office of Governor. He was a member of the State Board of Education from 1852 to 1860; was twice appointed a member of the Board of Visitors of the West Point Military Academy and in 1855 was chairman of the board. President Pierce offered him the appointment of Assistant Treasurer of the United States, but he declined the offer.

Mr. Davis was always sincerely religious. Theologically and ecclesiastically he adhered to the doctrines and discipline of the Baptist Church. He was president, for several years, of the State Convention of the denomination, and of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, and gave liberally to the charitable, religious and educational operations of this sect. His benefactions to the Worcester Academy were especially liberal. He was president of its board of trustees for forty years, and was also a trustee and a Fellow of Brown University. He was for many years a member of the Council of the American Antiquarian Society.

Mr. Davis will long be remembered among those who were most influential in making Worcester what it is. As a lawyer, while pre-eminence in learning or eloquence is not claimed for him, he was remarkably

successful in advocacy, and stood in the front rank, in the extent of his business and the deserved confidence of his clients, among the lawyers of his day. He was a great force in the community. His vigorous expression of positive opinions, his wise counsels, his judicious investments and benefactions, made him one of those who give impetus and direction to the activities of town or city, church, State and institutions of learning.

The degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by Columbia College, Washington, D. C., and by Brown University.

In 1829 he married Mary H. Estabrook, daughter of Joseph Estabrook, of Royalston, Mass. She died in 1875. They had ten children,—four sons and six daughters,—all of whom, with the exception of one son who died in infancy, lived to be married.

Mr. Davis died at his home in Worcester, April 1, 1883, at the age of eighty-three years and ten months.

WILLIAM LINCOLN and CHRISTOPHER C. BALDWIN were two kindred spirits whose tastes for letters led them from the dusty purlieus of the law to more congenial historical studies. The first, born in Worcester in 1801, was of that sturdy stock of which two successive generations have received notice in these pages. While one brother, Levi, was Governor of this Commonwealth, another brother, Enoch, was Governor of Maine, and another, John, was in the State Senate, William was creditably representing his native town in the House of Representatives,—a record of simultaneous public service perhaps never equaled by the members of one family. The subject of this sketch graduated at Harvard in 1822, and after studies with his brother Enoch, with John Davis and Rejoice Newton, was admitted to the bar in 1825. For some years he was in partnership with Mr. Newton in practice, but his real interests were in another line of thought. With Mr. Baldwin, who was admitted to practice in the year after himself, he founded the *Worcester Magazine*, of which mention has more than once been made, and in the editing and writing for that publication each took more delight than in drawing conveyances or preparing briefs.

In 1836 Mr. Lincoln published his "History of Worcester," a work containing a great amount of valuable information relative to the early days of this now prosperous city.

Mr. Baldwin was a native of Templeton, born in 1800, and was educated at Leicester Academy and Harvard College. He practiced in Worcester, Barre and Sutton, but was glad to finally abandon the profession when elected librarian of the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester. Among the books and ancient manuscripts of that learned institution be found his proper sphere of usefulness. He died at thirty-five and his friend Lincoln survived him but eight years. Both were of that modest disposition which loves best the scholar's seclusion, but which in the glow of friendly intercourse, opens out into kindly humor, and brightens with playful wit the hours of social relaxation.

Mr. Baldwin's successor as librarian of the Antiquarian Society was also bred a lawyer. SAMUEL F. HAVEN was born in Dedham in 1806 and attended Phillips Academy in Andover and Phillips, Exeter, before entering Harvard, in 1822. After two years there he removed to Amherst, where he graduated in 1826. For a few years after admission to the bar he practiced in Dedham and Lowell, but his life-work, from 1838 until his death, in 1881, was as a historical scholar and archæologist in the service of the society which chose him for its officer.

By the act incorporating the city of Worcester, passed in 1848, a Police Court within and for the city was established, whose jurisdiction was made exclusive of that of justices of the peace in criminal matters, and concurrent with theirs in civil actions. At that time claims for debt or damage which did not exceed one hundred dollars in value were cognizable by the justices of the peace. A provision was in force for some years by which a jury of six might be demanded and impaneled to try the issue where the value sought to be recovered exceeded twenty dollars. So long as this court was in existence it was presided over by WILLIAM NELSON GREEN, a native of Milford, who had studied with Mr. Burnside, and came to the bar in 1827. He was a son of William E. Green, the partner of Edward Bangs and of Edward D. Bangs, heretofore mentioned. As a justice of the peace he had, before the incorporation of the city, had a considerable experience in hearing and deciding criminal charges, so that his appointment to the bench of the new court was the most natural selection. For twenty years he filled the position, until in 1868 the name of the court was, by statute, altered to Municipal Court, and, with almost identical powers and jurisdiction, continued under the courtly guidance of Judge Williams. Judge Green died two years later.

When, in 1859, a change of name was effected in the long-familiar Court of Common Pleas, for which was substituted the present "Superior Court," Judge EDWARD MELLEN, then in his fifty-seventh year, and for twelve years accustomed to judicial duties, found himself obliged to return to practice. He was a native of Westborough, a graduate of Brown in 1823, and had practiced in Middlesex from 1828 until his accession to the bench in 1847. After the abolition of his court, of which he was chief justice at the time, he found his long inexperience in the advocacy of causes had left his weapons rusty, and dulled the force of his attacks. The State had received the benefit of his best years and left him at an advanced age to begin anew as best he might. Surely there is something of calculating ingratitude in such treatment of faithful public servants, which gives credit to the proverbial charge against republics.

And now, with an affectionate reverence inspired by personal association, and cultivated from boyhoood through the changing years, until the writer was himself launched upon his professional career, it becomes my delicate duty to speak of one who, for more than fifty years of progress in the science of the law, kept ever abreast of change and improvement, and whom death found still faithful to his chosen calling, as when, with youthful ardor, he first essayed its arduous pathway.

PETER CHILD BACON was born in Dudley in 1804. His father, Jeptha Bacon, though not a lawyer by profession, was, in his day, when every town had not its resident attorney, resorted to by his neighbors for advice in their affairs, wherein his judgment and experience were recognized as valuable assistance. Like many other justices of the peace, he was often called upon to draft conveyances and wills, and in the observation of his father's really considerable practice, it is probable that Mr. Bacon acquired his first inclination towards his life-work. After graduating at Brown in 1827, the latter entered the New Haven Law School, and supplemented his studies there by reading in the office of Davis & Allen, in Worcester, Judge Barton, in Oxford, and George A. Tufts, in Dudley.

During these preparatory years it was his practice to devote sixteen hours of the twenty-four to his books. Blackstone he read and re-read with earnest attention, and for years after he had entered the bar he annually reviewed the classic pages. For these commentaries he always entertained the highest opinion as a groundwork for a thorough knowledge of the law, placing it first in the hands of each of his students, commending them to learn its definitions *ipsissimis verbis*, and failing not to test their obedience to the injunction by his questions. For two years he kept his office in his native town and for twelve years more in the adjoining town of Oxford. In 1844 he removed to Worcester and there, till within four days of his death, with an interval of only one year of rest, devoted himself exclusively to the law.

It will be noticed that he came to the bar seven years before the death of Benjamin Adams, of Uxbridge, whose professional life carried us back to the time of Judge Sprague, and thus connected the story with the earliest stages of the county's progress.

Upon coming to Worcester Mr. Bacon formed a partnership with his former instructor, Judge Barton, who had just resigned the probate judgeship. Levi Lincoln was then occupied with the duties of the gubernatorial chair. Pliny Merrick and Emory Washburn had just taken seats on the bench of the Common Pleas. Charles Allen, from the same bench, in that year resumed his practice. Rejoice Newton and Samuel Burnside were still at the bar. Isaac Davis had begun to interest himself more extensively in other than professional employments. Alexander H. Bullock, Henry Chapin and Francis H. Dewey had recently established their offices. Of those now in active practice only Joseph Mason, Esq., was then admitted, and he was then in Templeton. Mr. Bacon preferred to associate with himself in business some brother lawyer to share the responsibilities of the trial of causes, and especially after 1865, on his return from a needed rest in Europe, he left to younger partners the transaction of the business before the courts. After Judge Barton retired from the firm of Barton, Bacon & Barton, in 1849, he was for a short time connected with the late Judge Dwight Foster.

For eighteen years the firm of Bacon & Aldrich carried on business in the most uninterrupted harmony and friendship between the partners, until the junior member accepted his present position in the Superior Court. W. S. B. Hopkins and Mr. Bacon's son made up the firm of Bacon, Hopkins & Bacon, which existed at the time of the veteran lawyer's death.

When he came to the bar the whole number of Massachusetts Reports was but twenty-five. Making himself familiar with these, he read with care each new volume as it was published, and his one hundred and forty volumes are filled with marginal notes and hieroglyphics, showing where his eye had marked an important decision or a questionable dictum. He made it a practice, which he recommended to his students, to read the statement of facts in cases involving vexed questions, work out his own solution by investigation of earlier authorities, and then compare his result with the reasoning of the opinion. No question of law ever was suggested to him that he did not endeavor to solve either at the time or at the next leisure hour. He loved nothing better than to sit with his students posing them with legal conundrums, or listening to the problems which perplexed them and arguing out their moot cases. His office thus became a model law-school, to whose instructions multitudes of lawyers still look back with affectionate gratitude.

During his professional life almost the whole of our system of equity jurisprudence was brought to its present advanced condition. By piecemeal equity powers were conferred by statute on the Supreme Court, but it was not until 1857 that full jurisdiction was granted, according to the usage and practice of Courts of Chancery, and since that time, by the slow process of judicial decisions and supplementary statutes, great advances have been made in this most interesting and valuable method of legal procedure. Mr. Bacon was an equity lawyer, and owned and read a valuable library of text-books on the subject long before there was opportunity in our courts to avail himself of most of its remedial processes.

Three times he saw the statutes of the State codified after growing to unwieldy proportions, and his copies of the Revised, General and Public Statutes each show his careful noting of subsequent amendments. "Always consult the statutes; never give an

opinion without seeing what the statutes say," was his frequent admonition to his students. His learning covered every branch and phase of the wide field of legal doctrine. Perhaps the law of real property in general, and especially the Massachusetts doctrine of the rights of mill-owners in the streams which turn their wheels, and the law of corporations, may be mentioned as having attracted a large share of his attention.

During the operation of the United States Bankrupt Law, from 1867 to 1878, Mr. Bacon was register in bankruptcy for this district. Its complicated duties he thoroughly mastered, and with patient fidelity discharged its functions, which were principally of a judicial character. It was the habit of his mind to cautiously weigh the arguments on each side of a question on which his opinion was sought, and so many were the possible objections which his wide knowledge suggested to either view that his final decision was long in maturing, and generally given with some reservation of a possible modification. Like Lord Eldon, he knew so much law that he knew how little of it was absolutely uncontroverted.

His most valuable services were rendered as counsel in chambers, where the whole wealth of his learning and experience were at the service of his clients. Yet, as an advocate before juries in the first thirty years of his practice, he obtained a large influence by the thoroughness of his preparation, and by that evident sincerity which characterized his every utterance. His arguments on questions of law were sure to bring to the aid of the court all that could, by research and logic, be found to sustain his positions.

Notwithstanding his enthusiastic devotion to his profession, Dr. Bacon, as we loved to call him,—for no man more worthily bore the title of Doctor of Laws,—was interested in all that goes to make up a broad and liberal citizen. His studies in metaphysics, in history, in mathematics were the enjoyment of his leisure hours. With the latest advances in modern thought he kept himself familiar, and the writer remembers listening with some surprise to remarks which showed profound reflection on the latest developments of the theory of evolution.

For public office he was not at all ambitious, and one term in the State Legislature and two years as mayor of the city left him with a desire to do his duty as a private citizen, and this he conscientiously performed. During the war his patriotism was lofty and courageous. Three sons he gave to the service of his country, of whom but one returned. Deeply as his affectionate nature felt the loss, he was never heard to murmur at the sacrifice. His nature was singularly open and kind. It did not seem that the thought of the possibility of adopting any but the straightforward course ever occurred to his mind. Duplicity and cunning were with him simply impossible. His strong emotional tendencies he kept in check by seldom speaking of the topics that aroused them; but when he did have occasion to allude to a friend who was no more, or any of the deep convictions of his heart, it was evident that his feelings were warm and tender as a woman's. In 1883, with only a few hours interval, the Nestor of our law passed from his busy office to the rest that remaineth for such righteous mortals. With firm and rational faith, he had never shrunk from the last great change, and, whatever that change betokens, no man's life gave greater cause for calmness in awaiting it than his whose kindly face in portraiture now lends its silent inspiration among the books he loved.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN THOMAS.[1]—The subject of this sketch was a grandson of Isaiah Thomas, the patriot-printer of the Revolution, and was born in Boston, February 12, 1813.

He was educated at Brown University, where he graduated in 1830, at the early age of seventeen. He studied law in Worcester, and was admitted to the bar in 1834, acquiring, while still young, a large and excellent practice and growing influence in the county.

In 1842 he represented the town of Worcester in the State Legislature, and from 1844 to 1848 was judge of Probate for Worcester County. Next to Governor Washburn, he attained the largest practice of the Worcester bar, at the time when eminence at that bar was an exceptional distinction. Governor Lincoln and Governor Davis were still among the older members. Pliny Merrick, Charles Allen, Emory Washburn, Henry Chapin, Peter C. Bacon, Ira M. Barton were his contemporaries; while a score of younger lawyers, now achieving high distinction in professional and public life, were just entering into active practice.

Upon the resignation of Mr. Justice Fletcher, in 1853, Judge Thomas was appointed, when barely forty years of age, a justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, holding that position for six years, and gaining a distinguished reputation as an able and learned jurist.

In 1859 he resigned his seat on the bench on account of the great inadequacy of the salary, and removed to Boston, where he practiced and held a position in the front rank at the bar. In 1861–63 he served one term in Congress, and in 1868, upon the retirement of Chief Justice Bigelow, he was nominated, by Governor Bullock, to the Council for chief justice of the Commonwealth, but, after an unpleasant controversy, failed of confirmation.

This is but a slight outline of the relations Judge Thomas held to the public at large.

The greater part of his active life was spent in the discharge of professional duties which have small place in history, and will pass from memory to tradi-

[1] By Delano Goddard.

tion with the generation that knew and trusted and honored him.

He was particularly skilled in the law of wills and trusts, and in this branch of the law had no rival. On the bench he was distinguished for the tenacity with which he defended the constitutional privileges secured by the Declaration of Rights, and especially trial by jury.

His most celebrated opinion is the powerful dissenting judgment delivered in the case of the Commonwealth *vs.* Anthes, 5 Gray, in which he vindicated the right of juries to determine, under the general issue, the law as well as the facts in criminal trials. His view was subsequently sustained by the Legislature, which re-enacted the statute in 1860.

His studies, both in law and government, took a wide range, and he was well read in history and in English literature. With the bar he has ever been very popular.

His associates, and especially those younger than himself, were attracted to him not more by his varied learning and talents than by his pure and amiable character. The greatest regrets were expressed when he left the bench, and no man has ever been more highly respected at the bar.

In the heat of controversy excited by his nomination as chief justice, he was opposed on grounds chiefly political, but also on the ground of a habit of dissenting, which at that time was looked upon as a serious disqualification.

But Governor Bullock, in justifying his nomination to the Council, replied that, of the nineteen hundred cases reported during the six years that Judge Thomas held a seat upon the bench, he dissented in only four, not by pride of opinion, but by the interests of truth and justice. And a member of the Suffolk bar, then and now one of its wisest and most learned members, writing upon the same objection, said:

"It is undoubtedly desirable that the court should stand together. Division is sometimes an indication of weakness. But it is a much greater weakness to insist upon this point to the exclusion of the question of what is right; and when a judge is held up to ridicule merely because he differs from his associates, it will be the saddest sign of all. We have yet to learn that the honest dissent of an able magistrate, although repeatedly exercised, is ever regarded with contempt by honorable associates, by the public, or by the legal profession."

This, however, was but a pretext brought up by zealous opponents to re-enforce the political and personal reasons on which their opposition was mainly grounded.

But it is not worth while to revive the memory of these forgotten strifes. The wounds inflicted then were long ago healed. And among those who followed Judge Thomas to the grave, there were none who did so with more sincere and unaffected sorrow than those who questioned the wisdom of his nomination, and joined in the effort to defeat it.

In politics Judge Thomas was, in early life, a Whig, and when the dissolution of that party came, and the war suddenly presented grave problems of government for immediate solution, it was harder for him, than for most men in public life, to look with patience upon the torture to which the Constitution was exposed.

He was always conservative, with a tendency to the technical side of disputed questions, always restrained and controlled by a quick moral sense and an unfailing love of justice.

His brief term of political service happened to fall upon a period of intense and exciting feeling, when constitutional scruples were looked upon with little patience, and were indulged at much personal peril. But no man ever took the unpopular side of grave public questions under a more commanding sense of public duty than Judge Thomas took his upon the constitutional questions forced upon him by the exigency in which he was placed.

As an orator, Judge Thomas seemed born to high distinction, if his ambition in that direction had been equal to his rare gifts.

His formal addresses on anniversary and other memorial occasions, are of a very high order of excellence; but, besides these, there are many among us who will remember the brilliant and sometimes electric eloquence with which, in his earlier days, he took part in the political and other public interests of the time. His command of language was always pure, rich and abundant; his manner was spirited, fervent and stimulating; and when he finished there was always, among those who listened, regret that one endowed with such gifts was so little inclined to exercise them.

Judge Thomas received the degree of Doctor of Laws from Brown University in 1853, and from Harvard College in 1854. He was, at the time of his death, September 27, 1878, vice-president of the American Antiquarian Society, a member of the Massachusetts Historical Society and of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Our county has been singularly fortunate in the character and ability of the gentlemen who have presided in its Probate Court. In 1858, the year of Judge Kinnicutt's death, the offices of judge of the Court of Probate and of the Court of Insolvency were, by act of the Legislature, united in one person in each county. To this double trust HENRY CHAPIN was appointed, and for twenty years most admirably discharged its functions. He was born in Upton in 1811, and left at fourteen to provide largely for his own support. For some months he was engaged in learning a trade. The necessity for such an occupation of course rendered it difficult for him to procure an education, but he was not driven from the undertaking, and succeeded in fitting for college, and in graduating from Brown in 1835. After gaining some experience and a small financial capital as a teacher in the common schools of Upton, he began his legal

Henry Champion

Alexander H. Bullock

studies with Emory Washburn, and followed them at the Cambridge Law School. On admission to the bar he chose Uxbridge for his opening career, and remained there till his removal to Worcester in 1846, when Rejoice Newton made him a junior partner. As an advocate he obtained a large and profitable practice. He possessed a shrewdness, a homely, kindly method of address, and an entire absence of stiffness or formality which procured him great influence with juries. For the duties of Probate judge he was exceptionally fitted. His fund of patience seemed inexhaustible. In that court no strict rules of procedure are maintained; much of the business is transacted without the aid of counsel, and by persons who come to the judge to learn what they ought to do, and how to do it. For all such he had a kindly reception, listened to their statements (generally involved, and often incoherent), and let them feel that they had found a friend as well as a help out of their difficulties. Towards members of the bar also, and especially the younger element, his manners were courteous, and commanded in turn respect. In the law governing the cases under his consideration he was thoroughly versed, and his decisions stood the test of appeal, with but a small proportion of adverse rulings by the higher court. Although for the last six months of his life he was unable to attend in the court-room, his courage did not permit him to surrender, and up till the very day before his death, in 1878, he continued occasionally, at his house, to attend to matters of routine, hoping constantly that his usefulness was not yet to end, and determined that it should continue with his life. Mr. Chapin was a public-spirited citizen, alive to the importance of the performance by every man of his political duties. He was an early member of the Free Soil party, and an effective speaker during the anti-slavery agitations. For one year he represented Uxbridge in the General Court, and in 1853 he was its delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

Worcester made him its mayor in 1849 and 1850, and would have had him serve again had he not declined the honor. In 1870, when, by the sudden death of Mayor Blake, a vacancy occurred during a term, the City Council turned at once to him as the man most suitable to fill the emergency, and he consented so to do until a successor could be chosen by the usual methods of election. He was not ambitious for political office, and declined to stand as a candidate when nominated by the Republicans for Congress in 1856. As a speaker on public occasions he was frequently in demand, and his quaint humor and well-told stories interested his audiences and impressed his meaning on their minds.

With various business organizations he was actively connected, and, by the exercise of a sagacious judgment in investment, added to his accumulated property. To the religious organization with which he was connected he gave earnest support and valuable assistance in many ways. His religious convictions were deep and sincere, though rarely brought into notice, except with intimate friends; but their fruit was shown in his discriminating and kindly benevolence and readiness to further charitable organizations which commended themselves to his judgment. An exemplary citizen, an upright judge and an honest man.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON BULLOCK.[1] — Governor Bullock stands conspicuous in the list of Massachusetts' chief magistrates; even in the whole list, extending through Colonial, Provincial and Constitutional times; conspicuous in respect to patriotism, ability and conscientious devotion to the public interest. And for the very reason that he occupies so prominent a position in our history, the writer is spared the attempt at any extended delineation in this place, where space is so limited. But with the portrait, in which his features are so faithfully and so artistically presented, it is necessary that something should appear respecting his various characteristics and family connections, with allusions at least to certain passages in his public career.

He was born in Royalston, Worcester County, on the 2d of March, 1816, and was the son of Rufus and Sarah (Davis) Bullock. His father, who was born on the 23d of September, 1779, was a school-teacher in his early manhood, but soon became a country merchant. Quitting that vocation in 1825, he engaged in manufacturing, and in due time amassed a handsome fortune. He was somewhat in public life; was five years a Representative in the General Court, and two years a Senator; was a member of the conventions of 1820 and 1853 for revising the State Constitution; and was Presidential elector in 1852.

Alexander H. Bullock, the subject of this sketch, entered Amherst College in 1832, was a diligent student, and on his graduation, in 1836, delivered the salutatory oration at commencement. In the catalogue of his college contemporaries are found the names of Rev. Richard S. Storrs, Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, Bishop Huntington and others of wide reputation. After graduating he taught a school for a short period, but, partly by the urgency of his father and partly from his own inclination, he applied himself to the study of law, entering Harvard Law School, then under the presidency of Judge Story. After leaving the Law School he spent a year in the law-office of the well-known lawyer, Emory Washburn, of Worcester, where he gained a good knowledge of the various details of legal practice. He was admitted to the bar in 1841, and soon began practice in Worcester. As a pleader he does not seem to have aimed to become conspicuous. Senator Hoar says: "He disliked personal controversy. While he possessed talents which would have rendered him a brilliant and persuasive advocate, the rough contests of the

[1] By Hon. J. R. Newhall.

court-house could never have been congenial to him. He was associated with Judge Thomas as junior counsel in one important capital trial, in which he is said to have made an eloquent opening argument. He had a considerable clientage for a young man, to whom he was a safe and trustworthy adviser. But he very soon established a large business as agent of important insurance companies, and withdrew himself altogether from the practice of law."

In 1844 Governor Bullock married Elvira, daughter of Col. A. G. Hazard, of Enfield, Ct., founder of the Hazard Gunpowder Manufacturing Company. Their children were Augustus George; Isabel, who married Nelson S. Bartlett, of Boston; and Fanny, who married Dr. William H. Workman, of Worcester. The widow and all the children are yet living.

From early manhood Governor Bullock took a decided interest in politics, but did not allow it to absorb an undue portion of his time till the period arrived when he could safely make it a leading object. In constitutional law he was particularly well versed, and that fact, in connection with his decided opinions on all public questions, gave him in debate and in action very great advantage. In party affiliation he was of the old Whig school.

A brief recapitulation of some of his efficient public services may here be given. He was a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives for eight years: first in 1845, and last in 1865. In 1862, '63, '64 and '65 he was Speaker. And what Governor Hutchinson says, in his history of Speaker Burrill, may well be said of him, namely, that the House were as fond of him "as of their eyes;" the historian adding, in a note, "I have often heard his contemporaries applaud him for his great integrity, his acquaintance with parliamentary forms, the dignity and authority with which he filled the chair, and the order and decorum he maintained in the debates of the House."

Governor Bullock was also, in 1849, a State Senator. He was judge of the Worcester County Court of Insolvency for two years, 1856–58, having, under a previous jurisdiction, served as commissioner of insolvency from 1853. He was mayor of Worcester in 1859. But the most prominent event in his public life was his election to the gubernatorial chair, which he occupied three years—1866, '67 and '68. At the first election he received nearly fifty thousand votes more than the opposing candidate.

He undoubtedly could have held prominent positions in national affairs had he been so disposed; but his ambition seems not to have run in that direction. He never held office under the general Government, and all the incidents of his political life must be looked for in the history of his native State, where a rich store is to be found.

On the 5th of January, 1879, Hon. George F. Hoar was authorized by President Hayes to ask Governor Bullock if he would accept the then vacant English mission. In answer the following letter was received:

WORCESTER, Dec. 8, 1879.

My Dear Sir: I received yesterday your favor of the 5th inst., in which you kindly inquire, in behalf of the President, whether I would undertake the Mission to England. I have felt at liberty to take to myself twenty-four hours to consider this question, and I now apprise you of the conclusion to which my reflection has, with much reluctance brought me. I am compelled, by the situation of my family, to reply that it would be practically impossible for me to accept this appointment.

I particularly desire to express to the President my profound and grateful acknowledgment of the high distinction he has offered to confer upon me, and to assure him of my purpose in every way as a private citizen to uphold him in his wise and patriotic administration of the government.

Your communication has been and will continue to be treated by me as confidential.

I remain with great respect and esteem,

Tru'y and faithfully yours,

ALEXANDER H. BULLOCK.

The Hon. Geo. F. Hoar, U.S.S.

In financial, humane, and all reformatory movements Governor Bullock was active and efficient. He was president of the State Mutual Life Assurance Company, and of the Worcester County Institution for Savings, a director in the Worcester National Bank, chairman of the Finance Committee of the Trustees of Amherst College and a life-member of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society. He was a writer of much more than ordinary ability, and while editor of the *Ægis* newpaper, which position he held for several years, established an enviable reputation as a journalist. The degree of LL.D. was conferred on him by Harvard and by Amherst.

During the Civil War Governor Bullock was an efficient co-laborer with Governor Andrew, so appropriately called the "War Governor of Massachusetts." His eloquent voice was often raised to cheer the gathering crowds of patriots in various places, and Faneuil Hall, too, resounded with his stirring appeals.

He was a great friend of learning; and all institutions of instruction, from the elementary common school to the best endowed college, had his counsel and encouragement.

And there was in him a vein of true democracy, often manifesting itself in anxiety to guard against any attempt by legislative, judicial or any other power to override the soverign right of the people; and hence, as might naturally have been expected, he remained a firm friend to the principle of "Local Option," in law, so far as it could in any way be made expedient. He vetoed, to the surprise of many of his party friends, one or two enactments, considered important, for the simple reason that he viewed them as trenching on some general right of the people.

In 1869 he visited Europe with his family, and on his return the following year the civic authorities and citizens of Worcester gave testimony of their appreciation of his character and his services by a public reception. After his retirement from the Governor-

Francis H. Dewey

ship he held no other public office, and declined to entertain any of the suggestions made to him of further political service, which would involve, to some extent, the abandonment of those studies and employments which were so agreeable to him.

Governor Bullock was an orator of great power, and the volume of his addresses recently published contains many models of pure style and elegant scholarship. Speaking of him in this connection, Senator Hoar says: "Above all, he possessed, beyond any of his living contemporaries, that rare gift of eloquence which always has been and always will be a passport to the favor of the people where speech is free."

He was a lover of scholarship, a citizen of many resources and large usefulness, whose life diffused all around it an influence and charm, which elevated the standard of the domestic and moral life of the community. In January, 1882, with startling suddenness, he died amid the scenes of his activities.

The world owes much of its brightness and beauty to the people whose cheerful disposition and faculty for cordial greetings make others ashamed of melancholy dullness and drive away worry and vexation from their presence.

Such a blessing to his friends was the companionship of the late Judge Dewey.

In 1814 Daniel Dewey was appointed to the bench of the Supreme Judicial Court, and held the office only about one year until his death. In 1837 his son, Charles A. Dewey, received a like distinction, and for nearly thirty years discharged his duties with learning and fidelity. FRANCIS H. DEWEY, with this distinguished legal lineage, was born in Williamstown in 1821. A few years later his father removed to Northampton. In that town and in Amherst his studies preparatory to college were pursued. From Williams College, where his ancestors for three generations had held office as trustees, he graduated in 1840, and proceeded at once to fit himself for his inherited profession in the law schools of Yale and Harvard College. He also gained practical experience in the office of Charles P. Huntington, in Northampton, and of Emory Washburn, in Worcester. With the latter he formed a partnership soon after his admission to the bar, in 1843, a fact which testifies to the elder man's appreciation of Mr. Dewey's abilities even at that early stage. The manner in which he entered upon the work of this established office, and assumed its responsibilities alone upon Judge Washburn's promotion to the bench in the very next year, tested his powers and gave him a high standing at the bar in the earliest years of his practice. During this time his utmost diligence was constantly required to attend to the multitude of causes in which Mr. Washburn had been engaged. It would have been most natural if clients who had sought out so distinguished a counsellor to whom to entrust their important affairs should have desired to place them in other hands than those of an inexperienced young attorney; but Mr. Dewey gave such evidence of fitness for the task and of devotion to business, that he retained almost the whole of the clientage, and increased it as the years went by. In 1850 he associated with himself in practice Hartley Williams, then just admitted to the bar, and continued the connection for thirteen years. From 1866 till 1869 Frank P. Goulding, Esq., was his junior partner. During his whole life, and in all his varied lines of employment, Judge Dewey was incessantly active. No other adverb can describe the nature of his activity. Always brisk, apparently in a hurry, yet with his faculties alert and undisturbed, he went from one task to another, without apparent thought or need of rest. In the trial of causes before juries his manner was restless, almost nervous; but his watchfulness of every movement, his quick seizure of every slight advantage and his thorough familiarity with the facts proved to opposing counsel that there was nothing to be hoped from the inattention of his adversary. Throughout the most heated controversies he preserved his courteous tones, his pleasant smile and his real composure. Some men are able to hide beneath immovable features and thoroughly controlled muscles disturbed feelings and discomfited plans of action. But Mr. Dewey's mental quiet was preserved under what seemed a physical necessity for movement.

His closing argument was always to be dreaded as likely to present some unexpected view of the evidence or some shrewd suggestion which his opponent had left unobserved and unanswered. He seemed to take the jury into his confidence, to talk to them in a friendly, common-sense manner, without attempt at eloquence, but with remarkably convincing effect.

In 1869 Governor Claflin appointed him an associate justice of the Superior Court,—a position which he occupied until 1881. There he became a most useful presiding officer, despatching the business of the courts with the celerity which characterized his private business, treating with courtesy and patience counsel and witnesses, and assisting the jurymen by impartial, lucid statements, summing up the evidence and explaining the legal principles which were to guide them.

Mr. Dewey's energies were by no means confined to professional employments, exacting as those were. The number of business enterprises and charitable institutions in which he was interested as an officer, and to each of which he gave faithful attention, would seem to have furnished sufficient occupation for the whole time of an active man. Yet he did not seem to be oppressed by the burden of responsibilities. He possessed the happy faculty of laying aside all worry over affairs, when he had done the best that his judgment dictated for their proper conduct. He was president of one railroad company and a director in another, and acquired a considerable familiarity with the methods of management of these

modern systems of transportation, while his sagacity as a financier was of the greatest service to his stockholders. After his resignation from the bench, in 1881, he gave the largest share of his time and thought to the service of the Washburn & Moen Manufacturing Company, the largest business establishment of the city.

He invested largely in its stock, was one of its directors, and until his death acted as the general legal adviser of the concern. To the interests of the Episcopal Church, where he was a constant attendant, and of various public charities, he gave willing and faithful service. In him Williams College had a constant friend. From 1869 to his death he was one of its board of trustees, an office to which he was called by heredity as well as individual fitness, and President Carter testifies to the worth of his ever-ready advice, skillful management of the investments of its funds, and loyal support on all occasions.

In social life he was a most delightful companion, overflowing with good humor, entering with zest into the spirit of any gathering for recreation, whether the company were youngsters or those of his own age. His love for children was a conspicuous and charming trait, exhibited not only to those of his own family, but in his fondness for gathering about him, whenever opportunity afforded, the playmates of his grandchildren, and encouraging their sports.

In 1887, while still as deeply engrossed as ever in his multifarious cares, without apparent diminution of his capacity or desire for work, he was suddenly stricken down without a moment's warning. Yet it is difficult to call his death untimely. His life had been a singularly successful one, whether we regard his legal attainments, his acquisition of property, his friendships or his family relations. He left his work well done, and saw his sons ready and able to take it up and carry it forward. Without pain or lingering he passed away. If one could choose his exit from the world's stage, could he choose better?

Judge Dewey's partner for thirteen years was HARTLEY WILLIAMS, whose graceful dignity long adorned the bench of our Municipal Court. He was born in Mercer, Maine, in the year 1820. As one of a large family of children, in a community where every one was diligently at work, wresting from an unwilling soil the means of subsistence for himself and those dependent on him, his time was largely occupied by the duties that usually devolve on a farmer's boy, and his opportunities for education were restricted. At nineteen years, however, he had made such good use of the facilities at his command as to be prepared to undertake the instruction of others, and first in a neighboring town, later in Fall River and Rhode Island, he taught schools with good success. He must have been a most helpful and lovable teacher, with those kindly manners, that unselfish interest in the welfare of those about him, and that long-suffering patience which characterized the mature man whom we knew.

While still engaged in this work he formed the intention of entering the legal profession. In 1843 he came to Worcester, and for several years was engaged in mercantile pursuits, all the while cherishing his resolution to become a lawyer, and giving what time he could to study. In 1848 he gave up business, and entered Mr. Dewey's office as a student. To a share in the burdens of that busy office he was admitted in 1850, directly after he had passed his examinations for the bar. His early habits of industry, cultivated through his varied employments, now served him well. By constant, regular attention to his business, and an ability to so control his mental operations as not to worry over it, he accomplished a very large amount of work with an appearance of little effort, certainly without any evidence of haste. As an advocate, he was one to whom juries were glad to listen, and obtained a good measure of success. His clients found him a wise and safe counsellor, with an intelligent business judgment, enlightened by careful reading and excellent grasp of legal principles.

In matters of public interest Mr. Williams exerted a wholesome influence, unostentatiously performing the duties of a good citizen on the side of morality and progress. His experience as an instructor made him a valuable member of the School Committee, and for many years he gave much of his time and valuable suggestions to this most important department of public usefulness. He served his city as an alderman, and during the Civil War was a member of the State Senate for two years, and of Governor Andrew's Council in 1864 and 1865. In the latter capacity he became a trusted adviser of the Governor, and formed strong ties of friendship, not only with him, but with other members of the Council, which were cemented in an association formed by those who had been Councillors during the war. At the annual meeting of the Andrew Councillor Association he was a regular and most welcome attendant. This only illustrates the nature of the man. He was social in his instincts, loved to meet his friends, to bind them to him by acts of kindness, and disliked to allow change of situation to interfere with friendly relations once formed.

His most important public service was in the court over which he presided. To this position he was appointed in 1868, while holding the office of district attorney, to which he had been elected in 1866. The act abolishing the Police Court, which had been in existence since the incorporation of the city, and establishing with the same jurisdiction the Municipal Court, took effect in July, 1868, and from that time until the beginning of his fatal illness Judge Williams administered the law with impartiality, wisdom, and with a constant urbanity which made the duties of counsel before him a pleasure. His patience was inexhaustible, and, while he maintained the dignity of his position, he was always easily to be approached and ready to listen with kindly sym-

pathy to the oft-recurring tales of misery and suffering which were poured out to him by offenders awaiting his decision.

In 1872 the Municipal Court was abolished by the act creating the Central District Court, which is now in force. The jurisdiction of the new tribunal covered not only the city, but several of the neighboring towns, and formed part of a system of District Courts, which were established to take the place in most of the towns of trial justices. Mr. Williams was immediately commissioned as judge of this court.

In 1882, while presiding at a meeting of an association of natives of Maine, in the formation of which he had taken great interest, he suffered a paralytic shock, from the effects of which he did not recover, and died after a few months' illness.

In 1878 an address was delivered before a social gathering of the bar of the county by Judge DWIGHT FOSTER, in which he supplemented the previous addresses of Mr. Willard and Judge Washburn by adding biographical sketches of some of our lawyers who had passed from the stage since 1856. From each of these sources has been derived much of the material for the present chapter. Mr. Foster was not, at the time mentioned, a resident of this county, but his interest in its bar, where his early associations were formed, continued through his life. He was born in the city of Worcester in 1828. The names of three generations of his ancestors have appeared in these pages, two of them as judges. His father had practiced so short a time as almost to interrupt the chain of legal heredity, but the son possessed the family genius in fullest measure. He was one of those whose ability shows itself in the earliest stages of their development.

In 1848 he graduated from Yale College with the highest honors of his class, and only one year afterwards was admitted to the bar in his native city. For a short time thereafter he was a partner of Mr. Bacon, and, for a few months before the promotion of Judge Thomas to the bench, was associated with him. He thus became early inducted to a considerable practice. For a short time after Judge Kinnicutt's retirement, in 1857, he held the office of judge of Probate.

In 1861 he was elected Attorney-General of the State, and held the office by successive re-elections during the following three years. Here he deservedly acquired a high reputation for his mastery of our criminal law. In the trial of a capital case during the first years of his incumbency, where the evidence was almost entirely circumstantial, he won the admiration of experienced lawyers for his management of what all had looked upon as a difficult and doubtful undertaking. As the adviser of the government in the midst of the novel exigencies arising out of the war, his promptness and clear-sightedness were invaluable. Questions were constantly presented to him by the Governor, by heads of departments and by military officers, which were without precedent in their official experience, and yet which called for speedy solution. Mr. Foster realized that it was more important, in that time of peril, that the various officers should have some rule to guide them immediately than that a laborious examination of authorities should be made while the time for action was slipping by. His opinions were accordingly given without delay, and with clearness and positiveness sufficient to assure a doubting interrogator and inspire him with confidence to proceed with his new duties.

From 1866 to 1869 he was an associate justice of the Supreme Judicial Court. In that short term of service he evinced admirable qualifications for the position, presiding at *nisi prius* with dignity and courtesy, and in his published opinions dealing with questions of law concisely and logically. One reason given by him for his retirement from the bench was the inadequacy of the salary,—a just reproach to the system which endeavors to procure for the State the services of the highest legal talent at lower rates of compensation than are offered by private corporations.

From this time on he made Boston his permanent home, and acquired a very lucrative practice. For several years he delivered lectures on "Equity" in the Boston University. With this branch of the law he was especially familiar, and was accustomed to make use of its methods for obtaining relief whenever practicable, so that his instruction must have been very valuable as containing the results of his own experience in addition to the theory of the books.

One of his distinguished services was as counsel for the United States before the commissioners to whom was referred the question of the rights of our fishermen under the treaty with Great Britain. At the time of his death, in 1884, and for several years previous thereto, he acted as the counsel of the New England Mutual Life Insurance Company, and their business occupied the principal portion of his time. As an advocate he rarely aroused the sympathy of juries by any attempt to enlist their feelings, but rather relied on clear and logical appeals to their reason. His own apprehension of the evidence was distinct, and he was able to present it to the jury forcibly and in the simplest form. He had a just reliance on his own powers, and did not hesitate to assume responsibility or engage any adversary. At the same time he appreciated and gave generous praise to the merits of brother lawyers. In private life he was a genial host and an attractive guest. His mind was well-stored with varied information, and he possessed the faculty of imparting that in an agreeable manner. His mental operations were exceedingly quick and his power of observation ever on the alert, so that all his surroundings contributed to his stock of knowledge and filled his conversation with ever-fresh interest. The honorable line of lawyers, of which he

was the brightest ornament, is not yet extinct. Though the Worcester bar cannot claim his sons as members, they still uphold the ancestral reputation in other scenes.

GEORGE F. VERRY was one of the best illustrations which this bar has furnished of the value to a lawyer of the qualities of self-reliance and perfect imperturbability. His success may be as fairly traced to his possession of these traits as to any other cause. He was born in Mendon in 1826, and had the advantage of his father's care for only two or three years. His education was obtained in the common schools and during a partial course at the Andover Academy. From that preparatory school he had hoped to enter college, but his plans were interrupted, and he left his studies to engage in learning the business of a manufacturer. After a few years' trial, however, he determined to fit himself for the bar, and began his studies in the office of Henry D. Stone in the year 1849. Admitted to the bar after the usual three years of preparation, he was in a short time received as a partner by Mr. Stone, and so continued until 1857. Thus entering upon a business already well-established, he had the opportunity to learn, by actual use, the value of his acquirements. This was largely the process of his attainment to that degree of forensic skill and knowledge of the law which secured his high rank among our advocates. He was not a learned student of books or precedents, but to the questions involved in each case in which he was concerned he gave close attention and consulted the books with reference to those particular topics. With a retentive memory and a clear common-sense judgment, he thus became familiar with the current of decisions upon almost the whole of the great variety of controverted doctrines which have been debated in our courts. After the dissolution of his connection with Mr. Stone, he continued business alone with a rapidly increasing clientage until 1875, when he formed a partnership with Francis A. Gaskill, the present district attorney, and Horace B. Verry, his adopted son, which continued till his death.

A large part of Mr. Verry's reputation was won in the conduct of the defence of criminal causes. In several capital trials which attracted wide attention, his skill in the examination of witnesses, his readiness to meet sudden emergencies, and his thorough grasp of the bearing of evidence were shown in a manner which placed him among the leaders in that department of practice. On the civil side of the court, also, the possession of the same resources brought to him, perhaps, the most lucrative clientage of any of his contemporaries during the ten years before his death. In the progress of the most exciting trial he preserved a most absolute control of all his faculties. Forcible in the presentation of his own views, keen, and often severe in his examination of witnesses, he never allowed any exhibition of temper to weaken his influence with the jury, or obscure his calm watchfulness of every manœuvre. His arguments seldom appealed to the emotional nature, but were admirably lucid in their logical presentation of the facts. From the very outset of his career he boldly confronted every adversary, however more ample his experience, and learned even in defeat to reserve for his client whatever of advantage there remained to him. In social life he was a most genial comrade. Especially towards younger members of the profession were his manners and expressions of friendship cordial at all times. The writer well remembers many words of kind encouragement which helped to make his student-days and first years of practice more hopeful and less irksome. Mr. Verry did not hold many public offices. In 1872 he was mayor of the city of Worcester. The problem of the proper assessment of the expense of a great system of sewers had long been deferred; with characteristic energy he sought a solution. Principally under his direction, a plan was adopted which was finally sustained by the courts, though opposed by leading citizens and able counsel. His acceptance of this responsibility cost him his re-election the next year, but stands as an evidence of his independence and sagacity. He served two terms in the State Senate, the second year as chairman of the Judiciary Committee. As a Democrat during the last ten years of his life, he was most frequently in the minority in the State, and though several times a candidate, held no other elective office.

In 1883 he died, leaving, it is believed, only friends among the members of the bar, and only firm adherents among his host of clients.

The death of Judge ADIN THAYER is still so deeply felt, not only in the community where he lived, but in the councils of the leaders of the State, where his presence had become well-nigh essential, that it seems unnecessary in so brief a sketch as is here possible to rehearse the well-known story of his life. But neither the history of our bar nor that of the Commonwealth for the past forty years can properly be written without the mention of his share in the progress of each. He was the son of Caleb Thayer, a farmer of Mendon, not rich in material possessions, but with a sturdy independence and an innate love of liberty, which evinced itself in the early espousal of the anti-slavery cause when the unpopularity of its adherents amounted to ostracism. His grandfather was a Revolutionary soldier, and the combative tendencies of the descendants seem to have come by right inheritance. Born in 1828, his early life was spent upon the farm, with only the occasional opportunities for education afforded by the district schools. Later on he attended the Worcester Academy, and, with some thought of adopting the profession of a teacher, he took a course in the Normal School at Westfield. After short trial of school-room life, however, he made up his mind that he could not be satisfied with that career, and began the study of the law

George H. Corey

with Henry Chapin, whom he was destined to succeed upon the bench. In 1854 he entered upon his practice in the city of Worcester, and attained a good success as an adviser, especially in the management of business concerns. His judgment was clear and reliable, and marked by the plainest common sense. As an advocate he did not appear with great frequency before the courts, but his management of causes entrusted to him was careful and intelligent, tenacious of his clients' interests and mindful of details.

Though he gave diligent attention to his professional pursuits and acquired a lucrative clientage, it was in political life that he found his greatest usefulness and rose to his greatest eminence. He was an early and influential member of the Free-Soil party, eager in his opposition to the encroachments of the slave-power, and roused to indignation by the proceedings under the Fugitive Slave Law on the soil of his native State. With Charles Sumner and John A. Andrew he formed an intimate friendship, and was their active co-worker and enthusiastic supporter throughout their political contests. In his devotion to the principles which he believed should govern the State and Nation he was unselfish and consistent. Though undoubtedly he would have been gratified by the evidence of the appreciation of his services and abilities, which an election to important office would have afforded, he never faltered in his exertions for the success of his party because others were assigned to more conspicuous stations. He enjoyed the possession of influence over the minds of his fellow-citizens, and to that influence he was justly entitled, since it was always exercised in the cause of what he believed to be the truth. He was the friend and adviser of all the prominent leaders of the Republican party from its formation, and to his powerful assistance the State owes in a large degree the fact that she has been able to retain in her service some of her ablest representatives. In the best sense of the term he was a partisan. Thoroughly convinced of the righteousness of his cause, conscientiously believing that it was the duty of every good citizen to take part in the decision of public questions, he threw himself into a canvass with the spirit of a soldier, determined that failure should not result from any lukewarmness on his part. He was a great believer in the necessity for organization in political work. The campaigns which he directed were marked by the most thorough attention to details and by the seizure of every honorable method of securing victory. He did not often appear as a public speaker, but when he did his language was forcible, clear and charged with his earnest convictions. Some of his addresses upon general political topics are admirable in style and logical completeness.

His offices were few. For several years under Lincoln, and again under Grant, he was collector of internal revenue for this district. For two years he served in the State Senate. Perhaps his most prominent political service was as chairman of the Republican State Committee in 1878, when, with all his power, he successfully combated what he believed to be a great danger to the welfare of the State.

Upon Judge Chapin's death, in 1878, he was appointed to succeed him in the Probate Court. The nomination excited some opposition among those who had become accustomed to regard Mr. Thayer as solely a politician. But by his ten years of impartial, faithful discharge of the duties of the office, he approved the wisdom of the selection, and earned the approbation of the bar and the public.

His natural disposition was genial and sympathetic. A fund of quiet humor made him a most agreeable companion in hours of relaxation. Towards the latter part of his life ill-health from time to time clouded the usual brightness of his temper, and induced periods of depression, through all of which, however, he preserved his kindly interest in others and his affection for his friends. He had interested himself in several of the business enterprises of the city, where his foresight had been of great service. But these cares, added to his other activities, were too great a strain upon his physical and mental powers. He was oppressed by the thought of gradually losing his capacity for usefulness on the stage where he had filled so honorable a part. In the summer of 1888, when his friends were looking forward to his restoration to health as the result of a contemplated season of rest and travel, in a moment of aberration he died by his own hand. Massachusetts has lost no more devoted lover, no more staunch defender.

In several instances to which our attention has been attracted the honors of the profession, together with the mental traits befitting the wearers of those honors, have seemed to be transmitted from father to son as a natural inheritance. Others, from the most unpropitious antecedents, have achieved success and high position. In truth, the pathway is open to all; to all it presents difficulties hard to overcome. Few have had to contend with greater obstacles, or have done it with so good courage, as MATTHEW J. MCCAFFERTY. Born in Ireland in 1829, his parents brought him to this country during his infancy. They were poor, hard-working people, and at an early age the lad must assist in his own support. In 1841 the family moved to Lowell, and Matthew began as an operative in the great mills there. Later on he learned the trade of a machinist. While so employed he was inspired with the ambition to become a lawyer, and devoted his evenings and spare moments to reading such law-books as he could obtain. In 1852, having saved some little capital from his trade, he entered the office of Brown & Alger, in Lowell, and regularly devoted himself to study. After two years he found it necessary to replenish his funds, and betook himself once more to his trade in Worcester. With his determination still unchanged he spent his

evenings reading in Mr. Bacon's office. A fellow-student at that time was Hamilton B. Staples, now an associate justice of the Superior Court.

For a short time Mr. McCafferty tried the *rôle* of an actor, but soon found it neither agreeable nor remunerative, and returned to rely upon his shop to furnish him the means of living until better times. His generous, filial disposition is illustrated by the fact that, after having with some difficulty saved money enough to carry him through college, he gave it all to his mother, whom he visited in Lowell and found lacking some of the comforts to which her age and infirmities entitled her. Soon after this Benjamin F. Butler became interested in the young man's sturdy struggle, and assisted him through a partial course in the College of the Holy Cross at Worcester. In 1857 he was admitted to the bar in Lowell, and soon after opened his office in Worcester. He was a natural orator, warm-hearted, impulsive, sympathetic, and came to be regarded as the special champion of his race in the city of his adoption. When the call for volunteers was issued in 1861, he enlisted as second lieutenant in the Emmet Guards, a company composed of men of Irish descent, in which he had previously served as captain. After its three months' service had expired, he received the commission of major in the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Regiment. With this command he rendered gallant service in several battles until March, 1862, when he resigned on account of some difference with his colonel which could not be adjusted. Returning home, he continued to support the government by his eloquent speeches on public occasions. He served four terms in the Legislature, and one as alderman of the city. In 1883 his early friend and constant political ally, Governor Butler, appointed him an associate justice of the Municipal Court of Boston. In this capacity his impartiality and his kindness of heart made him an excellent police magistrate. In the short time before his death, in 1885, he had approved himself to the profession in his new sphere of action, where at first there had been a disposition to cavil at the appointment of a judge from another county.

The career of FRANCIS T. BLACKMER compressed within less than twenty years an amount of professional labor which might well have formed the employment of an additional decade, and would then have left him but little of that leisure he so much neglected. He seems to have felt that his time for work was short, and that in the days allotted him he must accomplish what would suffice for the years of a longer pilgrimage. He was born in Worcester in 1844, but passed his boyhood in the towns of Prescott and Hardwick, where his father carried on the occupation of a farmer at successive periods.

In the district schools and at Wilbraham Academy he received all the instruction which he obtained before beginning his legal studies. In later life he keenly appreciated the advantages bestowed by a more extended course of education, and expressed his regret that he was unable to receive a college training. Yet the reflection is inevitable that it is not the schools that make the man. We cannot be sure of the effect of the same discipline upon different minds, and Mr. Blackmer certainly profited admirably by the limited facilities which he enjoyed. When twenty years of age he returned to Worcester, and entered the office of William W. Rice. During his studies, and for some years after his admission to the bar, he was employed by Mr. Rice, on terms continually more advantageous, as he demonstrated his capacity for work and his mastery of the law. Subsequently a partnership was formed under the name of Rice & Blackmer, which continued until after Mr. Rice's Congressional duties called him away from regular attention to professional employments.

Mr. Blackmer had a remarkable facility in forming acquaintances. There was not the slightest formality or diffidence about him. In the same easy, off-hand manner he met every new-comer, and inspired him with confidence in his own ability to conduct his business. His addresses to the jury were marked by the same familiar style. Brought up like many of them, in a farming region, familiar with the habits of thought of our New England country people, he talked to them as a friendly adviser, citing homely incidents of country life to illustrate his meaning, and in language and accent showing clearly that he was one of them. It was here that he achieved his principal success. Day after day during the sessions of the court he appeared on one side or the other, of almost every case, and probably became personally known to more of the inhabitants of the county than any other of the advocates at the bar during his later years.

His arguments did not pursue a logical order; but neither did the usual train of thought of the majority of his hearers in the jury-box. He went over the story of the evidence as it arranged itself in his mind, and when he had finished, there was no point which he had forgotten, no inference which had not been suggested. In his examination of witnesses he showed a remarkable knowledge of human nature and an adroitness which was rarely matched. Never losing his temper, he was prepared to meet any surprising development of testimony with unruffled composure and the best resources at his command. His profession thoroughly interested him. He loved to talk over his cases with students or brother lawyers, and was ever ready to receive new suggestions or to state his own views when they were called for. Before the Supreme Court he argued questions of law with care and skill, thoroughly appreciating the value of the distinctions on which he relied and the effect of earlier decisions upon the point in issue.

In 1875 he was chosen city solicitor, and so continued until 1881, when he resigned, to take the place, as district attorney, of Judge Staples, then

Chas Devens Jr
Bvt Maj Genl U.S.V.

promoted to the bench. In both these capacities, calling for the exercise of quite different talents, he acquitted himself with credit.

His interests outside of his profession were few, for he gave himself little time for other pursuits. In local political contests he took part from time to time. The parish to which he belonged was always an object of his attention. In his brief hours of social relaxation he showed himself an affectionate and sunny-tempered friend. But his constitution was not strong enough to endure the strain to which he subjected it. In 1883 he was obliged to give up work, and seek in absolute rest the reinvigoration of his enfeebled energies. During the fall he returned to his office, and was so far encouraged to believe in his restoration to health as to accept a re-election to the district attorneyship. The apparent improvement was but temporary, however. His tasks were done, as his brethren at the bar sadly noted when he appeared among them at the opening of the December term of court. Again he left his clients, and, hopeful to the last, took his way toward a Southern climate. But his disease had taken too firm a hold while he had refused to leave his post of duty, and in January of 1884 he died in the city of Washington.

He came to the bar the latest of those whom we have mentioned. Many who saw his earliest efforts are still in the full vigor of their usefulness, but as we close these records with his name, let it be said that none among them all more diligently followed the injunction: "Work while the day is, for the night cometh."

In these imperfect sketches an attempt has been made to preserve some memorial of a few of those who have completed their life-work and are to be remembered as representatives of that ability and integrity which has characterized the administration of justice in this county and Commonwealth. Necessarily the names of many who have largely contributed to the establishment of this reputation are omitted. The records of a lawyer's life are too often written in water. The writer has mainly selected those who have seemed to him to leave some lasting impression on their times and to furnish examples for the edification of their successors in the same field of enterprise. To learn that the qualities which secured their successes are still exhibited among us, it needs only to glance over the honored list of names which now adorns the roll of this bar. A Senator of the United States, a justice of the Supreme Court of the State, two justices of its Superior Court and one of the United States District Court, and two recent members of Congress figure in the list. In active practice are advocates as skillful and eloquent, counsel as sagacious and learned as any who have gone before.

LIVING LAWYERS.

CHARLES DEVENS.[1]—Prominently identified with the military and judicial history of the State of Massachusetts is the Hon. Charles Devens, one of the justices of the Supreme Judicial Court. General Devens was born in Charlestown, Mass., April 4, 1820. He graduated at Cambridge in 1838. He studied law at the Harvard Law School, and subsequently with Messrs. Hubbard & Watts, in Boston, and was admitted to the bar in 1840. He first commenced practice at Northfield, where he remained until 1844, when he removed to Greenfield and formed a co-partnership with Hon. George T. Davis, which continued until 1849, when he was appointed by President Taylor United States marshal for the district of Massachusetts. This office he held until his resignation in 1853. While residing at Greenfield he represented Franklin County in the State Senate. Upon resigning the office of marshal, he located in Worcester and resumed the practice of his profession, forming a partnership with Hon. George F. Hoar and J. Henry Hill. Soon after Mr. Hill retired, and the firm of Devens & Hoar continued until 1861. During his residence in Worcester he served as city solicitor in 1856, 1857 and 1858.

Upon the breaking out of the Rebellion, Mr. Devens promptly responded to the President's call for troops, and entered the service as major of the Third Battalion of Infantry. He soon after became colonel of the Fifteenth Massachusetts Regiment, and from this date until the close of the war he was in active service. He received his baptism of fire on the disastrous field of Ball's Bluff, and in 1862 was made a brigadier-general for gallantry on this memorable field of carnage. From the very beginning General Devens saw severe service. In the battle of Fair Oaks he was severely wounded, also at Chancellorsville, in 1863, and at Antietam his horse was shot under him. His distinguished bravery before Richmond was especially commended by General Grant, and he was commissioned major-general for gallantry at the capture of the city. At the close of the war he was appointed military governor of the Eastern District of South Carolina. This position General Devens held until June, 1866, when he was mustered out of the service.

Civil honors seemed to await him upon his return to his native State, and in the following year, 1867, he was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court, and in 1873 became an associate justice of the Supreme Judicial Court, and remained upon the bench until 1877, when he was appointed Attorney-General of the United States by President Hayes. At the expiration of four years he returned to Massachusetts, and in 1881 was re-appointed to the bench of the Supreme Court. Notwithstanding the exacting duties of a judicial life Judge Devens finds time to manifest his interest in military affairs, and has been president of the Society of the Army of the James; president of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, and of the Sixth Army Corps. He has been National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was

[1] By the Editor.

for nine years Commander of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion for Massachusetts.

Judge Devens is eminently an orator, and his public addresses and eulogies have been many and varied. He is a member of various societies and clubs, and as statesman, judge and general ranks among Massachusetts' most distinguished citizens.

GEORGE FRISBEE HOAR[1] was born in Concord, Mass., August 29, 1826. His ancestors, from the early days of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, were men of action and courage, humane, and always in advance of their times, but not so radical as to be parted in sympathy from their contemporaries, and to lose the influence which their character, talents and public spirit deserved. John Hoar, Senator Hoar's earliest ancestor in Massachusetts, was one of three brothers who came, with their widowed mother, from Gloucestershire, England, among the early colonists.

He was a friend and co-laborer of Eliot, the apostle to the Indians, and after the massacre at Lancaster, in King Philip's War, followed Philip's band into the wilderness with a single Indian guide, and ransomed Mrs. Rolandson, one of the Lancaster captives.

His brother, Leonard Hoar, was one of the early presidents of Harvard College. Senator Hoar's father, Samuel Hoar, was one of the great Massachusetts lawyers, contemporary with Mason, Webster and Choate. His aspect inspired reverence, which was increased by knowledge of his character. He was a Representative in Congress, and was chosen by Massachusetts to protect in the courts of South Carolina her colored citizens unjustly imprisoned there. He was expelled from the State by force, and was not allowed to discharge his mission; but his conduct throughout was marked by dignity, firmness and courage. Senator Hoar's mother was the youngest daughter of Roger Sherman, of Connecticut.

The village of Concord, where Mr. Hoar's boyhood was passed, was full of fine influences. No place could have been better for the forming of character and preparation for a life of public or private usefulness. After his school-days there he entered Harvard College, and was graduated in 1846. Choosing the law for his profession, he studied at the Harvard Law School and in the office of the late Judge Thomas, in Worcester. Upon his admission to the bar in 1849, he began practice in Worcester, and this city has ever since been his home.

He was for a time associated in practice with the late Hon. Emory Washburn, and later with the Hon. Charles Devens and J. Henry Hill, Esq. Mr. Hoar rapidly rose to a very high rank in his profession. The native capacity of his mind, disciplined by education and superbly equipped by study, was supplemented by uncommon industry and assiduous devotion to the business of his clients.

His practice when he entered Congress in 1869, after twenty years at the bar, was probably the largest and most valuable in the State, west of Middlesex County. Mr. Hoar married, in 1853, Miss Mary Louisa Spurr, who died a few years after, leaving a daughter and a son, both of whom are now living. He married, in 1862, Miss Ruth Ann Miller.

Mr. Hoar's first appearance in political life was as chairman of the committee of the Free-Soil party for Worcester County in 1849, which was more efficiently organized here than in any other county of the United States. In 1851, at the age of twenty-five, Mr. Hoar was elected a representative to the General Court. He was the youngest member in that body, but became the leader of the Coalitionists in law matters, and to him was given the task of drawing resolutions, protesting against the compromise measures of the National Government in 1850.

So manifest at this time to the people of this district was Mr. Hoar's fitness for public service that the way was open to him to succeed the late Hon. Charles Allen as the Representative of this district in Congress.

But he put aside all suggestions tending that way, because it seemed to him that to enter Congress then would be to make politics instead of the law his profession. If his decision had been otherwise, his energy, courage, eloquence and firm grasp of constitutional principles would doubtless have placed him in the very front rank of the statesmen of the civil war and reconstruction period. Although refusing Congressional service, he did not decline such duty in the State Legislature as was pressed upon him. In 1857 he was a member of the Senate, and chairman of its Judiciary Committee. In that capacity he drew a masterly report, defining the boundaries of the executive and legislative authority.

He made many political addresses, as varying occasions called for them, and was always ready with service in behalf of enterprises for the public welfare in his own city. He aided in the establishment of the Free Public Library and reading-room, was a member of the board of directors and one of its early presidents. His counsels and efforts were of great value in the founding of the Worcester County Free Institute of Industrial Science, now the Worcester Polytechnic Institute, whose usefulness as a pioneer in a new field and conceded eminence now are due to the wisdom with which its foundations were laid by that group of sagacious and public-spirited men of whom Mr. Hoar was one. His argument for technical education before a committee of the Legislature in 1869 was, if not the first, among the earliest adequate public statements of the claims of this branch of education. He was also an early advocate of woman suffrage, having made an address on that subject in Worcester in 1868 and before a legislative committee in 1869.

In 1868 Mr. Hoar was elected a Representative in Congress, as the successor of the late Hon. John D.

[1] By J. Evarts Greene.

C. W. Hines

Baldwin. In this, the Forty-first Congress, he was a member of the Committee on Education and Labor, and his chief work was the preparation and advocacy of the bill for national education. The bill differed widely in its details from that now pending and known as the Blair Bill, but its purpose—to give national aid to education where illiteracy most prevails and where, through poverty or indifference, the State and local governments inadequately provide for public schools—was the same. The bill did not pass in that Congress, and Mr. Hoar reported it with some changes in the Forty-second and again in the Forty-third Congresses, when it was passed by the House, but failed in the Senate. In his first term in Congress Mr. Hoar, by a timely and convincing speech, saved the Bureau of Education when the Committee on Appropriations had reported it ought to be abolished. In this Congress, too, he vindicated General Howard from the charges preferred by Fernando Wood, supported Sumner in his opposition to President Grant's scheme for the annexation of Santo Domingo, and became known as a formidable antagonist in debate by his prompt and severe treatment of Mr. D. W. Voorhees and Mr. S. S. Cox, of New York, who ventured to "draw" the new member. His retort upon Mr. Cox was much relished by his associates. Mr. Cox, then the triumphant wit of the House, had been carping at Massachusetts and daring Mr. Dawes, already a Congressional veteran, to come to her defence, assuring him that her stoutest champion was needed. "Troy," said Mr. Cox, "was defended by Hector, yet Troy fell." Mr. Hoar's reply was quick and scathing. "Troy," said he, "did not need her Hector to repel an attack led by Thersites."

In the Forty-second Congress Mr. Hoar, as a member of the Committee on Elections, drew the report in the case of Cessna against Myers. Many questions of great interest were discussed and decided in this report, which has been an authority ever since, being frequently cited in election contests both here and in England. In this case the report assigned the seat to Myers, the Democrat. Mr. Hoar's dealing with election cases in this Congress and in the next was recognized by his associates of both parties as judicial and conscientious, and when the charge of undue partisanship was afterwards brought against him, he was defended by Mr. Giddings, a Texas Democrat. In this Congress Mr. Hoar made an eloquent appeal for the rebuilding, at the national expense, of the College of William and Mary in Virginia, which was destroyed by fire while national troops were encamped in its neighborhood during the Civil War.

In the Forty-third Congress Mr. Hoar, besides obtaining the vote of the House for his Education Bill, reported and carried through the House a bill to establish a Bureau of Labor Statistics, and was chairman of a special committee to investigate the political disorders in Louisiana. The fairness of the inquiry and report of this committee was conceded even by the Democratic counsel employed in the case. In this Congress Mr. Hoar delivered his eulogy of Senator Sumner.

By the elections of 1874 the Republicans, who had held undisputed control of the House of Representatives for fifteen years, were outvoted in so many districts that in the Forty-fourth Congress the Democrats were a majority of the House. In this Congress Mr. Hoar made a number of notable speeches. At his suggestion the Eads' Jetty Bill, which was in danger of failure, was put into such form as to win favorable action from the committee and Congress, and thus, as Captain Eads himself testified, it was through Mr. Hoar's efforts that New Orleans was opened to ocean commerce. He was one of the managers of the impeachment of Secretary Belknap, and as such made an argument so convincing and powerful that it not only changed the opinions of several Senators on the question of jurisdiction, but it awoke the conscience of the people and gave the initial impulse to the wave of official and political reform, which has not yet spent its force. But Mr. Hoar's most distinguished service in this Congress was that with which it closed—his work for and as a member of the Electoral Commission. He was a member of the special committee which prepared the bill establishing the commission, was its advocate in the House, and was chosen by the House a member of it, his associates being General Garfield, Judge Abbott, of Massachusetts, General Hunton, of Virginia, and Mr. Payne, of Ohio. In 1872 and again in 1874 Mr. Hoar had given notice to his constituents of his wish to retire from public life, but had yielded to the general and imperative demand for his further service.

In 1876 his resolve not to be a candidate for reelection to the House was announced as final, and the people, accepting it, elected his successor. But in the winter following the Legislature chose him as Mr. Boutwell's successor in the other branch of Congress, and he took his seat in the Senate in March, 1877, at the opening of President Hayes' administration, of which he was one of the few steadfast Senatorial supporters. In the Senate Mr. Hoar has been a member, and for some years chairman of the Committee on Privileges and Elections and a member of the Committee on Claims, on the Judiciary, on the Library, and others of less importance. Besides conducting many inquiries, preparing many reports, involving large pecuniary interests or deciding weighty questions of individual right or public policy, he is the author or was the leading advocate of several measures of first-rate importance. Among them are the bill for distributing the balance of the Geneva award, the Lowell Bankruptcy Bill, the bill for counting the electoral votes for President and Vice-President, the Presidential Succession Bill, the repeal of the Tenure of Office Act and the resolution for amending the Constitution so as to make the Presi-

dential term and the term of each Congress begin with the 30th day of April instead of the 4th day of March. All of these measures passed the Senate, and most of them became laws.

In general Mr. Hoar has occupied himself in Congress with matters of wide scope and of fundamental importance rather than with those measures of narrower range and temporary application, upon which most of the labor of Senators and Representatives is spent. His success in gaining for so many of these larger measures the attention and favorable action of a body somewhat dilatory, apt to be engrossed with the affairs of the moment, and seldom looking farther forward than to the next Presidential campaign, is proof of his powers of convincing and persuading and of the confidence of his associates in his wisdom and the purity of his motives.

Mr. Hoar was re-elected to the Senate by the Legislature in January, 1883, and again in 1889. His election for the third time by the unanimous vote of his party in the Legislature, without a note of dissent or the public suggestion of any competitor, was a distinction not accorded to any man in Massachusetts for many years before, and proof that the people have learned to set a value upon his services not less than that which they assigned in earlier days to those of Webster and Sumner.

Mr. Hoar has four times been chosen to preside over Republican State Conventions. In 1880 he was president of the National Convention at Chicago by which General Garfield was made the Republican candidate for President of the United States. His dignity and courtesy, his prompt and impartial decisions, and the easy mastery by which he held the great convention to its work amid the enthusiasms for rival leaders and the disturbing hopes and fears and other strong excitements of the occasion, commanded general applause, and gave to the public of the United States a better knowledge of his strength and breadth of character.

Besides his political, legislative and professional activity, which has been briefly outlined above, Mr. Hoar has been and is usefully busy in other ways. He has written valuable papers for the magazines; has delivered many addresses on other than political subjects; has been a member of the Board of Overseers of Harvard College; an active member and for some years the president of the American Antiquarian Society; a trustee of the Worcester Polytechnic Institute; a regent of the Smithsonian Institution, and was selected by Mr. Jonas G. Clark as one of the corporators of Clark University. He has received the degree of Doctor of Laws from William and Mary College, Amherst, Yale and Harvard.

P. EMORY ALDRICH,[1] of Worcester, an associate justice of the Superior Court of Massachusetts, is a native of New Salem, Mass. His family is of the early New England stock, he being a lineal descendant of George Aldrich, who emigated from England in 1635 and settled at first in Dorchester, but afterwards became one of the original founders of the town of Mendon. Members of this family in the seventh and eighth generations from the founder are now living in nearly every State of the Union; it has had its Representatives in both Houses of Congress and in all the learned professions; several of the lineage have been judges in the courts of different States. The family, in some of its branches, has been, and is, honorably known in literature and commerce; but a great majority of the race have been farmers. As a race they are distinguished for longevity and vigor of physical constitution and an inflexible will in the pursuit of the objects of their choice.

The subject of this notice attended the district school in his native village until he was sixteen years old, and then became himself a teacher. He received an academical education, and thereafter taught in the schools of this State and Virginia; pursuing at the same time a course of studies, such as were at that day usually found in the curricula of New England colleges. While teaching in Virginia he began the study of law, which he continued at the Harvard Law School in 1843–44, and graduated with the degree of LL.B.

After that, returning to Virginia and resuming there for a definite period his former vocation of teaching, he was admitted to the bar upon examination by the judges of the Court of Appeals at Richmond in 1845. He did not, however, enter upon practice there, but returned the same year to his native State, and after six months' study in the then well-known office of Ashman, Chapman & Norton, of Springfield, he was admitted to the bar at the spring term of the old Common Pleas Court for Hampden County in 1846.

Subsequent to his admission he passed a few months in Petersham in the office of F. A. Brooks, Esq., who had been a fellow-student of his at Cambridge; and in December, 1846, he began practice in the town of Barre, Worcester County, and continued there during the following seven years. For about three years of the seven he was editor and publisher of the *Barre Patriot*. He represented the town of Barre in the Constitutional Convention of 1853. In May, 1853, he was appointed by Governor Clifford district attorney for the Middle District, which office he continued to hold, with an interval of a few months in 1856, until 1865. In the spring of 1854 he removed to Worcester and opened an office in that city, and in January, 1855, he formed a law partnership with the Hon. P. C. Bacon, which partnership continued until he left the bar for the bench in October, 1873. He was mayor of Worcester for the year 1862.

Upon the organization of the State Board of Health, in 1870, Mr. Aldrich was appointed a member of the board by Governor Claflin, and remained a member

[1] By the Editor.

P. Emory Aldrich

W. W. Rice

till his appointment to the bench of the Superior Court. While he was a member of the Board of Health he prepared an historical paper, relating to the use of and the legislative regulation of the sale of intoxicating liquor, which was published in one of the annual reports of the board. He was one of the Representatives from Worcester in the State Legislature in the years 1866 and 1867; he took an active part in the debates and business of the House. In 1866 he was one of the minority dissenting from the decision of the Speaker of the House upon the question of the right of an interested member to vote. Mr. Aldrich prepared at that time an elaborate report upon the subject, which was published under the title of "The Right of Members to Vote on all Questions of Public Policy Vindicated." The principles of parliamentary law and practice contended for in that report were, at a later date, held to be correct, both in the Federal House of Representatives and in the British House of Commons. Judge Aldrich is a member of the American Antiquarian Society and one of the council of that venerable and learned body.

As a member of the society and council he has prepared several papers on historical, legal and literary subjects, which have been published with the proceedings of the society. He has written and delivered addresses before other societies and associations upon various aspects of social science and education, and upon the right of the State to provide not only for the elementary education of its children, but also for their higher education in high schools, etc. For the last few years he has given much time and study to the cause of technical education. He has long been one of the trustees of that admirable institution—the Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Since he left the bar he has written a work on "Equity Pleading and Practice," which was published in 1885. In 1886 he received the honorary degree of LL.D. from Amherst College. In 1850 he married Sarah, the eldest daughter of Harding P. Wood, Esq., late of Barre.

William W. Rice,[1] son of Rev. Benjamin Rice, a Congregational clergyman, was born in the historical old town of Deerfield, Mass., on the 7th of March, 1826. His collegiate education was acquired at Bowdoin, whence he graduated in 1846. And it may be mentioned, in passing, that his *alma mater* in 1886 conferred on him the degree of LL.D. After graduating he spent four years as preceptor of the far-famed Leicester Academy, and in 1851 commenced the study of law in the office of Emory Washburn, then in full practice in Worcester. After the usual course of three years' study he was admitted to the bar; and from the first year of his professional life to the present time has been a prosperous and highly-esteemed practitioner. His courtesy of manner, his fairness towards opposing parties and uniform deference to the court have marked him as a gentleman as well as advocate.

The career of Mr. Rice as a lawyer, successful as it has been, by no means exhibits his whole character—perhaps not the most useful or conspicuous part. He has been almost constantly called by his fellow-citizens to fill positions of honor, trust and responsibility.

In the municipal administration of Worcester he has served in various capacities, particularly in those connected with the educational interests. In 1860 he was mayor, and administered the duties of that high office with efficiency and universal satisfaction. In the capacity of special justice of the Police Court and as occupant of the bench of the County Court of Insolvency his course met with marked approval.

The duties of the office of district attorney or public prosecutor for the Worcester District, to which he was elected in 1868 and which he held five years, he discharged with signal ability, with fidelity to the State and a manly regard for the rights of those whom it became his duty to prosecute. Few offices are beset by more difficulties and annoyances, the duties being always arduous, often disagreeable and sometimes of doubtful justice; and he who successfully discharges them is worthy of the highest praise.

But perhaps it was as a member of Congress that Mr. Rice has become most widely known. He was for ten years a member of that august body, having been first elected in 1876. In the discussions there his speeches had much influence and his committee work was often of the greatest importance. There, as well as at the bar, he was courteous and forbearing, though never shrinking from the enforcement of his convictions with ardor and eloquence. By his fellow-members of all parties he was regarded with great respect, for every one recognized him as honest and patriotic. He was able in debate and not liable to be taken unawares on any current subject, was intelligent, earnest and persistent as a worker in the interest of his constituents, and exhibiting the same zeal that characterized his efforts for clients at the bar.

But it would savor a little of ostentation and at the same time add nothing to the reputation of Mr. Rice to further pursue this phase of his career.

Some men possess such magnetic power that they, without a particle of self-assertion, draw to themselves the sympathy and confidence of all with whom they are brought in contact. And such have a controlling influence in the common affairs of life. There are others, on the contrary, who seem always surrounded by a chilling atmosphere, impenetrable to any brotherly feeling or confidential nearness. Those who best know Mr. Rice will have no difficulty in which class to place him. Assuredly he does not belong to the latter.

Politically, Mr. Rice is a member of the Republican party, and ranks as the first Republican mayor of

[1] By Hon. J. R. Newhall.

the city. In the War of the Rebellion his voice gave no uncertain sound in urging upon every one the duty of doing their utmost to preserve the integrity of the Union; and it was not by speech alone that he fortified his patriotic sentiments. In his religious sentiments he is a Unitarian.

Mr. Rice was united in marriage November 21, 1855, with Miss Cornelia A. Moen, of Stamford, Conn., by whom he had two sons,—the eldest, William W. Rice, Jr., dying in childhood, and the youngest, Charles Moen Rice, a graduate of Harvard, is now a member of Mr. Rice's law firm. His first wife died June 16, 1862. In September, 1875, he married Miss Alice M. Miller, daughter of Henry W. Miller, Esq., of Worcester.

FRANK PALMER GOULDING.[1]—The subject of this sketch is descended from Peter Goulding, who lived in Boston in 1665, and afterwards in Worcester and Sudbury. Palmer Goulding, son of Peter, had a son John, who was born in Worcester, October 3, 1726, and inherited from his father the business of tanning. He removed early in life to Grafton, and died November 22, 1791. His wife, Lucy Brooks, of Concord, died at the age of thirty-eight, the mother of ten children. Ephraim Goulding, one of the children, was born September 4, 1765, and married, March 6, 1792, Susannah, daughter of William and Sarah (Prentice) Brigham. He was a prominent man in the town, serving as moderator of annual town-meetings eleven years, as selectman six, as assessor one year and as member of the School Committee six years. He died January 14, 1838. Palmer Goulding, son of Ephraim, was born October 11, 1809, and died in Grafton, March 22, 1849. He married, first, Fanny W. Maynard, who died August 9, 1839, having had three children—John C., who was born in 1832, and died in 1839; Susan E., born in 1835, and Frank P., the subject of this sketch, who was born in Grafton, July 2, 1837. By a second wife, Ann Cutting, whom he married June 2, 1842, he had Fanny A., born May 4, 1843.

Frank Palmer Goulding while a boy lived in Grafton, Holden and Worcester, his father having at various times occupation in those places, but on the death of his father, in 1849, returned to Grafton, and at the age of twelve years was apprenticed to learn the business of making shoes. From 1853 to 1857 he worked at his trade in Worcester, and at the latter date, at the age of twenty, entered the academy at Thetford, Vt., and prepared for college. He graduated at Dartmouth in 1863, and at once began the study of law in the office of Hon. George F. Hoar, in Worcester. A year at the Harvard Law School completed his preliminary law studies, and in 1866 he was admitted to the Worcester County bar. In the same year he became a partner with Hon. Francis Henshaw Dewey, then in full practice, and remained with him until Mr. Dewey was appointed a justice of the Superior Court in 1869. Mr. Goulding then formed a partnership with Hon. Hamilton Barclay Staples, which continued until Mr. Staples was appointed a Superior Court justice in 1881. Since that time he has been alone, enjoying a large and increasing practice, to which has been added the performance of the duties of city solicitor, which office since 1881 he has continued to hold.

It is not difficult to form an estimate of the character and intellectual powers of a man who, with slender educational advantages in early life, has reached the professional position enjoyed by Mr. Goulding. At a bar excelled by none in the State beyond the limits of Suffolk County, he at an early day in his career secured a rank which he has not only sustained, but steadily advanced. His appointment as one of the trustees of the new Clark University attests both the confidence of the community in which he lives in his business methods and sound judgment and their respect for his mental attainments and culture.

There are other evidences of the regard in which he is held. He was one of the Presidential electors chosen on the Republican ticket at the last election; he is also one of the trustees of the Worcester County Institution for Savings, a director in the First National Fire Insurance Company, and either a present or retired member of the Worcester School Board. With the pressure of professional business, his political aspirations have been satisfied by two years of service in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Goulding married, March 29, 1870, Abbie B. Miles, of Fitchburg, and has two children of fifteen and ten years of age.

HON. JOHN D. WASHBURN.[2]—John Davis Washburn is a native of Boston, where he was born March 27, 1833, being the eldest son of John Marshall Washburn, who married, in 1832, Harriet Webster, daughter of Rev. Daniel Kimball (Harvard University, 1800).

His parents removed to the grand old town of Lancaster, in Worcester County, when he was five years old, and his early youth was passed amid those beautiful surroundings.

At the age of twenty he graduated in 1853 from Harvard University, and entered the profession of law, studying first with Hon. Emory Washburn and George F. Hoar in 1854, and later receiving a diploma from the Harvard Law School in 1856.

He practiced law in Worcester, in partnership with Hon. H. C. Rice, and, by a development of his professional business and inclinations, made a prominent place, first, as an insurance attorney, and lastly, succeeding the late Hon. Alexander H. Bullock as general agent and attorney of the insurance companies, in 1866.

[1] By W. T. Davis.

[2] By the Editor.

John D. Washburn

Edward L. Davis

By his friendship with Governor Bullock he became associated with his military family as the chief of his staff, from 1866 to 1869, receiving a colonel's commission.

During the period from 1871 to 1881 he was a trustee of the Worcester Lunatic Hospital, and from 1875 to 1885 filled the same relation to the Massachusetts School for the Feeble-minded. He was a member of the House of Representatives from 1876 to 1879, and a Senator from the city of Worcester in 1884, rendering the excellent public service to be expected from his knowledge of affairs and his general sympathies with all matters of care and concern in the Commonwealth.

His association has always been sought in corporate and financial affairs. From 1866 to 1880 he was a director of the Citizens' National Bank.

He has been a member of the Board of Investment of the Worcester County Institution for Savings since 1871, and a trustee and treasurer of the Memorial Hospital since 1872.

He has been a director of the Merchants' and Farmers' Insurance Company since 1862, and succeeded the Hon. Isaac Davis as president in 1883.

His large humanitarian instincts and tastes, taking hold on all matters that have to do with educational and intellectual advancement, have made for him a congenial field where associates have warmly welcomed him in the numerous relations he has sustained to our higher institutions and learned societies. Since 1871 he has been a councilor and secretary of the American Antiquarian Society, and is a councilor of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

He is also an original member of the American Historical Association, and has been, since 1884, a corresponding member of the Georgia Historical Society. It is much to say of one that he stands high with his own *alma mater*. Colonel Washburn is a member of the overseers' committee on the government of Harvard University, and one of the directors of the Alumni Association of the same institution. He is one of the Board of Trustees and secretary of the new Clark University of Worcester.

This is a good record for any man to have won in middle life, and opens a field of service worthy of the best ripened powers, such as promises to give the subject of this sketch many years of useful citizenship.

Colonel Washburn is a man of commanding presence, with a kindly dignity always open to approach.

He married, in 1860, Mary F., daughter of Charles L. Putnam, Esq. (Dartmouth College, 1830), and has one daughter, Edith, who married, in 1884, Richard Ward Greene, Esq., of Worcester.

EDWARD LIVINGSTON DAVIS,[1] son of Isaac and Mary H. E. Davis, was born in Worcester, April 22, 1834. He began his education in the public schools of his native town, completing his course at the High School in 1850 and was graduated at Brown University in 1854. Having studied law in the office of his father and at the Harvard Law School, he became a member of the Worcester County bar in 1857.

He gave up the practice of the law the following year, and associated himself with Nathan Washburn and George W. Gill in the manufacture of railway iron, locomotive tires and car-wheels, a business established in 1857 in Worcester, which soon gave profitable employment to a large capital. In 1864 a corporation was formed, under the name of the Washburn Iron Company, for carrying on the same business. Mr. Davis was the treasurer and one of the chief stockholders in this company, and continued to hold that office until 1882, when, upon the death of his associate, Mr. Gill, he sold his interest and retired from the corporation.

Since that time, as indeed before, he has been much occupied with various business engagements and public and private trusts, which the care of his own property and the confidence of others in his capacity and faithfulness imposed upon him. He has been a director of the Boston and Albany, the Norwich and Worcester, and the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad Companies, president of the proprietors of the Rural Cemetery, president of the Worcester County Musical Association, member of the Council of the American Antiquarian Society, and director and trustee of many other institutions and companies in his native city, and actively and helpfully concerned in all enterprises designed to promote the welfare of the city and its people.

While not ambitious of official honors or political influence, Mr. Davis has not refused to bear his part when his services were required in responsible positions in the government of the city or State. He was elected a member of the Common Council for 1865 and held the office for three years, for the last year being president of the board. He was mayor of Worcester in 1874. During his administration important public improvements were carried out, notably the construction of a portion of Park Avenue, whose value has since been recognized. While holding this office Mr. Davis saw the growing need of the city for additional parks and play-grounds, which he has since in another official capacity and privately, so efficiently helped to supply.

While he was mayor, the Soldiers' Monument on the Common was publicly accepted by him on behalf of the city, and it was formally dedicated with appropriate ceremony. It is an interesting coincidence that his father, the Hon. Isaac Davis, accepted for the city the monument erected on the Common in memory of Colonel Timothy Bigelow, Worcester's most distinguished soldier of the Revolution. This dedication took place on the 19th of April, 1861, at the moment when other Worcester soldiers, among the first to be in arms in defence of the Union against

[1] By J. Evarts Greene.

foes of its own household, were attacked in the streets of Baltimore, and the first blood was shed in the great Civil War, whose heroes are commemorated by the monument dedicated by the second Mayor Davis thirteen years later. These two monuments in memory of the soldiers of two wars—for independence and for union—are the only memorial structures on the Common.

Mr. Davis was a member of the State Senate in 1876. He has since repeatedly declined to be the candidate of his party for various positions, including that of Representative in Congress, preferring private to political life.

He has not, however, declined employments of a public nature other than political, and has been chairman of the commissioners of the city's sinking funds, an office of financial responsibility, and a member of the Parks Commission. In this latter capacity, as well as by his gift of a portion of the Lake Park and a fund for its improvement, he has contributed materially to devise the present comprehensive scheme of public parks and play-grounds, and to secure its adoption, as well as to remove obstructions from the Common and prevent encroachments upon it, and thus to preserve it for the free use of the people, as a place of recreation and an adornment of the city.

Mr. Davis is a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church and has long been senior warden of the parish of All Saints. When the present church was built, from 1874 to 1877, he was chairman of the building and finance committees, and contributed in time and money more than any other member of the parish. He has repeatedly represented the parish in the Diocesan Convention, has been for several years a member of the standing committee of the diocese, and twice one of the four lay deputies of the diocese to the general convention of the church.

Mr. Davis has been twice married. Hannah Gardner, daughter of Seth Adams, Esq., of Providence, Rhode Island, to whom he was married in 1859, died in 1861, leaving a son, who survived her but a few days. He married, in 1869, Maria Louisa, youngest daughter of the Rev. Chandler Robbins, D.D., of Boston. They have two daughters, Eliza Frothingham and Theresa, and a son, Livingston.

JAMES EDWARD ESTABROOK.[1]—For nearly sixty years the name and title "Colonel Estabrook," descending from father to son, has been familiarly known and respected, both within and beyond the borders of this community.

"Colonel" James Edward Estabrook, the subject of this sketch, may be said to have inherited the title, by courtesy, from his father, Colonel James Estabrook, of the State Militia, the gallant commander of the last Worcester County Regiment of Cavalry, and who had the honor of leading the escort at the reception of Lafayette in 1824.

[1] By John J. Jewett.

The genealogy of the family is easily and clearly traceable as far back as 1413, to the Estebroks in Wales.

The American line begins with the Rev. Joseph Estabrook, born in Enfield, England, who came to Concord, Mass., in 1660, was graduated from Harvard College in 1664, and soon after was settled as a minister in Concord, Mass., where he was a colleague for many years of the famous Rev. Edward Bulkeley, remaining there during a pastorate of forty-four years until his death, in 1711. Shattuck's "History of Concord" refers to him as:

"A man of great worth, and eminently fitted for his office. His appearance carried with it so much patriarchal dignity, that people were induced to love him as a friend and reverence him as a father. These distinguished traits obtained for him, in the latter part of his life, the name of The Apostle."

In an obituary notice, the *Boston News Letter* of September 18, 1711, says: "He was eminent for his skill in the Hebrew language, a most orthodox, learned and worthy divine, of holy life and conversation."

Three of his four sons became ministers, the eldest, Joseph, settling in Lexington, Mass., and reference is made to this branch in Hudson's "History of Lexington," as "the noted ministerial family."

Ebenezer Estabrook, the father of Major James Estabrook, and grandfather of James Edward, of Worcester, removed from Lexington to the neighboring town of Holden about the time of the Revolution and founded the Worcester County branch of the family.

Colonel James Estabrook removed from Holden, his native place, to Rutland and thence to Worcester in 1828, and, with the exception of a few years spent in Bostion, his active business life was closely identified with the rapidly developing town and city of Worcester until his death, in 1874.

During the administration of Governor Boutwell he was appointed sheriff of Worcester County, from which office he was removed, for political reasons only, on the return of the Whig party to power.

Colonel Estabrook was a devoted and distinguished member of the order of Free Masonry, and as early as 1825, on the organization of the Worcester County Commandery of Knights Templar, he was elected the first Eminent Commander of that honorable body. Always a respected citizen, he was entrusted with many local interests, was an honored and influential member of the Old South, and later of the Union Church, and was among the first to take an active and leading part in the early development of the real estate and mechanical interests of the city.

As one of the well-known men whose lives form an important part of the history of their times, we quote the following extract from an extended tribute in the records of that honorable and exclusive organization

known as the Worcester Fire Society, of which he was a member, being the only person selected for this distinction at the annual meeting in 1830:

"Colonel James Estabrook was a man of marked intelligence, who accomplished more by knowledge later acquired than have many men, whose education, begun at college, seems to have been absolutely discontinued then and there."

From the same authority, the Hon. John D. Washburn, we also quote the following paragraph, not only as a faithful description of the founder of the Worcester branch of the family, but also as a remarkably terse and vivid pen-picture of his son, Colonel James E. Estabrook, the present postmaster of Worcester, in whom the type and characteristics are faithfully perpetuated:

"In stature he was below middle height, but made the most of such height as he had by the erection of his figure and military bearing. His complexion was very dark, and in this, as well as his features, he resembled the great Democratic leader, Stephen A. Douglas. His manner was quick, his eye bright and intelligent. Opposed to the party usually dominant here, he held few offices, though counted a politician, but he never adopted the coarser modes of warfare in politics, was courteous to his opponents, refrained from the imputation of unworthy motives, and carried none of the bitterness of party contest into the relations of private life."

This latter trait is especially true of his son, James Edward, who has been a life-long Democrat and a recognized leader and oracle of his party, not only in Worcester County, but also prominent in the party councils of the State and nation for a quarter of a century.

He has been a delegate to every National Convention of his party since the close of the war to the time of his appointment to a Federal office in 1887. He has served as chairman of the State Executive Committee, and of the County, District, Congressional and City Committees through many years of his party's minority in the State, and has ever been held in high esteem as an honest and honorable politician even by his political opponents.

In this connection, his life-long friendship with the late lamented Judge Adin Thayer, one of the acknowledged leaders of the Republican party in the State, will be recalled by their fellow-townsmen, among whom it had been long a matter of common remark that these two natural leaders of opposing forces only suspended their intimate social relations for a few weeks, during the active hostilities of a State or national campaign.

Colonel Estabrook has served his party in every capacity that choice or party exigency imposed upon him, with or without hope or prospect of reward, and his selection by President Cleveland to fill the office of postmaster, to succeed General Josiah Pickett, was received with a very general expression of approbation from his fellow-citizens, without regard to political affiliation, as a well-deserved recognition of his long and faithful devotion to the principles of his party.

As a member of the School Board, president of the Common Council and for two years, 1874 and 1875, as a representative of the city in the General Court of Massachusetts, Colonel Estabrook rendered able and faithful service, and discharged his duties with credit to his constituents and with honor to himself.

He is now one of the directors of the Free Public Library of Worcester, an honor peculiarly in harmony with his tastes and acquirements, and his long familiarity with the good society of books.

Born in Worcester October 29, 1829, he prepared for college in the Worcester High School, and was graduated from Yale in 1851. He then studied law with Judge Benjamin F. Thomas, attended the Harvard Law School, and was admitted to the Worcester bar in the autumn of 1853, at the age of twenty-three. Later he became the law partner of Judge Dwight Foster, of the Supreme Court, and practiced his profession until the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion.

Early in that critical period of the nation's life Colonel Estabrook promptly tendered his services to the government, and was assigned to duty on the staff of General Charles Devens, and later on the staff of General Butler, in the Department of the Gulf.

Compelled to resign from active service, by reason of sickness, in 1862, he returned to Worcester, and has since devoted his time to the care of his valuable estates, the duties of political life, the genial society of his chosen friends and the daily companionship of his library of classic, historical and standard authors.

Few, comparatively, of his many friends and acquaintances know or appreciate the fact that this modest, genial and unassuming gentleman is still, at three-score years, a familiar student of the classics, and is the owner of one of the largest and choicest libraries of rare editions of both ancient and modern literature in the city.

Colonel James Estabrook, the father, married Almira Read, of Rutland, Mass., and to them were born five children—one daughter and four sons. Two of these children are now living—the present postmaster and his brother, Arthur Edgar Estabrook, an esteemed citizen of Worcester, who shares with his brother the care of their joint interest in the family property. Colonel James Edward Estabrook remains a ripe and genial bachelor, having never married.

HON. E. B. STODDARD.[1]—Elijah Brigham Stoddard, the son of Col. Elijah Stoddard, a worthy and esteemed citizen of Upton, Mass., was born in that town on June 5, 1826.

At the age of twenty-one he was graduated from Brown University, and soon after came to Worcester,

[1] By J. H. Jewett.

where he studied law with Hon. John C. B. Davis, and was admitted to the Worcester County bar in June, 1849.

For nearly forty years he has been a widely-recognized factor in the professional, political and social life of Worcester, and has filled many public trusts with distinction.

"Colonel" Stoddard, as the subject of this sketch is familiarly known, was the first commander of the Third Battalion of Worcester County Rifles, organized in 1858, and was later a member of the military staff of Governor N. P. Banks, in 1860, and on the occasion of the reception to the Prince of Wales, during that year, Colonel Stoddard was one of the officers assigned to duty as personal escort to the prince.

On his admission to the bar in 1849 he began the practice of law in partnership with Hon. John C. B. Davis, under the firm of Davis & Stoddard, which continued until 1852.

He then became the law-partner of his father-in-law, Hon. Isaac Davis, a man of great prominence and large estates in the community, which association continued until 1857, when Colonel Stoddard was appointed district attorney for Worcester County, succeeding John H. Matthews, Esq., deceased in office. This position he held for about six months, until the expiration of the term. For nearly twenty years he was engaged in the regular practice of his profession, withdrawing somewhat from active practice in the courts in 1866, to accept the responsible duties of secretary and business manager of the Merchants' and Farmers' Fire Insurance Company, a position which he has ably and faithfully filled for the past twenty-two years and which he still holds.

Colonel Stoddard has, in fact, always been a man of affairs, prominent and helpful in the public concerns of the city, dealing with the affairs of men and property on a large and varied scale, and intrusted by his fellow-citizens with the care of large corporate and individual interests.

Beginning his public duties as the Representative of the city of Worcester in the Legislature of 1856, he has since ably served the city and State in many capacities. He was president of the Common Council in 1858; later, a member of the Board of Aldermen for two years; twice elected to the Massachusetts Senate (1863-64), and served two terms as State Councilor of this district (1871-72).

Elected mayor of Worcester in 1882, his administration was able and dignified, and his judgment in matters of grave importance to the city has been confirmed by subsequent events as both broad and judicious.

Always actively interested in the progress of popular education, he has been a member of the School Board for nine years, and for the past ten years has been a member of the State Board of Education, where he has rendered zealous and lasting service. His native tact and business discretion has been recognized by thirty years of continuous service as a director of the Providence & Worcester Railroad, as a solicitor and trustee for many years of the State Mutual Life Insurance Company, and as the trusted counselor of various public and private enterprises.

In addition to his other duties, he is now the president of the Quinsigamond National Bank, and also president of the Worcester Five Cent Savings Bank.

Personally Colonel Stoddard is a gentleman of pure and upright life, uniting a kindly disposition with a natural dignity of manner.

He has been a life-long Republican, an earnest worker and a faithful friend and ally of moral and political progress.

He married, in 1852, Mary E., the eldest daughter of Hon. Isaac Davis, by whom he has three children now living—two daughters and a son.

EDWIN CONANT.[1]—One of the earliest European lodgments in Massachusetts, as distinguished from Plymouth, was made in the year 1625, at Cape Ann. It was a little planting and fishing station, under the superintendence of the sturdy Roger Conant, who had previously been at Plymouth and Nantasket. He was a native of Budleigh, in Devonshire, England, born in 1593, and came to America in 1623, soon becoming a prominent character among the settlers. He was a remarkable man—remarkable for firmness, for self-reliance, and, it may be added, for utter contempt of the common and smaller hardships and annoyances of life, that so distress some and trouble most of us.

The fishing and planting were not successful, and the station was broken up in the autumn of 1626, and Conant, with most of the company, removed to the territory now forming Salem, and settled on the tongue of land through which Bridge Street now runs. This settlement was permanent, and made before Endicott or Winthrop came.[2]

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[1] By J. R. Newhall.

[2] The severity of the winter, added to the privations they endured, so discouraged the little band that some of them proposed abandoning the enterprise. Not so with Conant. His mind was fixed, and go he would not. He had suffered hardships in other places and surmounted many difficulties, but here he had set his foot, and was determined to make in this vicinage a permanent stand. He says in a petition to the court, May, 1671: "I was . . . . one of the first, if not the very first, that resolved and made good my settlement in matter of plantation with my family in this colony of Massachusetts Bay, and have bin instrumental both for the founding and carrying on of the same, and when, in the infancy thereof, it was in great hazard of being deserted, I was a means, through grace assisting me, to stop the flight of those few that there were heire with me, and that by my utter deniall to goe away with them who would have gon either for England or mostly for Virginia, but thereupon staid to the hazard of our lives." It is stated, on very good authority, that his son Roger was the first white child born in Salem; but an ancient record says that at a church-meeting, in 1703, the old church Bible was presented to John Massey, a son of Jeffrey Massey, a companion of Conant, as the "first town-born child."

Conant was likewise among the first settlers of Beverly, which is just on the other side of Bass River—Beverly, whose beautiful shores have now for years been the summer resort of the wealthy and refined from far and near, and which, during the last year or two, has so agitated our Legislature on the question of territorial division. Beverly was settled as a part of Salem about 1630, and by 1649 the settlers were sufficiently numerous to ask of the Salem Church "that some course be

Edwin Bonent

Chas. A. Dewey

It is interesting to dwell upon the life of Roger Conant, so grand a type of the primitive and true New England character; to trace along the line of descent from him, the head of one of our largest and best New England families.

Edwin Conant, the subject of this sketch, and many other well-known individuals can trace their lineage directly to him, and well may they be proud of their descent, though better, perhaps, that they should endeavor to emulate his virtues.

Edwin Conant, whose portrait appears in connection with this sketch, was born in Sterling, Worcester County, on the 20th of August, 1810. After pursuing the usual course of preliminary academic training, he entered Harvard College, where he graduated in 1829. Proposing to make the law his life business, he prepared himself for the duties of that honorable though often perplexing profession, under the direction of well-qualified instructors, and in 1832 commenced practice. After continuing in that calling for some ten years, his attention was directed to other pursuits, and he did not return to the law.

In his religious views Mr. Conant has been a consistent Unitarian, thus swerving from the rigid Calvinistic faith of his early ancestors. Politically he was an adherent of the old Whig party, but on the disruption of that he joined the Democratic ranks and still maintains his Jeffersonian principles. He has not been much in public office, though always interested in public affairs; has been something of a military man, though not exposed to the "shocks of war," as he served in peaceful times; has held brigade and staff offices, and been a judge advocate.

Sterling, Mr. Conant's native place, is much indebted to him in various ways, especially for the generous gift of the funds for the erection of the brick edifice for the Free Public Library, and offices for the town authorities. The building was dedicated to the memory of his eldest daughter, Elizabeth Ann Conant.

Mr. Conant has been twice married. His first wife was Maria Estabrook, daughter of Hon. Joseph Estabrook, of Royalston, whom he married in October, 1833, and by whom he had two daughters, neither of whom are living. His second wife was Elizabeth S. Wheeler, granddaughter of Rev. Joseph Wheeler, Unitarian minister and register of probate. She was also a granddaughter of Rev. Dr. Sumner, so long the able minister of the First Church of Shrewsbury.

A genealogy of the Conant family has been published, by which the lines may be traced to the good old settler Roger, and wherein the notable achievements of some of the later members may be found recorded.

HON. CHARLES AUGUSTUS DEWEY.[1]—Judge Dewey is deservedly pre-eminent among Milford's most distinguished, honored and trusted citizens. His pedigree, heredity and education gave him an auspicious introduction to public life, which he has worthily justified by his own exertions. He was born in Northampton, Mass., December 29, 1830. His father was Hon. Charles Augustus Dewey, for nearly thirty years judge of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts, and his mother a sister of Governor De Witt Clinton, the pride of New York's executive chair. He was fitted for college at Williston Seminary, Easthampton, and graduated from Williams College in 1851. He first studied law with his brother, the late Hon. Francis H. Dewey, of Worcester; then a year at the Harvard Law School, and afterward in the city of New York, where he was admitted to the bar in 1854. Having practiced law there till the fall of 1856, he went to Davenport, Iowa, and pursued his practice for two years. He came to Milford in March, 1859, and for the next two years was a professional partner of Hon. Hamilton B. Staples.

In 1861 he was appointed trial justice. In 1864 the Police Court of Milford was established, and he was appointed judge. He held this office till the Third District Court of Southern Worcester was organized, in 1872, when he was appointed judge of said court, and has since discharged the duties of that office down to the present time. Meanwhile he

taken for the means of grace among themselves, because of the tediousness and difficulties over the water, and other inconveniences." The town was incorporated in 1668 by its present name—a name, however, which was not satisfactory to several of the principal settlers, especially to Conant, who, in the petition above referred to, says: "Now my umble suite and request is unto this honourable Court onlie that the name of our town or plantation may be altered or changed from Beverly, and be called Budligh. I have two reasons that have moved me unto this request,—the first is the great dislike and discontent of many of our people for this name of Beverly, because (wee being but a small place) it hath caused on us a constant nickname of *beggarly* being in the mouths of many, and no order was given, or consent by the people to their agent, for any name until they were shure of being a town granted in the first place. Secondly, I being the first that had house in Salem (and neither had any hand in naming either that or any other towne), and myself, with those that were then with me, being all from the western part of England, desire this western name of Budligh, a market town in Devonshire, and neere unto the sea, as we are heere in this place, and where myself was borne."

Roger Conant appears by every one to have been regarded as a very upright man; and the Rev. Mr. White, who took so active an interest in the settlement of Massachusetts, styles him "a pious, sober and prudent gentleman." That he was deeply pious, no one can doubt on reviewing his course. The petition for the change of name from Beverly to Budleigh ends in this strain: "If this, my sute, may find acceptation with your worships I shall rest umbly thankfull, and my praiers shall not cease unto the throne of grace for God's guidance and his blessing to be on all your weightie proceedings, and that iustice and righteousness may be everie where administered, and sound doctrine, truth and holiness everie where taught and practised throughout this wilderness to all posterity, which God grant. Amen." The court, however, did not grant the "umble petition," and Beverly the name is to this day.

It has been claimed that, strictly speaking, Roger Conant was the first colonial Governor of Massachusetts. Probably the Endicotts and Winthrops would not concede that. Yet there is no doubt that he was Governor of the little colony that first made a permanent settlement within our borders.

The picturesque little island in the bay, now generally known as Governor's Island—sometimes as Winthrop's—was first named Conant's Island, in honor of the worthy old Roger. In 1632 it was granted to Governor Winthrop for a garden. Thence it was called Winthrop's or Governor's Island.

[1] By Rev. Adin Ballou.

has served seven years on the School Committee of Milford, and for some time as its chairman. For nearly twenty years he has been a trustee of the town library and of late chairman of the board.

In all these professional and official positions Judge Dewey has discharged his responsible duties not only with admirable ability, fidelity and promptitude, but to such complete satisfaction of all parties concerned as rarely falls to the lot of one obliged to deal with so much conflicting mentality and interest. He has won for himself a remarkable amount of approbation and very little censure even from those whose passions and prejudices he has crossed. He is learned in legal lore, wears an inherited mantle of judicial rectitude, and holds the scales of legal equity with a firm hand of clemency. At his bar the innocent and guilty are alike sure of both justice and kindness. In public and private intercourse he is intelligent, candid, conscientious and courteous, and therefore universally respected. In social life he is urbane, genial, modest and dignified, and so welcome to every reputable circle. In politics he is a stanch Republican, in religion an exemplary Congregationalist, and in literature an amateur of the best. He is simple in his personal habits, temperate, physiologically circumspect and averse to all forms of extravagance. In social and domestic affairs he is unostentatious, prudent and economical, without stinginess, and puts intellectual entertainments far above sensuous luxuries. His health is delicate rather than robust, and he watches over it so as to make the best of it, thereby managing to execute a large amount of business on a small capital of physical strength. He is a man of strong convictions on subjects he deems important, and pronounces his opinions without equivocation when properly necessary, but is not a controversialist from choice, and never puts on airs of dogmatic assumption or offensive severity towards opponents. He evidently desires to be the friend and well-wisher of his race, and, so far as compatible with true moral integrity, to live peaceably with all men. Of the many commendable ways in which he is practically exemplifying this laudable desire, it will hardly be expected that a brief biographical sketch should make detailed mention. Perhaps the few already indicated may suffice.

Judge Dewey was married to Miss Marietta N. Thayer, daughter of Alexander W. and Marietta (Dustan) Thayer, born in Worcester, June 22, 1847; ceremony in Milford, March 12, 1867, by Rev. George G. Jones. She has the ancestral honor of being a descendant of the celebrated Hannah Dustan, of Indian captivity renown. This marriage was one of mutual, intelligent affection, and has been a happy one. Mrs. Dewey has proved herself worthy of her husband, and their connubial house has been a pleasant one. They have one promising daughter,—Maria Thayer Dewey, born in Milford, August 8, 1872. May many divine benedictions rest on this family group.

THOMAS H. DODGE[1] was born September 27, 1823, in the town of Eden, county of Lamoille, State of Vermont, being the fourth son of Malachi F. Dodge and his wife, Jane Hutchins, who were married in Belvidere, Vt., Jan. 9, 1812. His father, Malachi F., was born in New Boston, N. H., Aug. 20, 1789; his grandfather, Enoch Dodge, was born in Beverly, Mass., 1762, and where his great-grandfather, Elisha Dodge, was born May 19, 1723, and who was the fifth and last child of Elisha Dodge, of Beverly, and his wife, Mary Kimball, of Wenham, Mass., who were published Oct. 8, 1709. Young Dodge had the advantages of good district schools, his father being a well-to-do farmer. The family subsequently moved to the town of Lowell, Vt., and resided on a farm there until Thomas was about fourteen years old, when his eldest brother, Malachi F., Jr., having secured a desirable position with the Nashua Manufacturing Co., of Nashua, N. H., a change of residence was made by the family to that place.

At Nashua, Thomas H. attended for a time the public schools, and then entered Gymnasium Institute, at Pembroke, N. H. At this institution he made rapid progress, and ranked among the first in his class.

Returning to Nashua, he secured a position in the spinning and weaving departments of the Nashua Manufacturing Co., which gave him an opportunity to become familiar with those departments, in the art he was desirous of fully understanding. In this position he remained until he gained a full knowledge of the processes while at the same time earning money sufficient to permit him to take a course of study in the Nashua Literary Institute, then under the charge of Prof. David Crosby. In the meantime he had been pursuing a course of study in elementary law, the books being obtained from one of the leading law firms of the place, who encouraged him in his studies. He also continued his studies in Latin under a private tutor.

Diligent and careful investigations and study into the early rise and progress of cotton manufactures in the United States had also engrossed his attention, as being intimately connected with the business in which he was engaged,—he was, in fact, an enthusiast in those early years upon the great good and national prosperity that would result from mechanical and manufacturing industries if properly encouraged, and in the year 1850, he published his "Review of the Rise, Progress and Present Importance of Cotton Manufactures of the United States; together with Statistics, showing the Comparative and Relative Remuneration of English and American Operatives."

When he first became a resident of Nashua, the Nashua *Gazette* was printed in a rear room in which the post-office was located, and young Dodge would

[1] Extracts from extended biography.

Thos. H. Dodge

go in and watch the operation of the hand-press used for printing the paper, and his quick mind at once ran to devising some way to print on a plane surface and yet use a rotary motion, so as to print from a roll of blank paper. The Nashua and Lowell Railroad was something new, and he took an interest in looking at trains as they came in, and one day he noticed that the parallel-rod, which connected the driving-wheels, had the very motion which he wanted, and he drew the plan of a press, and later made one which worked perfectly and attracted much notice. One day, shortly after a description of the press had appeared in the public journals, a gentleman called to see Mr. Dodge, who found him to be a Boston manufacturer by the name of John Bachelder. Mr. Bachelder frankly made known his business and the object of his visit. He was largely engaged in the manufacture of cotton bags for salt, flour and similar materials. He said he had seen the notice of the press and came to see it, since he thought it was just what he wanted. Said he wanted to print the cloth direct from the bale, and should like to see it work. The press worked perfectly, was bought by Mr. Bachelder and patented, and came into very general use.

The publicity of this invention was the beginning of a new era in machinery for printing paper, which resulted in the production of the lightning presses of the present day. Being now in the possession of sufficient funds, he decided to study law.

In 1851 he entered the office of Hon. George Y. Sawyer and Colonel A. F. Stevens, of Nashua, N. H. As an illustration of the quick appreciation and utilization by Mr. Dodge of favorable opportunities, he, while a law student, saw that the prospective city of Nashua must necessarily extend in a short time to the south, and with two other gentlemen purchased a large part of the Jesse Bowers farm, lying on the west of South Main Street, and had it surveyed and platted as an addition to Nashua.

The lots were in demand as soon as offered, and this investment proved very profitable, while, at the same time, adding much to the prosperity of the new city, which was soon after chartered, Mr. Dodge being elected a member of the first City Council. He was admitted to the bar December 5, 1854, and commenced practice in Nashua. Aside from his position as a lawyer, he was extensively and publicly known as a skilled manufacturer, a meritorious inventor and a man of science, and which attainments having attracted the attention of Hon. Charles Mason, then commissioner of patents, he was, in March, 1855, appointed to a position in the examining corps of the United States Patent Office, Washington, D. C. At first he held the position of an assistant examiner, but was soon promoted to the position of examiner-in-chief.

When the famous Hussey Guard patent for mowing and reaping-machines came up for an extension, many of the ablest lawyers in the United States were engaged as counsel, either for or in opposition to the extension. Judge Mason referred the application to Mr. Dodge, who reported the invention both new and novel at the date of the patent, and that, under the law, Hussey was entitled to the extension. This report and decision was confirmed by Judge Mason, and the extension granted. Litigation in the Federal Courts soon followed, to test the validity of such action and the patent, and both were fully confirmed in the Circuit Courts of the United States, and which decisions of the Circuit Courts were subsequently sustained, on appeal, by the Supreme Court of the United States.

While Judge Mason remained at the head of the Patent Office the assistance of Mr. Dodge was constantly required in appeal cases, and upon the appointment of Judge Holt his services were still relied upon by the new commissioner of patents.

Judge Holt, in the administration of the office, reached the conclusion that a permanent court or board of appeals ought to be established to meet the public wants, and he appointed the three chief examiners, viz.: Thomas H. Dodge, DeWitt C. Lawrence and A. B. Little. The establishment of this board was a movement of great importance.

The decisions of the Board of Appeals, under the direction of Mr. Dodge, changed the entire aspect of the business before the Patent Office; order, justice and promptness in its official actions were recognized by applicants throughout the country, while a stimulus was given to the inventive skill and ingenuity of the nation that resulted largely, no doubt, in the production of many of the great and valuable inventions of the past thirty years. He resigned November 2, 1858.

Mr. Dodge was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of the United States, and for twenty-five years and more, thereafter, he had a very large and profitable law practice in patent causes, and was, during that time, actively engaged in the great suits relating to the sewing machine, mowing and reaping machine, corset, horse hay-rake, wrench, loom, barbed wire, machines for making the same, and numerous other valuable patented inventions involving millions of dollars.

In the early part of 1864, Mr. Dodge located in Worcester, where he had previously had a law-office in the city, and besides was one of the active managers of the Union Mowing Machine Company.

It was while residing in Washington that Mr. Dodge devised the present plan of returning letters uncalled for to the writers thereof, and on the 8th of August, 1856, submitted in writing a detailed statement of his plan to the Postmaster-General, Hon. James Campbell, and in due time it received the sanction of law, and the present generation receives and enjoys advantages resulting from the change.

Mr. Dodge was a strong supporter of the Union cause during the Rebellion, and while he remained

in Washington his house was open to those engaged in relieving the sick, wounded and dying soldiers; Mrs. Dodge, too, also joining with others in visiting the hospitals to distribute food and delicacies sent from the North to Mrs. Harris and Miss Dix, for the sick and wounded. His youngest brother, Capt. Elisha E. Dodge, of the Thirteenth New Hampshire Regiment, fell mortally wounded in the assault on Petersburg, Va., in June, 1864, and died at Fortress Monroe, June 22, 1864.

In 1881 he, in connection with Mr. Charles G. Washburn, organized the Worcester Barb Fence Company, he being president and Mr. Washburn secretary and manager, and for which company the late Stephen Salisbury, Esq., built the large factory at the corner of Market and Union Streets. The plant and patents were subsequently sold to the Washburn & Moen Company.

Mr. Dodge was married, June 29, 1843, to Miss Eliza Daniels, of Brookline, N. H.

In the grounds of Mr. Dodge is the "Ancient Willow." (See illustration and poem by Harriett Prescott Spofford, elsewhere in this work.)

AUGUSTUS GEORGE BULLOCK.[1]—Mr. Bullock is a son of the late Governor Alexander H. Bullock, whose portrait, with a biographical sketch, appears elsewhere in this work. He was born in Enfield, Conn., on the 2d of June, 1847, and was educated in private schools, being fitted for college by the late E. G. Cutler, who was afterwards professor of modern languages in Harvard College. He entered Harvard in 1864 and graduated in 1868.

After traveling a year in Europe he commenced the study of law, pursued the usual course, and in due time was admitted to the bar in Worcester. He soon went into practice, occupying offices with Senator Hoar.

In 1882 his father, Governor Bullock, who had then recently been elected president of the State Mutual Life Assurance Company, died; and during the year it was determined to change the policy of the company, which had been of a somewhat limited character, and make it one of the leading institutions of the kind in the country.

It was in January, 1883, that the affairs and interests of this now widely-known and popular assurance company were submitted to the management of the subject of this sketch, he being elected president and treasurer. He accepted the responsible position, engaged earnestly in the work, arduous as it promised to be, and has been eminently successful. The suggestions for extended usefulness were efficiently and rapidly carried forward, and new life and healthful growth became visible in every department. Since his instalment, which was but about six years ago, the business of the company has been more than quadrupled, and is adding to its assets accumulations of nearly half a million dollars annually. Its operations and reputation are not now by any means limited to Massachusetts or New England, it having attained a large business, especially in the Middle and Western States.

But it is not alone as president and treasurer of the State Mutual Life Assurance Company that Mr. Bullock is well and widely known. He is a director in the Worcester National Bank, in the Worcester Gas Light Company, in the Norwich and Worcester Railroad, in the Worcester County Institution for Savings, and president of the State Safe Deposit Company. He is also a trustee of the State Lunatic Hospital and of the Free Public Library, and a member of the American Antiquarian Society.

For an intelligent appreciation of literary and social observances of the higher order Mr. Bullock is well fitted by education and taste. And few places afford better opportunities for the development of refined sentiment than cultured Worcester. He has many of the genial traits of his honored father, many of his common-sense views and approachable amenities—traits and habits that never fail of leading to high social position. So then we find him, now in middle life, sustaining in the business world a high reputation for financial skill and ability, and in social life a position well worthy of aspiration.

In religious sentiment Mr. Bullock ranks with the Unitarians, having departed somewhat from the chosen faith of his fathers. His grandfather was of the rigid old New England "orthodox" type; but his father, after reaching manhood, embraced the faith of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and to the end of his life delighted in its charming liturgical form of worship. In political sentiment he ranks with the Democratic party.

Mr. Bullock was united in marriage, October 4, 1871, with Mary Chandler, daughter of Dr. George and Josephine Rose Chandler, and four male children have been born to them, one of whom died in infancy.

FRANCIS ALMON GASKILL[2] was born in Blackstone, Worcester County, on the 3d day of January, 1846. Until the year 1860 he lived in that town. In 1860 he moved to Woonsocket, R. I., and in the High School of that town, under the instruction of Howard M. Rice, Esq. (now one of the proprietors of the well-known Mowry and Goff School in Providence), he fitted for college. In the autumn of 1862 he entered Brown University, and was graduated in 1866. He was occupied as private tutor to the sons of Mr. Clement B. Barclay, of Newport, R. I., from October, 1866, till June, 1867, and thus had the advantage of that most excellent mental instruction which comes from teaching others.

In September, 1867, he entered the Law School of Harvard University, and remained there, a close

[1] By James R. Newhall.

[2] By Herbert Parker.

A. G. Bullock

F. Wilcox Holt

student, till October, 1868, when, at the request of the late Hon. George F. Verry, he entered his office as clerk, and was duly admitted to the bar of this county March 3, 1869. Later he was associated with Mr. Verry as his partner, and so continued till Mr. Verry's death, in 1883.

Mr. Gaskill was married, October 20, 1869, to Miss Katherine Mortimer Whitaker, of Providence. For a considerable time Mrs. Gaskill was an invalid, and for the last few years of her life suffered almost constantly from a painful illness, which she bore with a truly beautiful fortitude and cheerfulness. She died January 25, 1889, leaving two children.

In 1875–76 Mr. Gaskill served as a member of the Common Council of the city of Worcester. In 1876 he was chosen one of the trustees of the Worcester Academy, and has served in that capacity continuously till the present time. He was elected a trustee of the Free Public Library of Worcester for six years from 1878 to 1884, and in 1886 was elected to fill a vacancy in that board, of which he was president in the year 1888.

In 1884 he was elected one of the trustees of the People's Savings Bank, and still serves on that board. In 1888 he was elected one of the trustees of Brown University. He is also a director of the State Mutual Life Assurance Company of Worcester, an institution whose standing and reputation in the financial world is such as to make a position in its directorate one of great honor and importance.

In 1883, during the illness of the district attorney, Hon. Frank T. Blackmer, Mr. Gaskill filled that office by appointment. In 1886 he was elected district attorney, to serve from January, 1887, to January, 1890, succeeding Col. W. S. B. Hopkins, whose brilliant and distinguished abilities and character had made his administration memorable.

It will thus be seen, from the preceding recital of some of the various positions of importance and responsibility to which Mr. Gaskill has been called, that he has possessed in a large measure the confidence and esteem of those to whom he has been known. In the discharge of the duties of educational, charitable, financial and professional trusts, it is obvious that he has had a training and experience that has fitted him to deal judiciously with the multitudinous interests which may be involved in the discharge of his existing official duties.

He has had personal and continuous acquaintance with and has shared in the direct management of affairs which make up and are essential elements in our complex industrial, social and governmental system. He has had an active and successful professional life.

Mr. Verry, with whom he was long associated, was one of the acknowledged leaders of the bar: his cool judgment, marvelous readiness in the crisis of a case and his brilliant powers as an advocate rendered him almost invincible, in the trial of causes. Mr. Gaskill was far too apt and able a pupil to fail to profit from his close professional and personal intimacy with Mr. Verry. The opportunity for study thus given him in the practice of the law has abundantly equipped him for his arduous and responsible duties as prosecuting officer. While Mr. Gaskill was acting district attorney the now famous case of Commonwealth *vs.* Pierce came before our Criminal Court. The defendant was a so-called physician, and, by reason of treating a patient with baths and poultices of kerosene oil, finally produced her death. He was indicted for manslaughter. It was extremely doubtful whether the defendant Pierce could be convicted, by reason of a much questioned decision of the Supreme Court in an early case. It was, however, of grave moment to bring this vexed question again to the bar of the Supreme Court for revision. The indictment, a remarkably skillful piece of criminal pleading, was drawn by Mr. Gaskill, with the able assistance of C. F. Baker, Esq., then assistant district attorney. Later, after a closely contested trial, Col. Hopkins, then district attorney, managing the government's case, a verdict of guilty was rendered; and after exhaustive arguments of the law questions before the Supreme Court the conviction of the defendant was sustained, largely through the courage and confidence which Mr. Gaskill had in the righteousness of this cause, the original prosecution of which was instituted by him. We now have the decision of the Supreme Court that homicidal medical pretenders shall not escape responsibility for the fatal results of their incompetency on the plea that ignorance and not malice caused the death of their victim.

In a large number of the important legal controversies in our county Mr. Gaskill has been of counsel. His clients, no less than his opponents, know the zeal, the energy and the learning which he displays in the preparation and trial of his cases. To the discharge of the duties of the office of district attorney he has brought all the fidelity and ability which have given him success and honorable reputation at the bar, on the civil side of the court. With unflagging constancy and integrity he has conducted the affairs of the people entrusted to his hands.

In the two years now expired of his current term of office, prosecutions of great interest have been conducted by him, one among many being that of a notorious mal-practitioner, whose victim had made a dying declaration charging the crime upon the accused; but, by reason of the inapt phraseology of the statute, it was held by the court upon the trial that the dying declaration could not be used in evidence upon a trial for abortion; the case was given to the jury without this evidence, and a verdict of guilty followed, which, for insufficiency of evidence, was set aside. Thereupon an indictment was found for manslaughter by negligence, which was a sagacious, but by many lawyers thought a futile, effort to prevent the escape of a guilty person, by reason of an

inefficient statute. Mr. Gaskill brought the accused to trial on the charge of manslaughter, and, though defended with great zeal and ability, the prisoner was convicted; for in this case the dying declaration was unquestionably admissible, and was admitted. After mature consideration by the counsel for the defense, the exceptions were waived, and sentence was imposed upon the defendant.

This successful prosecution is adverted to as demonstrating the vigilance and energy of Mr. Gaskill's methods, manifested as well in his prompt and systematic management at each term of the Criminal Court, where everything upon the docket which can be tried is brought forward and disposed of. In this district at least, there exists no complaint of an accumulation of untried cases.

Sureties, who have pledged themselves to secure the attendance of an accused person for his trial, have learned that a bail bond is a stern and inexorable compact, which they cannot evade; no less have persons who appeal from sentences in the lower courts learned that they must speedily answer on trial in the Superior Court.

It is a noteworthy fact, and one upon which Mr. Gaskill may well look with legitimate pride, that in the two years of his term of office as district attorney no indictment drawn by him has been quashed for any insufficiency in form.

Happily, the time has not yet come for writing a completed biography of the subject of this sketch; his life-work is not yet done, and it may be confidently hoped that many years of usefulness are yet before him; here only brief mention can be made of some of the events (and those chiefly professional) of his past life.

The biographer of one still in active life must carefully observe a due consideration for him whose life and character is under discussion, and so scrupulously avoid anything by way of seeming eulogy, however well deserved and just such eulogy may be.

The mere recital of the events of Mr. Gaskill's life, the positions of honor and trust to which he has been called, the distinguished reputation he has gained in his profession, the respect and esteem in which he is held by his cotemporaries, all make up a more eloquent eulogy than the pen of any biographer could frame.

It is fitting to add, however, what no one can or would wish to gainsay, that Mr. Gaskill has fully maintained the high moral and professional standard established by his most distinguished predecessors in the office. In him the county and the people may see the realization of those rare qualities of mind and character which are required of him, who is at once prosecuting officer of the Commonwealth, but no less, in accordance with the merciful and just consideration of our criminal jurisprudence, "the prisoner's attorney."

THEODORE S. JOHNSON.[1]—Worcester County has been exceptionally fortunate during its history in securing for clerk of the courts men of high character and pronounced ability. It is an office of dignity and of great responsibility, requiring exact legal knowledge, and a ready fund of fertility upon which instant drafts must frequently be made. It is enriched with ample compensation, only slighly below that established for a justice of the Superior Court.

Some of the incumbents of the office have yielded to its attractions after distinguished service in Congress, others after effective labors in other capacities, while still others have relinquished it for a seat in Congress.

The term of service of most has been long. Since the incorporation of the county, in 1731, a period of nearly one hundred and sixty years, there have been but eleven different persons holding the office. No fairer test than this can be applied to determine the measure of satisfaction with which the affairs of the office have been administered.

The incumbent is judged by two standards—one adopted by the judges and lawyers, with whom he is brought into closest relations; the other, proceeding from parties in causes, jurors and the public at large. The former is applied more particularly to his legal capacity and general administration of the office; the latter to his characteristics. The combination of qualities to satisfy both tests is not often found.

The eleventh clerk of the courts for Worcester County is the subject of this sketch.

Theodore S. Johnson was born in Dana, in this county, in 1843. After attendance in the common schools of his native town and at the High School and Wilbraham Academy, he came to Worcester in 1864, and entered as a student the law-office of Dewey & Williams. He was admitted to the bar in 1866, and immediately began the practice of his profession in Blackstone. In 1867 he was appointed trial justice by Governor Bullock, and held the office till 1871.

In the latter year Hon. Hartley Williams, in whose office Mr. Johnson had studied law, was judge of the Municipal Court of Worcester, and a vacancy occurring in the office of clerk of that court, he quickly turned to Mr. Johnson as admirably qualified to fill the position; he was at once appointed and continued as such and as clerk of the Central District Court of Worcester till 1881. The sagacious treatment of the great volume and variety of business in those courts requiring the action and attention of the clerk during those years certainly justified the judgment of his friend and instructor, Judge Williams.

In 1881 Mr. Johnson was elected to his present office as clerk of the courts for Worcester County for the term of five years, and in 1886 was re-elected for a similar term.

Mr. Johnson's activities have not been confined

[1] By F. A. Gaskill.

J. S. Johnson

solely to these duties, though never for an instant neglecting them.

He was captain and judge advocate on the staff of the Third Brigade Massachusetts Volunteer Militia from 1874 to 1876, inclusive. He was selected in 1878 by Governor Talbot as colonel and aide-de-camp upon his Gubernatorial staff.

Mr. Johnson's discriminating political judgment, as well as his prominence as a citizen of Worcester and his earnest belief in the Republican party, led naturally to his selection as Worcester's representative on the Republican State Central Committee from 1881 to 1884, inclusive.

In 1883 he was elected a director of the Quinsigamond National Bank, and has retained the position ever since.

In 1873 he married Miss Amanda M. Allen, of Blackstone.

Valuable as his other services have been, honorable as the other positions are which he has held, identified as he has been with other material and social interests of Worcester and Worcester County, yet his administration of the office of clerk of the courts has been by far his most significant and successful service.

The writer of this sketch can best apply the legal test hitherto spoken of, and Mr. Johnson can securely rest in the confidence and approbation of the bar when that is invoked. His generous courtesy and ready service to his brethren of the bar and to others, and his unimpeachable character never fail to satisfy the other test.

JUDGES OF THE HIGHER COURTS RESIDENT IN WORCESTER COUNTY.

Superior Court.—Jedediah Foster, on the bench 1776–79.

Supreme Judicial Court.—Levi Lincoln, on the bench 1824–25; Benjamin F. Thomas, 1853–59; Pliny Merrick, 1853–64; Dwight Foster, 1866–69; Charles Devens, 1873–77, 1881–.

County Court of Common Pleas.—Artemas Ward, on the bench 1775–99 (C. J.); Jedediah Foster, 1775–76; Moses Gill, 1775–94; Samuel Baker, 1775–95; Joseph Dorr, 1776–1801; Michael Gill, 1794–98; Elijah Brigham, 1795–1811; John Sprague, 1799–1801 (C. J.); Dwight Foster, 1801–11 (C. J.); Benjamin Heywood, 1801–11.

Court of Common Pleas for the Western Circuit.—Edward Bangs, on the bench 1811–18; Solomon Strong, 1818–20.

Court of Common Pleas for Commonwealth.—Solomon Strong, on the bench 1820–42; Charles Allen, 1842–44; Pliny Merrick, 1843–48, '50–53; Emory Washburn, 1844–47; Edward Mellen, 1854–59.

Superior Court for the Commonwealth.—Charles Allen, on the bench 1859–69 (C. J.); Charles Devens, 1867–73; Francis H. Dewey, 1869–81; P. Emory Aldrich, 1873–; Hamilton B. Stapler, 1881–.

Probate Court.—John Chandler, on the bench 1731–40; Joseph Wilder, 1740–56; John Chandler (2d), 1756–62; John Chandler (3d), 1762–75; Jedediah Foster, 1775–76; Artemas Ward, 1776; Levi Lincoln, 1776–82; Joseph Dorr, 1782–1801; Nathaniel Paine, 1801–36; Ira M. Barton, 1836–44; Benjamin F. Thomas, 1844–48; Thomas Kinnicutt, 1848–57; Dwight Foster, 1857–58.

Court of Probate and Insolvency.—Henry Chapin, on the bench 1858–78; Adin Thayer, 1878–88; W. Trowbridge Forbes, 1888–.

List of Members of the Bar.—In the following list it is intended to give the names of all persons who were members of the Worcester County bar January 1, 1889, and of those who had been members of it at any time since the establishment of the county, with the date and place of the birth and graduation of each (if graduated), the date of admission to the bar, and the place or places where they have practised, so far as it has been practicable to obtain the facts.

Explanations.—The [1] indicates that the person was dead January 1, 1889; r., removal from the county. The colleges at which persons named were graduated or attended are indicated by initial letters, thus: H. C., Harvard College; B. U., Brown University; A. C., Amherst College; Y. C., Yale College; W. C., Williams College; D. C., Dartmouth College; M. U., Michigan University; W. U., Wesleyan University; U. V., University of Vermont; U. C., Union College; B. C., Bowdoin College; N. U., Norwich University; U. of C., University of Cal.; H. Cr., Holy Cross College; McG., McGill University; C. U., Colby University; T. C., Tuft's College; St. M., St. Michael's College; N. D., University of Notre Dame.

Thomas Abbott, r., born in Canada; admitted 1849; practised in Millbury and Blackstone.

Benjamin Adams,[1] born in Mendon, 1764; graduated at B. U., 1788; admitted 1792; practised in Uxbridge.

Charles L. Adams, born in Westboro', 1861; admitted 1887; practised in Westboro'.

Henry Adams,[1] graduated at H. C., 1802; practised in Ashburnham.

Zabdiel B. Adams,[1] graduated at H. C., 1791; practised in Lunenburg.

Henry W. Aiken, born in Millbury, 1857; graduated at Y. C., 1880; admitted 1884; practised in Millbury.

Charles F. Aldrich, born in Worcester, 1858; graduated at Y. C., 1879; admitted 1881; practised in Worcester.

P. Emory Aldrich, born in New Salem, 1813; admitted 1846; practised in Barre and Worcester.

Charles Allen,[1] born in Worcester, 1797; admitted 1818; practised in New Braintree and Worcester.

Frederic H. Allen,[1] graduated U. V., 1823; admitted 1818; practised in Athol.

Samuel H. Allen,[1] born in Mendon, 1790; graduated at U. C., 1814; practised in Mendon and Grafton.

Joseph Allen,[1] born in Leicester, 1773; graduated at H. C., 1792; admitted 1795; practised in Worcester, Warren and Charlestown, N. H.

Albert H. Andrews, born in Waltham, 1829; admitted 1856; practised in Nebraska, Minnesota, Ashburnham and Fitchburg.

William S. Andrews,[1] r., born in Boston; graduated at H. C., 1812; admitted 1817; practised in Spencer and Worcester.

Joshua Atherton,[1] born in Harvard, 1737; graduated at H. C., 1762; admitted 1765; practised in Petersham.

Edward Avery, r., born in Marblehead, 1827; admitted 1849; practised in Barre, Worcester and Boston.

Erasmus Babbitt,[1] born in Sturbridge, 1765; graduated at H. C., 1790; practised in Charlton, Grafton, Oxford, Sturbridge and Westboro'.

Henry Bacon, born in Oxford, 1835; admitted 1859; practised in Worcester.

Peter C. Bacon,[1] born in Dudley, 1804; graduated at B. U., 1827; admitted 1830; practised in Oxford, Dudley and Worcester.

Goldsmith F. Bailey,[1] born in Westmoreland, Vt., 1823; admitted 1848; practised in Fitchburg.

Harrison Bailey, born in Fitchburg, 1849; graduated at A. C., 1872; admitted 1874; practised in Fitchburg.

Charles F. Baker, born in Lunenburg, 1850; graduated at H. C., 1872; admitted 1875; practised in Fitchburg.

Christopher C. Baldwin,[1] born in Templeton, 1800; admitted 1826; practised in Sutton, Barre and Worcester.

George W. Baldwin, r., born in New Haven; graduated at Y. C., 1853; admitted 1858; practised in Worcester and Boston.

Isaac Baldwin, admitted 1853; practised in Clinton.

George H. Ball, r., born in Milford, 1848; graduated at H. C., 1869; admitted 1871; practised in Worcester.

George F. Bancroft,[1] admitted 1874; practised in Brookfield.

James H. Bancroft, born in Ashburnham, 1829; admitted 1868; practised in Worcester.

Allen Bangs,[1] r., born in Springfield; graduated at H. C., 1827; practised in Springfield and Worcester.

Edward Bangs,[1] born in Hardwick, 1756; graduated H. C., 1777; admitted 1780; practised in Worcester.

Edward D. Bangs,[1] born in Worcester, 1790; admitted 1813; practised in Worcester.

William B. Banister,[1] r., born in Brookfield, 1773; graduated at D. C., 1797; practised in Brookfield and Newburyport.

Forrest E. Barker, born in Exeter, N. H., 1853; graduated at W. U., 1874; admitted 1876; practised in Worcester.

Merrill Barlow, r., admitted 1848; practised in Southbridge and Columbus, O.

Frederick J. Barnard, born in Worcester 1842; graduated at Y. C., 1863; admitted 1867; practised in Worcester.

L. Emerson Barnes, born in Hardwick, 1843; graduated at A. C., 1871; admitted 1873; practised in North Brookfield.

Andrew J. Bartholomew, born in Hardwick, 1833; graduated at Y. C., 1856; admitted 1858; practised in Southbridge.

Nelson Bartholomew,[1] born in Hardwick, 1834; graduated at Y. C., 1856; admitted 1858; practised in Oxford.

William O. Bartlett, r., born in Smithfield, R. I.; admitted 1843; practised in Worcester and New York.

Ira M. Barton,[1] born in Oxford, 1796; graduated at B. U., 1819; admitted 1822; practised in Oxford and Worcester.

William S. Barton, born in Oxford, 1824; graduated at B. U., 1844; admitted 1846; practised in Worcester.

Ezra Bassett, practised in New Braintree.

Sumner Bastow,[1] born in Uxbridge; graduated at B. U., 1802; admitted 1811; practised in Sutton and Oxford.

Liberty Bates,[1] graduated at B. U., 1797; practised in Grafton.

Robert E. Beecher, r., born in Zanesville, O., 1839; graduated at W. C., 1860; admitted 1868; practised in North Brookfield.

Joshua E. Beeman, born in Westboro', 1844; admitted 1879; practised in Westboro'.

Felix A. Belisle, born in St. Marcelle, P. Q., 1857; admitted 1888; practised in Worcester.

Daniel H. Bemis, born in Billerica, 1831; admitted 1860; practised in Clinton.

Abijah Bigelow,[1] born in Westminster, 1775; graduated at D. C., 1795; admitted 1817; practised in Worcester and Leominster.

Daniel Bigelow,[1] born in Worcester, 1752; graduated at H. C., 1775; admitted 1780; practised in Petersham.

George P. Bigelow, admitted 1881.

Lewis Bigelow,[1] born in Petersham; graduated at W. C., 1803; practised in Petersham and Peoria, Ill.

Tyler Bigelow,[1] graduated at H. C., 1801; practised in Leominster and Waltham.

Arthur G. Biscoe,[1] born in Grafton; graduated at A. C., 1862; admitted 1864; practised in Westborough.

J. Foster Biscoe, r., born in Grafton; graduated at A. C., 1874; admitted 1877.

Jason B. Blackington, r., graduated at B. U., 1826; practised in Holden.

Francis T. Blackmer,[1] born in Worcester, 1844; admitted 1867; practised in Worcester.

Fred. W. Blackmer, born in Hardwick, 1858; admitted 1883; practised in Worcester.

Francis Blake,[1] born in Rutland, 1774; graduated at H. C., 1789; admitted 1794; practised in Rutland and Worcester.

Jesse Bliss,[1] born in Brimfield; graduated at D. C., 1808; admitted 1812; practised in W. Brookfield.

Daniel Bliss,[1] born in Concord, 1740; graduated at H. C., 1760; admitted 1765; practised in Rutland and Concord.

William Bliss,[1] graduated at H. C., 1818; practised in Athol.

Jerome B. Bolster,[1] born in Uxbridge; admitted 1865; practised in Blackstone.

Frederick W. Botham,[1] born in Charlton, 1811; admitted 1835; practised in Southbridge and Douglas.

Frederick W. Bottom,[1] born in Plainfield, Conn., 1785; graduated at B. U., 1802; practised in Charlton, Southbridge and Sturbridge.

Lewis H. Boutelle, r., practised in Westborough.

Charles D. Bowman,[1] born in New Braintree, 1816; graduated at H. C., 1838; admitted 1845; practised in Oxford.

Lucian C. Boynton,[1] admitted 1847; practised in Worcester.

Albert E. Bragg, r., admitted 1884; practised in Worcester and Boston.

Samuel Brazer,[1] born in Worcester, 1785; practised in Worcester.

Benjamin Bridge, practised in Uxbridge and Winchendon.

O. L. Bridges,[1] r., born in Calais, Me.; practised in Boston and Worcester.

William H. Briggs, born in Andover, 1855; admitted 1876; practised in Worcester.

David Brigham,[1] r., born in Shrewsbury, 1786; graduated at H. C., 1810; practised in Fitchburg, Leicester, New Braintree and Shrewsbury.

David T. Brigham, r., born in Shrewsbury, 1808; graduated at U. C., 1828; admitted 1831; practised in Worcester.

Charles Brimblecom, born in Sharon, 1825; admitted 1848; practised in Barre.

Aaron Brooks,[1] born in Petersham; graduated at B. U., 1817; practised in Petersham.

Calvin M. Brooks, r., graduated at Y. C., 1847; admitted 1848; practised in Worcester, Boston and N. Ashland, Conn.

Francis A. Brooks, r., born in Petersham, 1826; attended H. C.; admitted 1845; practised in Petersham and Boston.

Bartholomew Brown,[1] graduated at H. C., 1799; practised in Sterling.

John F. Brown, admitted 1880.

Luke Brown,[1] graduated at H. C., 1794; practised in Hardwick.

William E. Brown,[1] born in Sidney, Me., 1831; admitted 1868; practised in Fitchburg.

Nahum F. Bryant, r., born in New Salem, 1810; admitted 1835; practised at Barre and Bangor, Me.

Walter A. Bryant,[1] born in New Salem, 1817; admitted 1839; practised in Barre and Worcester.

Alexander H. Bullock,[1] born in Royalston, 1816; graduated at A. C., 1836; admitted 1841; practised in Worcester.

Augustus George Bullock, born in Enfield, Conn., 1847; graduated at H. C., 1868; admitted 1875; practised in Worcester.

Gardner Burbank, graduated at B. U., 1809; practised in Worcester.

Silas A. Burgess, born in Goshen, 1826; admitted 1852; practised in Blackstone and Worcester.

Henry M. Burleigh, r., practised in Athol.

Samuel M. Burnside,[1] born in Northumberland, N. H., 1783; graduated at D. C., 1805; admitted 1810; practised in Westborough and Worcester.

Albert C. Burrage, r., born in Ashburnham, 1859; graduated at H. C., 1883; admitted 1884; practised in Boston.

Charles D. Burrage, born in Ashburnham, 1857; graduated at U. of C., 1878; admitted 1882; practised in Baldwinville and Gardner.

Stillman Cady,[1] practised in Templeton.

Joseph B. Caldwell,[1] born in Rutland; graduated at H. C., 1802; practised in Grafton, Rutland and Worcester.

William Caldwell,[1] graduated at H. C., 1802; practised in Rutland.

George W. Cann, born in Easton, Pa., 1849; attended Pa. C., 1869; admitted 1872; practised in Fitchburg.

James B. Carroll, r., born in Lowell, 1856; graduated at H. Cr., 1878; admitted 1880; practised in Springfield.

Peter T. Carroll, born in Hopkinton, 1857; attended H. Cr.; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester.

Chauncey W. Carter, born in Leominster, 1827; admitted 1857; practised in Leominster and Gardner.

Frederick H. Chamberlain, born in Worcester, 1861; admitted 1886; practised in Worcester.

Leon F. Chamecin,[1] born in Philadelphia, 1861; admitted 1882; practised in Boston and Templeton.

Nathaniel Chandler,[1] born in Worcester, 1750; graduated at H. C., 1768; admitted 1771; practised in Petersham and Worcester.

Rufus Chandler,[1] born in Worcester, 1747; graduated at H. C., 1766; admitted 1768; practised in Worcester.

Charles S. Chapin, r., born in Westfield, 1859; graduated at W. U., 1880; admitted 1884; practised in Worcester.

Henry Chapin,[1] born in Upton, 1811; graduated at B. U., 1835; admitted 1838; practised at Uxbridge and Worcester.

Linus Child,[1] born in Woodstock, Conn., 1802; graduated at Y. C., 1824; admitted 1826; practised in Southbridge and Boston.

F. Linus Childs, born in Millbury, 1849; graduated at B. U., 1870; admitted 1873; practised in Worcester.

Ambrose Choquet, born in Varennes, P. Q., 1840; graduated at McG., 1865; admitted 1865; practised in Montreal, Rochester and Worcester.

Charles W. Clark, r., born in Worcester, 1851; graduated at Y. C.; admitted 1876; practised in Worcester.

Edward Clark,[1] born in Charlton; practised in Sutton and Worcester.

Henry J. Clarke, born in Southbridge, 1845; graduated at Boston U., 1875; admitted 1875; practised in Webster.

Samuel Clark, born in Dedham, 1809; graduated at B. U., 1836; admitted 1841; practised in Northborough.

Peter Clarke,[1] graduated at H. C., 1777; practised in Southborough.

Hollis W. Cobb, born in Boylston, 1856; graduated at Y. C., 1878; admitted 1881; practised in Worcester.

John M. Cochran, born in Pembroke, N. H., 1849; admitted 1870; practised in Palmer and Southbridge.

John B. D. Cogswell, r., born in Yarmouth, 1829; graduated at D. C., 1850; admitted 1853; practised in Worcester, Milwaukee, Wis., and Yarmouth.

James D. Colt, r., born in Pittsfield, 1862; graduated at W. C., 1884; admitted 1887; practised in Boston.

Joseph B. Cook, r., born in Cumberland, R. I., 1837; admitted 1860; practised in Blackstone.

Edwin Conant, born in Sterling, 1810; graduated at H. C., 1829; admitted 1832; practised in Sterling and Worcester.

John W. Corcoran, born in New York, 1853; graduated at H. C., 1875; admitted 1875; practised in Clinton.

Oliver S. Cormier, r.; admitted 1884; practised in Worcester and Manchester, N. H.

Mirick H. Cowden, born in Rutland, 1846; admitted 1875; practised in Worcester.

John G. Crawford, born in Oakham, 1834; admitted 1865; practised in Michigan, New Hampshire and Clinton.

Austin P. Cristy, born in Morristown, Vt., 1850; graduated at D. C., 1873; admitted 1874; practised in Worcester.

Samuel M. Crocker,[1] graduated at H. C., 1801; practised in Douglas and Uxbridge.

Amos Crosby,[1] born in Brookfield, 1761; graduated at H. C., 1786; admitted 1804; practised in Brookfield.

Eph. M. Cunningham,[1] graduated at H. C., 1814; practised in Ashburnham, Lunenburg and Sterling.

Albert W. Curtis, born in Worcester, 1849; graduated at Y. C., 1871; admitted 1873; practised in Worcester and Spencer.

Wolfred F. Curtis, admitted 1878.

Elisha P. Cutler, graduated at W. C., 1798; practised in Hardwick.

Louis Cutting,[1] born in West Boylston, 1849; admitted 1888; practised in West Boylston and Worcester.

Samuel Cutting,[1] graduated at D. C., 1805; practised in Templeton.

Appleton Dadmun,[1] born in Marlborough, 1828; graduated at A. C., 1854; admitted 1857; practised in Worcester.

John T. Dame, born in Orford, N. H., 1817; graduated at D. C., 1840; practised in Clinton and Marlborough.

Richard H. Dana,[1] born in Cambridge, 1787; graduated at H. C., 1808; admitted 1811; practised in Sutton.

I. C. Bates Dana, born in Northampton, 1848; admitted 1872; practised in Worcester.

John A. Dana, born in Princeton, 1823; graduated at Y. C., 1844; admitted 1848; practised in Worcester.

William S. Dana, admitted in 1878.

Mat. (Jas.) Davenport, graduated at H. C., 1802; practised in Boylston.

Andrew J. Davis,[1] r., born in Northborough, 1815; admitted 1834; practised in Worcester and St. Louis, Mo.

Andrew McF. Davis, born in Worcester, 1833; admitted 1859; practised in Worcester, New York and San Francisco.

Charles T. Davis, r., born in Concord, N. H., 1863; graduated at H. C., 1884; admitted 1886; practised in Boston.

Edward L. Davis, born in Worcester, 1834; graduated at B. U., 1854; admitted 1857; practised in Worcester.

George Davis,[1] practised in Sturbridge.

Isaac Davis,[1] born in Northborough, 1799; graduated at B. U., 1822; admitted 1825; practised in Worcester.

James R. Davis, born in Boston, 1816; admitted 1869; practised in Milford.

John Davis, Jr.,[1] born in Shirley; practised in Lancaster and Charlton.

John Davis,[1] born in Northborough, 1788; graduated at Y. C., 1812; admitted 1815; practised in Northboro', Spencer and Worcester.

John C. B. Davis, r., born in Worcester, 1822; graduated at H. C., 1840; admitted 1844; practised in Worcester and New York.

William S. Davis,[1] born in Northborough, 1832; graduated at H. C., 1853; admitted 1855; practised in Worcester.

John E. Day, born in Killingly, Ct., 1851; graduated at A. C., 1871; admitted 1874; practised in Worcester.

Francis Deane, born in Shrewsbury, 1804; graduated at B. U., 1826; admitted 1830; practised in Southboro', Uxbridge and Worcester.

Frederick B. Deane, r., born in Uxbridge, 1840; admitted 1860; practised in Worcester.

Louis E. Denfield, born in Westboro', 1854; graduated at A. C., 1878; admitted 1881; practised in Webster and Westboro'.

Robert E. Denfield, r., born in Westboro', 1853; graduated at A. C., 1876; admitted 1882.

Austin Denny,[1] born in Worcester, 1795; graduated at Y. C., 1814; admitted 1817; practised in Harvard and Worcester.

Nathaniel P. Denny,[1] r., born in Leicester, 1771; graduated at H. C., 1797; practised in Leicester.

Charles Devens, born in Charlestown, 1820; graduated at H. C., 1838; admitted 1840; practised in Greenfield and Worcester.

Charles A. Dewey, Jr., born in Northampton, 1830; admitted 1859; practised in Milford.

Francis H. Dewey,[1] born in Williamstown, 1821; graduated at W. C., 1840; admitted 1843; practised in Worcester.

Francis H. Dewey, born in Worcester, 1856; graduated at W. C., 1876; admitted 1879; practised in Worcester.

George T. Dewey, born in Worcester, 1858; graduated at W. C., 1879; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester.

John C. Dewey, born in Worcester, 1857; graduated at W. C., 1878; admitted 1881; practised in Worcester.

Samuel Dexter,[1] graduated at H. C., 1781; admitted 1784; practised in Lunenburg.

Charles S. Dodge, born in Charlton, 1859; admitted 1885; practised in Connecticut and Worcester.

Rufus B. Dodge, Jr., born in Charlton, 1861; admitted 1885; practised in Worcester.

Thomas H. Dodge, born in Eden, Vt., 1823; admitted 1852; practised in Nashua, N. H., Washington and Worcester.

Samuel W. Dougherty, r., born in Worcester, 1848; admitted 1876; practised in Worcester.

Nathan T. Dow, r., graduated at D. C., 1826; practised in Grafton.

James J. Dowd, born in Worcester; graduated at St. M., 1880; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester, Brockton and Boston.

J. W. Draper, r., admitted 1851; practised in Worcester.

John Danforth Dunbar,[1] graduated at H. C., 1789; practised in Charlton.

Thatcher B. Dunn, born in Ludlow, Vt., 1844; admitted 1873; practised in Gardner.

Alexander Dustin,[1] born in N. Boston, N. H., 1776; graduated at D. C., 1799; admitted 1804; practised in Harvard, Westminster and Sterling.

Joseph Dwight,[1] born in Hatfield, 1703; graduated at H. C., 1722; admitted 1731; practised in Brookfield.

Luke Eastman,[1] graduated at D. C., 1812; practised in Barre and Sterling.

Samuel Eastman,[1] graduated at D. C., 1802; practised in Hardwick.

Joshua Eaton,[1] born in Waltham, 1714; graduated at H. C., 1735; admitted 1737; practised in Worcester and Leicester.

James Eliot, practised in Worcester.

John E. Ensign, r., born in Cleveland, 1852; graduated at M. U., 1874; admitted 1876; practised in Cleveland and Worcester.

James E. Estabrook, born in Worcester, 1829; graduated at Y. C., 1851; admitted 1853; practised in Worcester.

Constantine C. Esty, r., born in Newton, 1824; graduated at Y. C., 1845; practised in Milford and Framingham.

Henry E. Fales, born in Walpole, 1837; admitted 1864; practised in Milford.

Lowell E. Fales, born in Milford, 1858; admitted 1881; practised in Milford.

Farwell F. Fay,[1] born in Athol, 1835; admitted 1859; practised in Athol and Boston.

Daniel H. Felch, admitted 1881.

Cornelius C. Felton, born in Thurlow, Pa., 1863; graduated at H. C., 1886; admitted 1888; practised in Philadelphia and Clinton.

Frank G. Fessenden, r., born in Fitchburg, 1849; admitted 1872; practised in Fitchburg and Greenfield.

Stephen Fessenden,[1] born in Cambridge; graduated at H. C., 1737; admitted 1742; practised in Worcester.

Charles Field, born in Athol, 1815; admitted 1843; practised in Athol.

Charles Field, Jr., born in Cambridge, 1857; graduated at W. C., 1881; admitted 1886; practised in Athol.

Maturin L. Fisher, r., born in Danville, Vt.; admitted 1831; practised in Worcester and Iowa.

Joel W. Fletcher,[1] born in Northbridge, 1817; graduated at A. C., 1838; admitted 1840; practised in Leominster and Northboro'.

Waldo Flint, r., born in Leicester, 1794; graduated at H. C., 1814; practised in Leicester and Boston.

George Folsom,[1] r., born in Kennebunk, Me., 1802; graduated at H. C., 1822; practised in Worcester.

W. Trowbridge Forbes, born in Westborough, 1850; graduated at A. C. 1871; admitted 1878; practised in Westborough.

Alfred D. Foster,[1] born in Brookfield, 1800; graduated at H. C., 1819; admitted 1822; practised in Worcester.

Dwight Foster,[1] born in Brookfield, 1757; graduated at B. U., 1774; admitted 1780; practised in Brookfield and Rutland.

Dwight Foster,[1] born in Worcester, 1828; graduated at Y. C., 1848; admitted 1849; practised in Worcester and Boston.

John M. Foster, practised in Warren.

Barlow Freeman,[1] r., practised in Charlton and Southbridge.

Elisha Fuller,[1] born in Princeton, 1795; graduated at H. C., 1815; practised in Concord, Lowell and Worcester.

Frederick W. Gale,[1] born in Northborough; graduated at H. C., 1836; admitted 1839; practised in St. Louis, Mo., and Worcester.

Thomas F. Gallagher, born in Lynn, 1855; graduated at N. D., 1876; admitted 1878; practised in Lynn and Fitchburg.

George E. Gardner, born in East Brookfield, 1864; graduated at A. C., 1885; admitted 1887; practised in Worcester.

Francis A. Gaskill, born in Blackstone, 1846; graduated at B. U., 1866; admitted 1869; practised in Worcester.

Charles B. Gates, born in Worcester, 1851; graduated at M. U.; admitted 1875; practised in Worcester.

William H. Gates, born in Worcester, 1857; graduated at W. C.; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester.

Frederick A. Gauren,[1] born in Grafton, 1854; graduated at H. Cr., 1875; admitted 1879; practised in Worcester and New York.

Richard George,[1] practised in West Brookfield.

George A. Gibbs, admitted 1887.

Arad Gilbert, r., graduated at B. U., 1797; practised in Hanover, N. H., Lebanon, N. H., and North Brookfield.

Daniel Gilbert,[1] born in Brookfield, 1773; graduated at D. C., 1796; admitted 1805; practised in North Brookfield.

William A. Gile, born in Franklin, N. H., 1843; admitted 1869; practised in Greenfield and Worcester.

Moses Gill,[1] graduated at H. C., 1784; practised in Mendon.

Samuel B. I. Goddard, born in Shrewsbury, 1821; graduated at A. C., 1840; admitted 1843; practised in Worcester.

Samuel W. E. Goddard, born in Berlin, 1832; admitted 1852; practised in Belchertown, Boston and Hubbardston.

Jesse W. Goodrich,[1] born in Pittsfield, 1808; graduated at U. C., 1829; admitted 1833; practised in Worcester.

Isaac Goodwin, r., born in Plymouth, 1786; admitted 1808; practised in Boston, Sterling and Worcester.

J. Martin Gorham,[1] born in Barre, 1830; graduated at H. C., 1851; admitted 1854; practised in Barre.

John S. Gould, born in Webster, 1856; admitted 1884; practised in Webster.

Francis P. Goulding, born in Grafton, 1837; graduated at D. C., 1863; admitted 1866; practised in Worcester.

Isaac D. Goulding,[1] born in Worcester, 1841; admitted 1877; practised in Worcester.

Samuel L. Graves, born in Groton, 1847; graduated at A. C., 1870; admitted 1872; practised in Fitchburg.

James Green, Jr., born in Worcester, 1841; graduated at H. C., 1862; admitted 1866; practised in Worcester.

William E. Green,[1] born in Worcester, 1777; graduated at B. U., 1798; admitted 1801; practised in Grafton and Worcester.

William N. Green,[1] born in Milford, 1804; admitted 1827; practised in Worcester.

Timothy Green,[1] graduated at B. U., 1786; practised in Worcester.

J. Evarts Greene, born in Boston, 1834; graduated at Y. C., 1853; admitted 1859; practised in North Brookfield.

Joseph K. Greene, born in Otisfield, Me., 1852; graduated at B. C., 1877; admitted 1879; practised in Worcester.

Jonathan Grout,[1] practised in Petersham.

William Grout,[1] born in Spencer; admitted 1850; practised in Worcester.

Franklin Hall, r., born in Sutton, 1820; admitted 1846; practised in Worcester.

Alexander (Edward) Hamilton,[1] born in Worcester, 1812; admitted 1835; practised in Barre and Worcester.

Elisha Hammond,[1] born in 1781; graduated at Y. C., 1802; admitted 1806; practised in West Brookfield.

William B. Harding, born in Tilton, N. H., 1844; admitted 1867; practised in Worcester.

Frederick B. Harlow, born in Worcester, 1864; graduated at A. C., 1885; admitted 1888; practised in Worcester.

William T. Harlow, born in Shrewsbury, 1828; graduated at Y. C., 1851; admitted 1853; practised in Spencer, Red Bluffs, Cal., and Worcester.

Jubal Harrington, r.,[1] born in Shrewsbury, 1803; graduated at B. U.; admitted 1825; practised in Worcester.

Nahum Harrington,[1] born in Westborough, 1778; graduated at B. U., 1807; admitted 1811; practised in Westborough.

Henry F. Harris, born in West Boylston, 1849; graduated at T. C., 1871; admitted 1873; practised in Worcester.

Joel Harris,[1] graduated at D. C., 1804; practised in Harvard.

Charles W. Hartshorn, r., born in Taunton, 1814; graduated at H. C., 1833; admitted 1837; practised in Worcester.

Harris C. Hartwell, born in Groton, 1847; graduated at H. C., 1869; admitted 1872; practised in Fitchburg.

H. Spencer Haskell, born in Petersham, 1863; admitted 1886; practised in Worcester.

Daniel W. Haskins, born in Hardwick, 1829; graduated at A. C., 1858; admitted 1862; practised in Worcester.

Charles C. P. Hastings,[1] born in Mendon, 1804; graduated at B. U., 1825; admitted 1828; practised in Mendon.

Seth Hastings,[1] born in Cambridge, 1762; graduated at H. C., 1782; admitted 1786; practised in Mendon.

William S. Hastings,[1] born in Mendon, 1798; graduated at H. C., 1817; admitted 1820; practised in Mendon.

Samuel F. Haven,[1] born in Dedham, 1806; graduated at A. C., 1826; practised in Worcester.

Charles S. Hayden, born in Harvard, 1848; admitted 1871; practised in Fitchburg.

Stillman Haynes, born in Townsend, 1833; admitted 1861; practised in Townsend and Fitchburg.

Daniel Henshaw, r.,[1] born in Leicester, 1872; graduated at H. C., 1807; practised in Winchendon, Worcester, Boston and Lynn.

Levi Heywood,[1] graduated at D. C., 1808; practised in Worcester.

Charles B. Hibbard, admitted 1879.

James H. Hill,[1] admitted 1852; practised in North Brookfield and New York.

Henry E. Hill, born in Worcester, 1850; graduated at H. C., 1872; admitted 1875; practised in Worcester.

J. Henry Hill, born in Petersham; admitted 1844; practised in Worcester.

Samuel Hinckley,[1] graduated at Y. C., 1781; practised in Brookfield.

Ephraim Hinds,[1] r., graduated at H. C., 1805; practised in Athol, Barre and Harvard.

Benjamin A. Hitchborn,[1] graduated at H. C., 1802; practised in Worcester.

Pelatiah Hitchcock,[1] graduated at H. C., 1785; practised in Brookfield and Hardwick.

George F. Hoar, born in Concord, 1826; graduated at H. C., 1846; admitted 1849; practised in Worcester.

Rockwood Hoar, born in Worcester, 1855; graduated at H. C., 1876; admitted 1879; practised in Worcester.

George W. Hobbs, born in Worcester, 1839; graduated at N. U., 1857; admitted 1860; practised in Uxbridge.

Henry Hogan, born in Pembroke, Me., 1864; admitted 1888; practised in Athol.

Charles A. Holbrook,[1] born in Grafton, 1821; admitted 1857; practised in Worcester.

Leander Holbrook, born in Croydon, N. H., 1815; admitted 1847; practised in Milford.

Leander Holbrook, Jr., born in Milford, 1849; graduated at H. C., 1872; admitted 1875; practised in Milford.

S. Holman, r., admitted 1850; practised in Fitchburg.

George B. N. Holmes, practised in Oakham.

William R. Hooper, r., born in Marblehead, 1819; admitted 1849; practised in Worcester.

John Hopkins, born in Gloucester, Eng., 1840; graduated at D. C., 1862; admitted 1864; practised in Worcester and Millbury.

William S. B. Hopkins, born in Charleston, S. C., 1836; graduated at W. C., 1855; admitted 1858; practised in Ware, New Orleans, Greenfield and Worcester.

George W. Horr, born in New Salem, 1830; admitted 1860; practised in New Salem and Athol.

Nathaniel Houghton,[1] born in Sterling; admitted 1810; practised in Barre.

Ephraim D. Howe, born in Marlborough, 1842; graduated at Y. C., 1867; admitted 1870; practised in Gardner.

Elmer P. Howe, born in Westboro', 1851; graduated at Y. C., 1876; admitted 1878; practised in Boston.

Estes Howe,[1] graduated at D. C., 1800; practised in Sutton.

Frederic Howes, practised in Sutton and Templeton.

William H. Howe,[1] graduated at Y. C., 1847; admitted 1849; practised in Worcester.

George H. Hoyt,[1] born in Athol, 1839; admitted 1859; practised in Athol.

Daniel B. Hubbard, born in Hiram, Me., 1835; graduated C. U., 1858; admitted 1879; practised in Grafton and Worcester.

John W. Hubbard,[1] graduated at D. C., 1814; practised in Worcester.

Henry S. Hudson, r., admitted 1852; practised in Worcester.

Joseph W. Huntington,[1] born in Middlebury, Vt., 1807; graduated at H. C., 1832; admitted 1837; practised in Lancaster.

Benjamin D. Hyde,[1] born in Sturbridge, 1803; admitted 1831; practised in Sturbridge and Southbridge.

Albert S. Ingalls,[1] born in Rindge, N. H., 1830; admitted 1858; practised in Fitchburg and Arlington.

Eleazer James,[1] born in Cohasset, 1754; graduated at H. C., 1778; practised in Barre.

John F. Jandron, born in Hudson, 1863; attended H. Cr.; admitted 1887; practised in Marlboro' and Worcester.

Samuel Jennison,[1] graduated at H. C., 1774; practised in Oxford.

William H. Jewell, admitted 1883.

Asa Johnson,[1] born in Bolton; graduated at H. C., 1787; practised in Fitchburg and Leominster.

Charles R. Johnson, born in Dana, 1852; graduated at H. C., 1875; admitted 1878; practised in Worcester.

George W. Johnson, born in Boston, 1827; admitted 1863; practised in Brookfield.

Theodore S. Johnson, born in Dana, 1843; admitted 1866; practised in Worcester and Blackstone.

Silas Jones, r., practised in Leicester.

Jeremiah R. Kane, born in North Brookfield, 1855; admitted 1883; practised in Spencer.

James P. Kelly, r., born in Boston, 1848; admitted 1876; practised in Worcester.

William H. Kelley, born in Liberty, Me., 1855; graduated at C. U., 1874; admitted 1882; practised in Warren.

Joseph G. Kendall,[1] born in Leominster, 1786; graduated at H. C., 1810; practised in Leominster and Worcester.

Charles B. Kendrick, r., admitted 1885.

Thomas G. Kent, born in Framingham, 1829; graduated at Y. C., 1851; admitted 1853; practised in Milford.

Francis L. King, r., born in Charlton, 1834; admitted 1859; practised in Boston and Worcester.

Henry W. King, born in North Brookfield, 1856; admitted 1880; practised in North Brookfield and Worcester.

Thomas Kinnicutt,[1] born in Warren, R. I., 1800; graduated at B. U., 1822; admitted 1825; practised in Worcester.

Edward M. Kingsbury, admitted 1879.

Edward Kirkland,[1] r., admitted 1834; practised in Templeton and Brattleboro', Vt.

Daniel Knight,[1] graduated at B. U., 1813; practised in Leicester and Spencer.

Robert A. Knight, r., born in North Brookfield, 1860; admitted 1887; practised in Worcester and Springfield.

Lincoln B. Knowlton, r., practised in Millbury.

Joseph Knox, r., practised in Hardwick.

Thomas F. Larkin, born in Ireland, 1864; admitted 1888; practised in Clinton.

Christopher J. Lawton,[1] admitted 1726; practised in Leicester.

Frank D. Leary, r., born in Worcester, 1852; attended at H. Cr.; admitted 1879; practised in Worcester and Peoria, Ill.

Seth Lee, born in Barre; admitted 1810; practised in Barre.

Benjamin Lincoln,[1] graduated at H. C., 1777; practised in Mendon.

D. Waldo Lincoln,[1] born in Worcester, 1813; graduated at H. C., 1831; admitted 1834; practised in Worcester.

Edward W. Lincoln, born in Worcester, 1820; graduated at H. C., 1839; admitted 1843; practised in Worcester.

Enoch Lincoln,[1] born in Worcester, 1788; graduated B. C., 1811; admitted 1811; practised in Worcester.

Levi Lincoln,[1] born in Hingham, 1749; graduated at H. C., 1772; admitted 1775; practised in Worcester.

Levi Lincoln,[1] born in Worcester, 1782; graduated at H. C., 1802; admitted 1805; practised in Worcester.

William Lincoln,[1] born in Worcester, 1801; graduated at H. C., 1822; admitted 1825; practised in Worcester.

William S. Lincoln, born in Worcester, 1811; graduated at B. C., 1830; admitted 1833; practised in Millbury and Worcester.

George W. Livermore, r., graduated at H. C., 1823; practised in Millbury.

Edward P. Loring, born in Norridgewock, Me., 1837; graduated at B. C., 1861; admitted 1868; practised in Fitchburg.

Aaron Lyon,[1] born in Southbridge, 1824; graduated at Y. C., 1849; admitted 1851; practised in Sturbridge.

Peter S. Maher, r., born in Boston, 1848; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester and Boston.

Charles F. Mann, born in Worcester, 1849; admitted 1873; practised in New York and Worcester.

David Manning, Jr., born in Paxton, 1846; graduated at Y. C., 1869; admitted 1872; practised in Worcester.

Jerome F. Manning, r., born in Merrimack, N. H., 1838; admitted 1862; practised in Worcester.

Jacob Mansfield,[1] r., born at Lynn; practised in Warren and New York.

Charles Mason, born in Dublin, N. H., 1810; graduated at H. C.; admitted 1839; practised in Fitchburg.

Joseph Mason, born in Northfield, 1813; admitted 1837; practised in Templeton and Worcester.

John H. Mathews,[1] born in Worcester, 1826; admitted 1848; practised in Worcester.

Wm. B. Maxwell, r., born in Biddeford, Me.; practised in Lowell and Worcester.

Lewis A. Maynard, born in Shrewsbury, 1810; practised in Worcester.

James J. McCafferty, r., born in Lowell, 1852; admitted 1873; practised in Worcester and Lowell.

Mathew J. McCafferty,[1] born in Ireland, 1829; admitted 1857; practised in Lowell and Worcester.

Andrew D. McFarland,[1] born in Worcester, 1811; graduated at U. C., 1832; admitted 1835; practised in Worcester.

John McIlvene, r., born in Scotland, 1850; admitted 1876; practised in Grafton.

Herbert McIntosh, born in Doylestown, Pa., 1857; graduated at B. U., 1882; admitted 1888; practised in Worcester.

Edward J. McMahon, born in Fitchburg, 1861; admitted 1885; practised in Worcester.

James H. McMahon, born in Ireland, 1850; admitted 1877; practised in Fitchburg.

Prentice Mellen,[1] graduated at H. C., 1784; practised in Sterling.

Edward Mellen,[1] born in Westborough, 1802; graduated at B. U., 1823; admitted 1828; practised in Wayland and Worcester.

George H. Mellen, born in Brookfield, 1850; graduated at A. C., 1874; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester.

Charles H. Merriam,[1] born in Westport, N. Y., 1822; admitted 1852; practised in Leominster.

David H. Merriam,[1] born in Essex, N. Y., 1820; admitted 1850; practised in Fitchburg.

Lincoln A. Merriam,[1] admitted 1851; practised in Fitchburg.

Pliny Merrick,[1] born in Wilbraham, 1756; graduated at H. C., 1776; admitted 1787; practised in Wilbraham and Brookfield.

Pliny Merrick,[1] born in Brookfield, 1794; graduated at H. C., 1814; admitted 1817; practised in Worcester, Charlton, Swansey, Taunton and Boston.

Henry K. Merrifield, born in Worcester, 1840; admitted 1862; practised in Blackstone.

Charles A. Merrill, born in Boston, 1843; graduated at W. U., 1864; practised in Minneapolis and Worcester.

Clough R. Miles,[1] born in Westminster, 1796; graduated at H. C., 1817; admitted 1820; practised in Townsend, Millbury and Athol.

Jonathan Morgan,[1] graduated at U. C., 1803; practised in Shrewsbury.

David L. Morril, r., born in Goffstown, N. H., 1827; graduated at D. C., 1847; admitted 1850; practised in Winchendon, West Brookfield and Worcester.

Francis M. Morrison, born in Worcester, 1850; admitted 1880; practised in Worcester.

Adolphus Morse,[1] r., admitted 1849; practised in Worcester.

Andrew Morton,[1] graduated at B. U., 1795; practised in Worcester.

Daniel Murray,[1] graduated at H. C., 1771; practised in Rutland.

T. Edward Murray,[1] born in Worcester, 1842; admitted 1872; practised in Worcester.

Daniel Nason, r., admitted 1884.

Harry L. Nelson, born in Mendon, 1858; graduated at H. C., 1881; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester.

Thomas L. Nelson, born in Haverhill, N. H., 1827; graduated at U. V., 1846; admitted 1855; practised in Worcester.

Joseph W. Newcomb,[1] r., born in Greenfield; graduated at W. C., 1825; practised in Templeton, Salisbury, Worcester and New Orleans.

Horatio G. Newcomb,[1] admitted 1850; practised in Templeton.

Benjamin F. Newton,[1] born in Worcester, 1821; admitted 1850; practised in Worcester.

Rejoice Newton,[1] born in Greenfield, 1782; graduated at D. C., 1807; admitted 1810; practised in Worcester.

Amasa Norcross, born in Rindge, N. H., 1824; admitted 1848; practised in Fitchburg.

David F. O'Connell, born in Ireland, 1857; admitted 1879; practised in Worcester.

John F. O'Connor, born in Worcester, 1859; graduated at H. Cr., 1882; admitted 1888; practised in Worcester.

Charles J. O'Hara, born in Ireland, 1861; graduated at H. Cr., 1884; admitted 1887; practised in Worcester.

Daniel Oliver,[1] born in Middleborough; graduated at H. C., 1762; admitted 1781; practised in Hardwick.

Henry Paine,[1] born in Worcester, 1804; admitted 1827; practised in Worcester.

Nathaniel Paine,[1] born in Worcester, 1759; graduated at H. C., 1775; admitted 1781; practised in Groton and Worcester.

John Paine,[1] born in Sturbridge; graduated at H. C., 1799.

Timothy Paige.

George G. Parker,[1] born in Ashburnham, 1800; graduated at Y. C.; practised in Ashburnham.

George G. Parker, born in Acton, 1826; graduated at U. C., 1852; admitted 1857; practised in Milford.

Grenville Parker, r., born in Chelmsford; admitted 1860; practised in Lowell and Worcester.

Henry L. Parker, born in Acton, 1833; graduated at D. C., 1856; admitted 1859; practised in Milford and Worcester.

Herbert Parker, born in Charlestown, 1856; attended H. C.; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester and Clinton.

Frank Parsons, admitted 1881.

George W. Parsons, born in Rochester, N. Y., 1857; attended B. U.; admitted 1880; practised in Worcester.

G. Willis Paterson, admitted 1885.

Isaac Patrick.

Silas Paul,[1] graduated at D. C., 1793; practised in Leominster.

H. B. Pearson,[1] admitted 1844; practised in Harvard.

Lucius D. Pierce,[1] born in Chesterfield, N. H., 1819; graduated at N. U., 1846; admitted 1854; practised in Nashua, N. H., and Winchendon.

Edward P. Pierce, born in Templeton, 1852; attended H. C.; admitted 1878; practised in Fitchburg.

Lafayette W. Pierce, born in Chesterfield, N. H., 1826; graduated at N. U., 1846; admitted 1854; practised in Oxford, Westborough and Winchendon.

Charles B. Perry, born in Leicester, 1858; admitted 1884; practised in Worcester.

William Perry,[1] born in Leominster, 1786; admitted 1828; practised in Leominster.

Luther Perry,[1] practised in Barre.

Onslow Peters, r., born in Westborough, 1803; graduated at B. U., 1825; practised in Westborough.

Alfred S. Pinkerton, born in Lancaster, Pa., 1856; admitted 1881; practised in Worcester.

Francis Plunkett, born in Ireland, 1840; admitted 1874; practised in Worcester.

Thomas Pope,[1] born in Dudley, 1788; graduated at B. U., 1809; practised in Dudley.

Burton W. Potter, born in Colesville, N. Y., 1843; admitted 1868; practised in Worcester.

Wilbur H. Powers, admitted 1878.

Calvin E. Pratt, r., born in Shrewsbury, 1827; admitted 1853; practised in Worcester and New York.

William Pratt,[1] born in Shrewsbury, 1806; graduated at B. U., 1825; practised in Shrewsbury and Worcester.

Joseph Prentice, r., admitted 1838; practised in Douglas.

Addison Prentiss, born in Paris, Me., 1814; practised in Lee, Me., and Worcester.

Charles G. Prentiss,[1] born in Leominster, 1778; practised in Oxford and Worcester.

Joseph Proctor,[1] graduated at D. C., 1791; practised in Athol.

James F. Purcell,[1] born in Weymouth, 1852; admitted 1876; practised in Worcester.

Arthur A. Putman, born in Danvers, 1832; admitted 1875; practised in Danvers, Blackstone and Uxbridge.

George E. Putman, born in Fitchburg, 1853; graduated at M. U., 1875; admitted 1875; practised in Fitchburg.

James Putman,[1] born in Salem, 1725; graduated at H. C., 1746; admitted 1748; practised in Worcester.

Rufus Putnam,[1] born in Warren, 1783; graduated at W. C., 1804; practised in Rutland.

Abraham G. Randall,[1] born in Manchester, 1804; graduated at H. C., 1826; admitted 1831; practised in Millbury and Worcester.

Richard K. Randolph, Jr., admitted 1879.

John B. Ratigan, born in Worcester, 1859; graduated at H. Cr., 1879; admitted 1883; practised in Worcester.

Warren Rawson,[1] born in Mendon, 1777; graduated at B. U., 1802; practised in Mendon.

Louis W. Raymenton, r., born in Chester, Vt., 1853; admitted 1879; practised in Minneapolis and Worcester.

Edward T. Raymond, born in Worcester, 1844; admitted 1880; practised in Worcester.

Charles M. Rice, born in Worcester, 1860; graduated at H. C., 1882; admitted 1886; practised in Worcester.

Henry C. Rice, born in Millbury, 1827; graduated at B. U., 1850; admitted 1852; practised in Worcester.

Merrick Rice,[1] graduated at H. C., 1785; practised in Harvard and Lancaster.

William W. Rice, born in Deerfield, 1826; graduated at B. C., 1846; admitted 1854; practised in Worcester.

Jairus Rich,[1] practised in Charlton.

George W. Richardson,[1] born in Boston, 1808; graduated at H. C., 1829; admitted 1834; practised in Worcester.

Artemas Rogers, r., practised in Fitchburg.

Edward Rogers, r., practised in Webster and Chicago, Ill.

Henry M. Rogers, born in Ware, 1837; attended A. C.; admitted 1883; practised in Worcester.

Clarence B. Roote, born in Francestown, N. H., 1853; graduated at W. C., 1876; admitted 1884; practised in Barre and Ware.

Arthur P. Rugg, born in Sterling, 1862; graduated at A. C., 1883; admitted 1886; practised in Worcester.

Charles M. Ruggles, born in Providence, R.I., 1836; admitted 1860; practised in Worcester.

Timothy Ruggles,[1] born in Rochester, 1711; graduated at H. C., 1782; admitted 1735; practised in Rochester, Sandwich and Hardwick.

Stephen Salisbury,[1] born in Worcester, 1798; graduated at H. C., 1817; practised in Worcester.

Stephen Salisbury, Jr., born in Worcester, 1835; graduated at H. C., 1856; admitted 1863; practised in Worcester.

Simeon Saunderson,[1] admitted 1820; practised in Westminster and Athol.

Edward B. Sawtell, born in Fitchburg, 1840; graduated at H. C., 1862; admitted 1871; practised in Fitchburg.

Emory C. Sawyer, admitted 1875; practised in Warren.

John S. Scammell, born in Bellingham, 1816; graduated at B. U.; admitted 1840; practised in Milford.

Livingston Scott, admitted 1886.

William Sever,[1] graduated at H. C., 1778; practised in Rutland.

John W. Sheehan, born in Millbury, 1866; attended H. Cr.; admitted 1888; practised in Worcester.

John Shepley,[1] practised in Worcester.

Jonas L. Sibley,[1] born in Sutton, 1791; graduated at B. U., 1813; practised in Sutton.

Willis E. Sibley,[1] born in New Salem, 1857; admitted 1888; practised in Worcester.

William F. Slocum, r., born in Tolland, 1822; admitted 1846; practised in Grafton and Boston.

Henry O. Smith, born in Leicester, 1839; graduated at A. C., 1863; admitted 1866; practised in Worcester.

Jonathan Smith,[1] born in Peterboro', N. H., 1842; graduated at D. C., 1871; admitted 1875; practised in Clinton.

Jonathan Smith, born in Peterboro', N. H., 1842; graduated at D. C., 1871; admitted 1875; practised in Manchester, N. H., and Clinton.

Moses Smith,[1] born in Rutland, 1777; admitted 1802; practised in Lancaster.

N. J. Smith, r., practised in Blackstone, Spencer and Aurora, Ill.

Sidney P. Smith, born in Princeton, Ill., 1850; graduated at A. C., 1874; admitted 1883; practised in Chicago and Athol.

William A. Smith, born in Leicester, 1824; graduated at H. C., 1843; admitted 1846; practised in Worcester.

Charles H. B. Snow,[1] born in Fitchburg, 1822; graduated at H. C., 1844; admitted 1847; practised in Fitchburg.

Frederick W. Southwick, born in Blackstone, 1843; admitted 1868; practised in Worcester.

William L. Southwick,[1] born in Mendon, 1827; admitted 1849; practised in Hopkinton and Blackstone.

Frank B. Spalter, born in Groton, 1845; admitted 1871; practised in Wichendon.

Clarence Spooner, r., admitted 1883.

Edmund B. Sprague, r., attended H. C.; admitted 1880; practised in Worcester and Denver, Col.

Franklin M. Sprague, r., born in East Douglas, 1841; admitted 1870; practised in Worcester.

John Sprague,[1] born in Rochester, 1740; graduated at H. C., 1765; admitted 1768; practised in Newport, R. I., Keene, N. H., and Lancaster.

Samuel J. Sprague,[1] graduated at H. C., 1799; practised in Lancaster.

Peleg Sprague,[1] born in Rochester; graduated at D. C., 1783; admitted 1784; practised in Lancaster, Winchendon, Fitchburg, and Keene, N. H.

Homer B. Sprague, r., born in Sutton, 1829; graduated at Y. C., 1852; admitted 1854; practised in Worcester and New Haven.

William B. Sprout, born in Enfield, 1859; graduated at A. C., 1883; admitted 1885; practised in Worcester.

Hamilton B. Staples, born in Mendon, 1829; graduated at B. U., 1851; admitted 1854; practised in Milford and Worcester.

William Stearns,[1] born in Lunenburg; graduated at H. C., 1770; admitted 1776; practised in Worcester.

Daniel Stearns,[1] born in Fitchburg, 1831; graduated at D. C., 1855; admitted 1859; practised in Fitchburg.

Heman Stebbins,[1] born in W. Springfield; graduated at Y. C., 1814; practised in Brookfield.

William Stedman,[1] born in Cambridge, 1765; graduated at H. C., 1784; admitted 1787; practised in Lancaster, Charlton and Newburyport.

Charles F. Stevens, born in Worcester, 1855; graduated at H. C., 1876; admitted 1878; practised in Worcester.

Charles G. Stevens, born in Claremont, N. H., 1821; graduated at D. C., 1840; admitted 1845; practised in Clinton.

Isaac Stevens,[1] born in Wareham, 1792; admitted 1821; practised in Middleboro' and Athol.

James A. Stiles, born in Fitchburg, 1855; graduated at H. C., 1877; admitted 1880; practised in Fitchburg and Gardner.

Amos W. Stockwell,[1] r., born in Sutton; graduated at A. C., 1833; admitted 1837; practised in Worcester and Chicopee.

John H. Stockwell,[1] born in Webster, 1838; admitted 1859; practised in Webster.

Elijah B. Stoddard, born in Upton, 1826; graduated at B. U., 1847; admitted 1849; practised in Worcester.

Henry D. Stone,[1] born in Southbridge, 1820; graduated at A. C., 1844; admitted 1847; practised in Worcester and New Orleans.

Isaac Story,[1] graduated at H. C., 1793; practised in Rutland and Sterling.

Martin L. Stowe,[1] practised in Southboro' and Northboro'.

Asa E. Stratton, born in Grafton, 1853; graduated at B. U., 1873; admitted 1875; practised in Fitchburg.

Ashbel Strong,[1] practised in Fitchburg.

Simeon Strong,[1] graduated at Y. C., 1786; practised in Barre.

Solomon Strong,[1] born in Amherst, 1780; graduated at W. C., 1798; practised in Athol, Lancaster and Westminster.

John Stuart.[1]

John E. Sullivan, born in Worcester, 1857; graduated at H. Cr., 1877; admitted 1879; practised in Worcester.

Bradford Sumner,[1] graduated at B. U., 1808; practised in Brookfield, Leicester and Spencer.

George Swan, born in Hubbardston, 1826; admitted 1848; practised in Hubbardston and Worcester.

Samuel Swan,[1] born in Leicester, 1778; graduated at H. C., 1799; practised in Hubbardston and Oakham.

Arthur M. Taft, born in Uxbridge, 1856; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester.

Bezaleel Taft, Jr.,[1] born in Uxbridge, 1780; graduated at H. C., 1804; practised at Uxbridge.

George S. Taft,[1] born in Uxbridge, 1826; graduated at B. U., 1848; admitted 1851; practised in Uxbridge.

George S. Taft, born in Uxbridge, 1859; graduated at B. U., 1882; admitted 1887; practised in Worcester.

Jesse A. Taft, born in Mendon, 1857; admitted 1883; practised in Milford.

William E. Tatum, admitted 1887.

Ezra Taylor,[1] born in Southborough; practised in Southborough.

Marvin M. Taylor, born in Jefferson, N. Y., 1860; admitted 1885; practised in Worcester.

Adin Thayer,[1] born in Blackstone, 1828; admitted 1854; practised in Worcester.

Amasa Thayer,[1] graduated at H. C., 1810; practised in Brookfield.

Francis N. Thayer, born in Blackstone; admitted 1876; practised in Blackstone.

John R. Thayer, born in Douglas, 1845; graduated at Y. C., 1869; admitted 1871; practised in Worcester.

Joseph Thayer,[1] born in Douglas, 1792; graduated at B. U., 1815; admitted 1818; practised in Uxbridge.

Webster Thayer, born in Blackstone, 1857; graduated at D. C., 1880; admitted 1882; practised in Worcester.

Levi Thaxter, practised in Worcester.

Benjamin F. Thomas,[1] born in Boston, 1813; graduated at B. U., 1830; admitted 1833; practised in Worcester and Boston.

E. Francis Thompson, born in Worcester, 1859; admitted 1884; practised in Worcester.

Henry F. Thompson, born in Webster, 1859; attended W. C.; admitted 1887; practised in Webster.

Oliver H. Tillotson,[1] born in Orford, N. H.; admitted 1855; practised in Worcester.

Seymour A. Tingier,[1] born in Tolland; graduated at W. C., 1855; admitted 1857; practised in Webster.

Joseph A. Titus, born in Leicester, 1842; graduated at A. C., 1863; admitted 1868; practised in Worcester.

Paul P. Todd, r., born in Atkinson, N. H., 1819; graduated at D. C., 1842; admitted 1847; practised in Blackstone, Boston, St. Louis and New York.

John Todd, r., practised in Westminster and Fitchburg.

Ebenezer Torrey,[1] born in Franklin, 1801; graduated at H. C., 1822; admitted 1825; practised in Fitchburg.

George A. Torrey, r., born in Fitchburg, 1838; graduated at H. C., 1859; admitted 1861; practised in Fitchburg and Boston.

Newton Tourtelot, r., admitted 1853; practised in Webster.

William M. Towne,[1] r., born in Charlton; graduated at A. C., 1825; admitted 1828; practised in Worcester.

Louis K. Travis, r., born in Holliston, 1852; admitted 1875; practised in Westborough.

Joseph Trumbull, r., born in Worcester, 1828; admitted 1849; practised in Worcester.

George A. Tufts,[1] born in Dudley, 1797; graduated at H. C., 1818; admitted 1821; practised in Dudley.

Stephen P. Twiss, r., born in Charlton, 1830; admitted 1853; practised in Worcester and Kansas City.

Benjamin O. Tyler, r., practised in Winchendon.

Nathan Tyler,[1] graduated at H. C., 1779; practised in Uxbridge.

Nathan Tyler, Sr.,[1] practised in Uxbridge.

Adin B. Underwood,[1] born in Milford, 1828; graduated at B. U., 1849; admitted 1853; practised in Milford and Boston.

F. H. Underwood, r., practised in Webster.

Jabez Upham,[1] born in Brookfield; graduated at H. C., 1785; admitted 1788; practised in Sturbridge, Claremont, N. H., and Brookfield.

Joshua Upham,[1] born in Brookfield, 1741; graduated at H. C., 1763; admitted 1765; practised in Brookfield, Boston and New York.

John L. Utley, r., born in Brimfield, 1837; admitted 1874; practised in Blackstone and Worcester.

Samuel Utley, born in Chesterfield, 1843; admitted 1867; practised in Worcester.

Ernest H. Vaughn, born in Greenwich, 1858; admitted 1884; practised in Worcester.

George F. Verry,[1] born in Mendon, 1826; admitted 1851; practised in Worcester.

Horace B. Verry, born in Saco, Me., 1843; admitted 1864; practised in Worcester.

Edward J. Vose,[1] born in Augusta, Me., 1806; graduated at B. C., 1825; admitted 1828; practised in Worcester.

Richard H. Vose,[1] graduated at B. C., 1822; practised in Worcester.

Charles Wadsworth, r., practised in Barre and Worcester.

Lovell Walker,[1] born in Brookfield, 1768; graduated at D. C., 1794; admitted 1801; practised in Templeton and Leominster.

Andrew H. Ward,[1] graduated at H. C., 1808; practised in Shrewsbury.

Nahum Ward, born in Shrewsbury; admitted 1731; practised in Shrewsbury.

J. C. B. Ward, r., practised in Athol.

Charles E. Ware, born in Fitchburg, 1853; graduated at H. C., 1876; admitted 1879; practised in Fitchburg.

Thornton K. Ware, born in Cambridge, 1823; graduated at H. C., 1842; admitted 1846; practised in Fitchburg.

Emory Washburn,[1] born in Leicester, 1800; graduated at W. C., 1817; admitted 1821; practised in Charlemont, Leicester, Worcester and Cambridge.

John D. Washburn, born in Boston, 1833; graduated at H. C., 1853; admitted 1856; practised in Worcester.

Asa H. Waters,[1] born in Millbury, 1808; practised in Millbury.

Paul B. Watson, r., born in Morristown, N. J., 1861; graduated at H. C., 1881; admitted 1885; practised in Boston.

Francis Wayland, Jr., r., born in Providence, R. I., graduated at B. U., 1846; practised in Worcester and New Haven, Conn.

Jared Weed,[1] born in New York, 1783; graduated at H. C., 1807; admitted 1810; practised in Petersham.

Charles K. Wetherell,[1] born in Petersham, 1822; admitted 1844; practised in Petersham, Barre and Worcester.

George A. Wetherell,[1] born in Oxford, 1825; graduated at Y. C., 1848; admitted 1851; practised in Worcester.

John W. Wetherell, born in Oxford, 1820; graduated at Y. C., 1844; admitted 1846; practised in Worcester.

J. Allyn Weston,[1] r., born in Duxbury; graduated at H. C., 1846; admitted 1849; practised in Worcester and Milford.

Charles Wheaton,[1] r, born in Rhode Island, 1828; admitted 1851; practised in Worcester.

George Wheaton,[1] graduated at H. C., 1814; practised in Uxbridge.

Henry S. Wheaton,[1] r., graduated at B. U., 1841; admitted 1844; practised in Dudley.

Otis C. Wheeler,[1] born in Worcester, 1808; admitted 1830; practised in Worcester.

J. C. Fremont Wheelock, born in Mendon, 1856;

attended Y. C.; admitted 1883; practised in Southbridge.

Peter Wheelock,[1] graduated at B. U., 1811; practised in Mendon.

William J. Whipple,[1] graduated at H. C., 1805; practised in Dudley.

William C. White,[1] practised in Grafton, Rutland, Sutton and Worcester.

William E. White, born in Worcester, 1863; admitted 1887; practised in Worcester and Leominster.

Solon Whiting, practised in Lancaster.

Abel Whitney,[1] graduated at W. C., 1810; practised in Harvard.

Giles H. Whitney,[1] born in Boston, 1818; graduated at H. C., 1837; admitted 1842; practised in Westminster, Templeton and Winchendon.

Milton Whitney,[1] r., born in Ashburnham, 1823; admitted 1846; practised in Fitchburg and Baltimore, Md.

Abel Willard,[1] born in Lancaster, 1732; graduated at H. C., 1752; practised in Lancaster.

Calvin Willard,[1] born in Harvard, 1784; graduated at H. C.; admitted 1809; practised in Barnstable, Petersham and Fitchburg.

Jacob Willard,[1] graduated at B. U., 1805; practised in Fitchburg.

Joseph Willard,[1] r., born in Cambridge, 1798; graduated at H. C., 1816; admitted 1819; practised in Waltham and Lancaster.

Levi Willard,[1] graduated at H. C., 1775; practised in Lancaster.

Elijah Williams,[1] graduated at H. C., 1764; practised in Deerfield and Mendon.

Hartley Williams,[1] born in Somerset, Me., 1820; admitted 1850; practised in Worcester.

James O. Williams,[1] born in New Bedford, 1827; graduated at H. C., 1849; admitted 1853; practised in Worcester and St. Louis, Mo.

Lemuel Williams,[1] born in Dartmouth, 1782; graduated at B. U., 1804; admitted 1808; practised in New Bedford and Worcester.

Lemuel S. Williams,[1] born in New Bedford, 1812; graduated at H. C., 1836; practised in Dedham and Westborough.

William A. Williams, born in Hubbardston, 1820; admitted 1848; practised in Worcester.

John Winslow,[1] graduated at B. U., 1795; practised in Northborough.

G. R. M. Withington, born in Boston; graduated at U. V., 1825; admitted 1829; practised in Boston and Lancaster.

Charles W. Wood, born in Worcester, 1844; admitted 1883; practised in Worcester.

Harry Wood,[1] born in Grafton, 1838; practised in Grafton.

Cortland Wood, r., born in Plainfield, Ct., 1850; graduated at Y. C., 1871; admitted 1873; practised in Oxford.

Joseph H. Wood, born in Mendon, 1853; admitted 1877; practised in Milford.

Nathaniel Wood,[1] born in Holden, 1797; graduated at H. C., 1821; practised in Fitchburg.

Samuel F. Woods,[1] born in Barre, 1837; graduated at Y. C., 1856; admitted 1858; practised in Barre.

George M. Woodward, born in Worcester, 1838; admitted 1860; practised in Worcester.

James M. Woodbury, born in Templeton, 1819; admitted 1862; practised in Fitchburg.

HISTORY

OF

WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.

TOWN HISTORIES.

CHAPTER I.

LANCASTER.

BY HON. HENRY S. NOURSE.

The Nashaways and their Home—King's Purchase—The Nashaway Planters—The Town Grant—The Covenant—Land Allotments—Death of Showanon.

At the time the Massachusetts Company were laying the foundations of their settlements on the river Charles, there dwelt in the northeastern part of what is now Worcester County a small tribe of red men, generally known as the Nashaways. They were an independent clan, though evidently of the same origin and speaking the same tongue with the natives of the coast, and the Nipmucks, Quabaugs and River Indians south and west of them. A close defensive alliance bound together these Massachusetts tribes, and this bond was their only safeguard against the murderous incursions of the Mohegans and Mohawks, their traditional foes.

Of the Nashaways there were three groups or villages,—one at the eastern base of Mt. Wachusett, another at the Washacum ponds, and a third about the meeting of the two branches of the river which the pioneers called "Penecook," but which is now known as the Nashua. By the custom of the period the location of a native village or planting-field gave name to those there resident, and we find these Indians called, indiscriminately, by the English, Washacums and Wachusetts, as well as Nashaways. They proudly cherished traditions of great former prowess and prosperity, but war and pestilence had greatly reduced their numbers before the coming of the white man, and in 1633 the small-pox swept away hundreds more, leaving but a comparatively enfeebled remnant behind; although they were even yet numerous enough to be styled "a great people" by Daniel Gookin.

The sachem holding mild sway over the Nashaways was Showanon or Nashowanon, also called Sholan, Shaumauw, Shoniow and Nashacowam—for an Indian chief of repute always had sundry aliases, each, perhaps, indicative of some specially memorable deed or personal experience. His home was upon a plateau between the little lakes of Washacum, about which were clustered the wigwams of his central and largest village. He appears not infrequently in early colonial history and always greeting the white man with welcoming words and generous hospitality. Finally the saintly Eliot joyfully proclaims that his personal ministrations have won Sholan and many of his followers to the Christian fold. Before this the chieftain had made many English acquaintances in his visits to the Bay, and among them Thomas King, of Watertown, gained his special favor. He persuaded King to visit his domain, and made him generous offers of a land grant, desiring him to establish a trucking-house, where his people could exchange their peltry for much-coveted iron weapons, kettles, cloths, and the various novelties brought by the strangers from over the seas.

The country of the Nashaways lay among lofty, smoothly-rounded hills, sloping gently down to broad meadows, through which coursed rivulets of pure, cool

water; while numerous little lakes slept in concealment of the forest. It was a famous hunting-ground, prolific of deer, beaver, wild turkeys and small game. Occasionally the swan wandered hither from the Merrimack, and moose, elk, bears, wolves and wild-cats were sometimes met with. Samuel Maverick tells us also that the waters were noted for excellent salmon and trout. For the capture of the migratory shad and salmon on their return towards the ocean, the Indians had built a weir at the shallows in the main river, while the frequent falls and rapids in the branches afforded convenient spots for the successful plying of spear and net, when the fish were ascending in spawning time.

The hunters or traders of Concord and Sudbury, adventurous enough to push fifteen miles westward into the wilderness, found a feeble band of the Natick Indians living at Okommakameset (now Marlborough) and a little beyond could look over the summit of the lofty Wataquadock hills into the paradise of the Nashaways. The widely-extended view with its delicate hues varying with sun and season, which there met their gaze, is the same that attracts so many admirers to-day; for even two hundred and fifty years of civilization cannot avail to mar, or add to, the grand features of so broad and varied a landscape. To the north the horizon is bounded by the picturesque mountain peaks of New Hampshire, blue or violet with distance. The shapely dome of Wachusett at the west dominates the scene, and, near at hand, little valleys creeping out from the shadows of the George and Wataquadock ranges of hills, join to form the broad, fertile intervales, dotted with hickory, sycamore and stately elms, which sweep northward, bearing the rivers towards the sea. All is gentle undulation, charming, restful—nothing awe-inspiring or grand, perhaps, certainly nothing precipitous or even abrupt—nothing suggestive of the ferocities of nature, save the sharp cone of Monadnock, dimly to be seen in the middle distance.

Nor was the landscape then a "howling wilderness," gloomy with primeval forest and impassable coppice, as so generally it has been depicted in story; for in the vicinity of the Indian plantations, twice in the year the woods were purposely fired to free them of the brushwood that could hide a stealthy foe, or obstruct pursuit of game. Therefore, in time, extensive areas came to wear a park-like appearance, resembling the similarly formed "oak-openings" of the West, everywhere passable, even for horsemen. The more fertile meadows, where not too wet, were swept bare of tree and underwood and clad in summer with a rank growth of coarse grasses, "some as high as the shoulders, so that a good mower may cut three loads in a day," as William Wood testified in 1634.

At how early a date the pioneer pale-face first looked down from its southern barrier of hills upon Sholan's beautiful domain is not known. John Winthrop relates that the Watertown people began a settlement at Nashaway in 1643. Before that Thomas King had accepted the invitation of the sachem, and selected a location for a trading post on the sunny slope of George Hill, near the parting of two trails which led from the "wading-place" of Nashaway, westward to Wachusett, and southwesterly by Washacum to the land of the Quabaugs. King was a young man of limited means, and had formed a partnership with Henry Symonds, a freeman, a capitalist, and an enterprising contractor, living near the head of what is now North Street, in Boston. By a little brook that came brawling down the divide over which the western trail ran, the trucking-house was built, probably in 1642, certainly before the summer of 1643. Symonds, the moneyed partner, died in September of 1643, and King survived him little more than a year. In the inventory of King's property there is no hint of any estate at Lancaster. This is confirmation of the statement made by Rev. Timothy Harrington in 1753—doubtless recording a tradition—that a company bought such proprietary rights at Nashaway as King had obtained by his bargain with Sholan. No deed of a sale is found, but the price of the grant, as agreed upon with the Indians, was twelve pounds. The territory acquired was nominally ten miles long from south to north, by eight miles wide. It included a few families of Indians, dwelling about the rivers and ponds, though these, perhaps, joined the Washacum village, when, in 1663 and 1669, the warriors of the tribe were decimated in contest with the bloodthirsty Mohawks. A provision in Sholan's deed, however, restricted the purchasers and their successors from "molesting the Indians in their hunting, fishing, or usual planting places." Joint occupancy was the evident intent of the conveyance.

The Nashaway Company, having signed a compact, at once began the assignment of home lots among themselves, and sought from the authorities legal sanction of their enterprise. Favorable response was made to their petition, May 29, 1644, and the names of the foremost undertakers thereafter appear from time to time in various records. They were chiefly from Boston and Watertown. At the head of the first list of the proposed planters found, stand the names of two graduates of Cambridge University, England—Nathaniel Norcross and Robert Childe. The former had been promised adequate settlement as pastor of the plantation, but growing impatient of delays in the gathering of his parish he soon departed for England, bearing the manuscript of the broken contract with him. Robert Childe was a scholar of varied learning. He had traveled in many lands, was a close observer, pretended to considerable knowledge of chemistry and metallurgy, was ambitious and restlessly energetic. He gave books to the infant college of Harvard, invested largely in the iron works at Lynn and Braintree, shipped from England vines, grafts of plums, and various seeds and plants to his intimate friend John Winthrop, Jr., and to all appearances wholly merited

the commendation of that Puritan unimpeachable, Hugh Peters, who wrote of him in June, 1645: "that honest man who will bee of exceeding great vse if the Country know how to improue him, indeed he is very very vsefull. I pray let us not play tricks with such men by our jelousyes."

But in that age toleration had no home on earth; and why should Massachusetts be specially reproached because she offered no asylum for original thinkers upon religious or political subjects? Jesuits and Quakers, rhapsodists and philosophers, bedlamites and seers were alike crushed by the despotism of dogmas, —a despotism which now seems the more strange because wearing the cloak of liberty. Vane, Vassal and later William Pynchon fled the country in disgust at the intolerance of the majority in power; Coggeshall and Coddington were spurned, to be esteemed a great gain in the colony of Rhode Island, and Childe, despite the warning afforded by the fate of such able but unseasonable reformers, and overestimating his own strength, began a crusade against the theocratic restriction of suffrage to a select few. England was then shaken by the fierce contest for supremacy between Presbyterian and Independent. Childe and his fellow-agitators were probably feared, and perhaps justly, as being secret emissaries of Presbyterianism, and Puritanism rudely and speedily thrust them out of the Commonwealth. Thus the Nashaway Company lost its master of arts.

The third co-partner upon the list was also a noted personage in colonial history. Steven Day, a locksmith by profession, had in 1639 set up at Harvard College the first English printing-press in America, and on it had printed the Book of Psalms in 1640. He was a man of worthy aims and rare energy, but so lavish or improvident that his earnings and the sales of lands granted him by the General Court, in reward for his art, could not keep him out of debt. He was an ardent promoter of the company's interests, often traveling to Nashaway, and entertaining Indians and proposed planters at his Cambridge home. His necessities forced him to sell the lots first assigned to him, but a few years later he acquired another with a dwelling upon it—yet never resided there, and died in January, 1668, a journeyman at the press he had founded. He had long before forfeited his proprietary rights at Nashaway by his inability to improve, or pay tithe for, his allotments.

Besides Day, four other workers in iron were prominent in the company: John Prescott, Harmon Garrett, John Hill and Joseph Jenkes. This fact, joined to the leadership of Childe, whose letters to Winthrop show him to have been enthusiastic in his estimate of the mineral wealth concealed in the New England hills, warrants the supposition that the inspiration of this proposed settlement, so far from tidal waters, was not alone the profitable trade in furs, but the expectation of discovering valuable ores, and especially iron.

Prescott was obviously from the first the soul of the undertaking, and ultimately, after one by one his original associates yielded to discouragements and abandoned him or died, he alone, undismayed and equal to any emergency, with unbending will, hard common sense, and marvelous practical ability, fought the long battle with obstructive men and reluctant nature, and won. Prescott was the founder of Lancaster, and there existed no rival claimant to that honor. Garrett, the blacksmith of Charlestown, though he expended some time and means in the earliest days of the plantation, and clung to his land-title for several years with the avowed intention of becoming a resident, finally drops out of sight. Hill, a Boston smith and a freeman of influence, business associate and neighbor of Henry Symonds, died July 27, 1646. Joseph Jenkes was a prototype of the Yankee mechanical genius. A smith employed at the Lynn Iron Works, he was granted the first patent in America for a water-mill, May 16, 1646, and thenceforward proved himself a bold, ingenious and successful experimenter in the mechanic arts, being selected by the Assistant in 1652 to make dies for the pine-tree coinage of Massachusetts. He became too busy and prosperous to keep up his interest in the Nashaway scheme.

The other co-partners disclosed by various petitions and records were: John Fisher, of Medfield; Sergeant John Davis, a joiner of Boston; John Chandler, of Boston; Isaac Walker, a trader of Boston, who married the widow of Henry Symonds; Thomas Skidmore, of Cambridge; John Cowdall, a trader of Boston, who is found possessing the Symonds and King trucking-house after the death of the original owners; James Cutler, of Watertown, who married the widow of King; Samuel Bitfield, a cooper of Boston; Matthew Barnes, a miller and influential citizen of Braintree; John Shawe, a Boston butcher; Samuel Rayner, of Cambridge; George Adams, a glover of Watertown. With the exception, perhaps, of Cowdall, Adams and Rayner, we have no proof that one of these men ever became actual residents at Nashaway, or took active steps to further its settlement after 1645. Chandler, Walker and Davis for some reason became actively hostile to the company's interests in 1647, as shown by the records of court, and Cowdall sold his land and improvements to Prescott the same year. Adams had his home-lot assigned him upon George Hill, but occupied it briefly, if at all.

The first two years after the General Court's sanction of the plantation saw little advance in the preparations for settlement. The first step taken by the associates was to send out fit pioneers to build houses, store provender for wintering cattle, enclose with paling a "night pasture," and prepare fields for grain. Richard Linton and his son-in-law, Lawrence Waters, a carpenter, and John Ball, all of Watertown, were employed and given house-lots. Linton and Waters built themselves houses upon lands assigned them

near the wading-place in the North River, which were the first erected after the trucking-house. The covenant entered into by the proprietors with their minister contemplated the occupation of the valley during the summer of 1645.

Prescott, who had a considerable estate in Watertown, sold it, and packing his household goods upon horses, set out with his family through the woods for their new home. At the very outset of the journey he met with serious misfortune. "He lost a horse and his lading in Sudbury River, and a week after, his wife and children being upon another horse, were hardly saved from drowning." This sad experience Governor Winthrop seriously records as a special providence—divine punishment of the brave pioneer for his sympathy with that dangerous schismatic, Robert Childe! The other proprietors seem to have been completely dismayed by this disaster to their leader, and forthwith—June 12, 1645—petitioned the authorities to order this yawning chasm in their path to be bridged. There is no reason to think that they exaggerated the formidable nature of the crossing, for more than one hundred years later the bridge and causeway at the same place were complained of as dangerous and in time of freshets impassable, and lotteries were granted, the proceeds of which, amounting to over twelve hundred pounds, were expended upon them. The petitioners in 1645 declared it "an vtter Impossibilitye to proceede forwards to plante at the place aboue sayd [Nashaway] except we haue a conuenient way made for the transportation of our cattell and goods ouer Sudbery River and Marsh." Two years before, a cart-bridge had been begun by the town's people, but left incomplete, and the swamp remained unimproved. The court contributed twenty pounds towards finishing the bridge and causeway, stipulating that they should be completed within a year.

Whatever was done to render the way less perilous was done too late or too ineffectually to encourage Norcross or his parishioners, other than the indomitable Prescott, to venture across it with their cattle and household goods, during either 1645 or 1646; and by that time their patience or pluck was exhausted, the surviving Boston members of the company were trying to have the grant rescinded to relieve themselves of any responsibility incurred by their covenant, and the minister had abandoned his parish. To the difficult task of obtaining planters to make good so wholesale a defection, Prescott and Day seem to have devoted much time and energy with very moderate success.

The plan of settlement contemplated two groups or double ranges of house-lots, in sight of each other, but about a mile apart, the North River and its intervales lying between. The trucking-house formed the starting-point of the western range; the eastern lay along the plateau, then (as now) called the Neck, between the main or Penecook River and the North Branch. Prescott, who had chosen his first home-lot in the eastern range, covering the site of the present Lancaster House, sold it to Ralph Houghton and made his home at the trucking-house. Philip Knight, of Charlestown, built a house on the lot which he bought of Steven Day, adjoining Prescott's on the north, and upon the next two lots were John and Solomon Johnson, of Sudbury, a roadway separating their dwellings. Upon the south corner of Solomon Johnson's lot now stands the George Hill Schoolhouse. Thomas Sawyer, a blacksmith of Rowley, married Mary, the daughter of Prescott, in 1647 or 1648, and set up a home near his father-in-law, in a range of lots parallel to and south of those above named. Mrs. Sally Case's residence is nearly upon the site of the Sawyer house. These were probably the first five dwellings south of the North River. William Kerley perhaps moved upon his house-lot in the upper range not much later, and Daniel Hudson, a brickmaker from Watertown, occupied John Moore's lot certainly as early as the spring of 1651.

On the Neck side, Lawrence Waters sold his house to John Hall, whose wife Elizabeth occupied it, her husband going to England. Waters built himself a second house nearer the shallows in the river, a few rods west of the one sold. Ralph Houghton soon came up from Watertown and set up his roof-tree on the Neck. A petition of the inhabitants to the General Court of May, 1652, asking township rights, states that there were already living at Nashaway "about nine familyes." They must be selected from those already named. Before this date there had probably been ten white children born in the settlement: two to Prescott, five to Lawrence Waters, two to Sawyer, and one to Daniel Hudson. The answer to the petition is the so-called Act of Incorporation of the Town of Lancaster. The first draft of the answer was passed upon by the deputies in May, 1652, and in this the name given to the town was Prescott, as had been requested by the petitioners, paying deserved honor to their generous, spirited and able leader.

The naming of a town for its founder had then no precedent in New England. Not even a magistrate or Governor had been so greatly honored. Probably the assistants or executive refused thus to exalt a blacksmith who was no freeman, and had but recently taken the oath of fidelity. They may have recalled also his sympathy with the agitation by Childe. The name Prescott was promptly refused, and after further consideration the name West Towne was inserted in the answer. This title, entirely wanting appropriateness and euphony, satisfied no one, and further discussion carried the matter over another year. Prescott's force of character and liberality had won not only the admiration of his neighbors, but friendly interest in many and high quarters. He had proved very useful to Rev. John Eliot in his visits to the Indian tribes about and west of Nashaway. He had in 1648 been the pioneer of a "new way to Connecti-

cut by Nashaway, which avoided much of the hilly way," and which Governor Hopkins, of Connecticut, as well as the leading ministers interested in the work of converting the Indians, esteemed a public benefaction. When, therefore, the inhabitants, disappointed of their first choice, petitioned asking to borrow a title for the new town from the English shire in which Prescott was born, the suggestion was adopted, and Lancaster began its legal existence May 18, 1653. It was the forty-fourth town chartered in the Commonwealth, and the tenth in Middlesex County.

Three copies of the "Court's Grant" exist—one forming the first page of the town records, one an official copy by Secretary Rawson in Massachusetts Archives cxii. 54–55, and the original record of the court. They differ somewhat in orthography. That of the town records is as follows:

COPPIE OF THE COURT'S GRANT.

At a Genrll Court of Election held at Boston the 18th of May 1653.

1. In answer to the Peticon of the Inhabitants of Nashaway the Court finds according to a former order of the Genrll Court in Anno 1647 no 6: 95: That the ordering and disposeing of the Plantation at Nashaway is wholly in the Courts power.

2. Considering that there is allredy at Nashaway about nine ffamilies and that severall both freemen and others intend to goe and setle there some whereof are named in this Petition the Court doth Grant them the libertie of a Towneshipp and others that hensforth it shall be called Lancaster.

3. That the Bounds thereof shall be sett out according to a deede of the Indian Sagamore, viz. Nashaway Riuer at the passing ouer to be the Center, fiue miles North fiue miles south fiue miles east and three miles west by such Comissioners as the Courte shall appoint to see their Lines extended and their bounds limitted.

4. That Edward Breck, Nathaniell Hadlocke, William Kerley, Thomas Sayer, John Prescot and Ralph Houghton, or any foure of them, whereof the maior Parte to be freemen to be for present the prudentiall men of the said Towne both to see all allottments to be laid out to the Planters in due proportion to theire estates and allso to order other Prudentiall afaires vntill it shall Appeare to this Court that the Place be so farr seated with able men as the Court may Judg meet, to give them full liberties of a Townshipp according to Lawe.

5. That all such Persons whoe haue possessed and Continued Inhabitants of Nashaway shall haue their Lotts formerly Laid out confirmed to them provided they take the oath of fidellitie

6. That Sudbery and Lancaster Lay out highwaies betwixt Towne and Towne according to order of Court for the Countries vse and then repaire them as neede shalbe

7. The Court Orders That Lancaster shall be rated wthin the County of Midlesex and the Towne hath Liberty to choose a Constable.

8. That the Inhabitants of Lancaster doe take care that a godly minester may be maintained amongst them and that no evill persons Enemies to the Lawes of this Comonwealth in Judgment or Practize be Admitted as Inhabitants amongst them and none to haue Lotts Confirmed but such as take the oathe of fidellitie

9. That allthough the first Undertakers and partners in the Plantacon of Nashaway are wholy Evacuated of theire Claimes in Lotts there by order of this Courte yet that such persons of them whoe haue Expended either Charge or Labor for the Benefitt of the place and haue helpped on the Publike workes there from time to time either in Contributing to the minestrie or in the Purchase from the Indians or any other Publike worke, that such persons are to be Considered by the Towne either in proportion of Land or some other way of satisfaction as may be Just and meete. Provided such Persons do make such theire expences Cleerly Appeare within Twelue monethes after the end of this Sessions for such demandes and that the Interest of Harmon Garrett and such others as were first vndertakers or haue bin at Great Charges there shalbe made good to him them his or theire heires in all Allottments as to other the Inhabitants in proportion to the Charges expended by him and such others aforesaid. Provided they make Improuemt of such Allotmts by building and Planting wthin three yeares after they are or shalbe Laid out to them, otherwise theire Interest hereby Provided for to bee voyde, And all such Lands soe hereby Reserved to be thenciforth at the Townes Dispose: In further Answer to this Peticon the Court Judgeth it meete to Confirm the aboue mentioned Nine perticulers to the Inhabitants of Lancaster, and order that the bounds thereof be Laid out in proportion to eight miles square.

Of the six prudential men, the first three only were freemen, and the death of Hadlocke, in Charlestown, very soon deprived them of a legal quorum, according to strict construction of the fifth article. In October, 1653, however, they agreed upon a "covenant of laws and orders," which all who were accepted as citizens of the town were required to sign. As of the signatures to this, ten were dated a year before, it was undoubtedly an obligation entered into by the earlier comers adopted by the new officials. This covenant served as a Constitution by which the internal economies of the town were administered for very many years, and is therefore worthy to be given here in full, with the signatures, as found in the town records:

1653 18: 8 mo. *The bond to binde all comers.* Memorandum, That wee whose Names are subscribed, vppon the Receiueing and acceptanc of our severall Lands, and Allottments wth all Appurtinances thereof, from those men who are Chosen by the Generall Court to Lay out and dispose of the Lands within the Towne of Lanchaster heertofore Called by the name of Nashaway doe hereby Covenant & binde ourselues our heires Executrs & Assignes to the observing and keepeing of these orders and Agreements hereafter mentioned and Expressed.

Church Lands. ffirst ffor the maintainanc of the ministree of Gods holy word wee doe Allowe Covenant and Agree that there be laid out Stated and established, and we doe hereby estate and establish as Church Land with all the priuilledges and Appurtinances therevnto belonging for ever, thirty acors of vppland and fortie acors of Entervale Land and twelue acors of meddowe with free Libertie of Commons for Pasture and fire wood, The said Lands to be improved by the Plantation or otherwise in such order as shalbe best Advised and Concluded by the Plantation without Rent paying for the same, vntil the Labours of the Planters or those that doe improue the same, be ffully sattisfied. And wee doe agree that the Plantation or Sellect men shall determine the time, how Longe every man shall hold and Improue the said Lands for the proffit thereof. And then to be Rented according to the yearly vallue thereof and paid in to such persons as the Plantation or Sellectmen shall Appoynt to and for the vse of and towards the maintainanc of the minester Pastor or Teacher for the time being, or whomesoever may bee stated to preach the word of God among vs: or it may be in the Choyce of the minester to improue the said Lands himselfe.

Meeting house. And ffurther wee doe Covenant and Agree to build a Conuenient meeting house for the Publique Assembling of the Church and People of God, to worshipp God according to his holy ordinances in the most eaquall and Convenient place that may be Advized and Concluded by the Plantation.

Ministers house. And to Build a house for the Minester vppon the said Church Land.

house lotts to pay 10s *p ann to the minester.* And ffurther we doe Engage and Covenant every one for himselfe his heires Executors & Assignes to pay to and for the vse of the minestree abouesaid the sume of ten shillings a yeare as for and in Consideracon of or home Lotts yearly for ever, our home Lotts to staud Engaged for the payment thereof, and what all this shall fall short of a Competent maintainanc we Covenant to make vpp by an equall Rate vppon or Goods, and other improved Lands (not home lots) in such way and order as the Country rate is Raised. And in case of vacansy of a minester the maintainanc Ariseing from the Church Land and home Lotts abouementioned, shalbe paid to such as shalbe Appoynted for the use of a scoole to be as a stock: or as stock towards the maintainanc of the minester, as the Plantation or Sellect men shall think meetest.

To build Inhabit &c in a year or loose all and pay 5: *lb* And for the better Promoteing and seting forward of the Plantation wee Covenant and Agree, That such person or persons of vs who haue not inhabited this Plantation heretofore and are yett to come to build Improue and Inhabitt That we will (by the will of God) come vpp to build to Plant land and Inhabit at or before one whole yeare be passed next after or accept-

ance of o^{r} Allottments, or elc to Loose all our Charges about it, and our Lotts to Return to the Plantation, and to pay fiue pounds for the vse of the Plantation.

What Inhabitants not to be Admited. And for the Better preserveing of the puritie of Religion and ourselues from infection of Error we Covenant not to distribute Allottments and to Receiue into the Plantation as Inhabitants any excominicat or otherwise prophane and scandalus (known so to bee) nor any notoriously erring against the Docktrin and Discipline of the Churches and the state and Governm^{t} of this Com onweale.

to end all difrenc by Arbitracon. And for the better preserveing of peace and love, and yet to keepe the Rules of Justice and Equitie amonge ourselues, we Covenant not to goe to Lawe one with an other in Actions of Debt or Damages one towards an other either in name or state but to end all such Controversies among ourselues by arbitration or otherwise except in cases Cappitall or Criminall that sinn may not goe vnpunished or that the mater be aboue our abillities to Judge of, and that it bee with the Consent of the Plantation or Sellect men thereof.

To pay 10^{s} *p Lott.* And for the Laying out measureing and bounding of our Allottments of this first Diuision and for and towards the Satisfieing of our Engagem^{ts} to the Generall Court, to make payment for purchase of the Indians we Covenant to pay ten shillings every one of vs for our severall Allottm^{ts}, to the Sellect men or whome they may Appoynt to Receive it.

Equall Lotts first Diuition, in 2nd *Diuitions acord to Estates :* And. whereas Lotts are Now Laid out for the the most part Equally to Rich and poore, Partly to keepe the Towne from Scatering to farr. and partly out of Charitie and Respect to men of meaner estate, yet that Equallitie (which is the Rule of God) may be observed, we Covenant and Agree, That in a second Devition and so through all other Devitions of Land the mater shall be drawne as neere to equallitie according to mens estates as wee are able to doe, That he which hath now more then his estate Deserveth in home Lotts and entervale Lotts shall haue so much Less: and he that hath now Less then his estate Deserveth shall haue so much more. And that wee may the better keepe due proportion we Covenant and agree thus to account of mens estates (viz) ten pounds a head for every person and all other goods by due vallue, and to proportion to every ten pounds three acors of Land two of vpland and one of Entervale and we giue a years Libertie to Euery man to bringe in his estate.

Gifts free. Yet Nevertheless it is to be vnderstood That we doe not heereby preiudice or Barr the Plantation from Accomodateing any man by Gifft of Land (which proply are not Allottm^{ts}:) but wee doe reserve that in the free Power of the Plantation as occation may hereafter be offered: And in Case The Planters estate be Lowe that he can claime Nothing in other diuitions yet it is to be vnderstood that he shall enioy all the Land of the first Devition.

in 2nd *Deuition.* And further we Covenant That if any Planter do desire to haue his proportion in the second devition it shalbe Granted.

Rules for Proporcon of Meddows. And ffurther wee Covenant to lay out Meddow Lands according to the preasent estates of the Planters, with respect to be had to Remoteness or Neereness, of that which is remote to giue the more and of that wch is neere to giue the Less.

And Concerning the 30 acors of vppland and 40 acors of Entervale aboue Granted as Church Land. It is agreed and concluded to Lye bounded by John Prescotts Ditch vppon the South and the North Riuer over an ends [*anenst*] Lawrenc Waters vppon the North and so Rangeing allong westward.

And for the Preventing of Inconveniences and the more peaceable Isuing of the business about building of a meeting house it is Considered and Concluded as the most equall place that the meeting house be builded as neere to the Church Land and to the Neck of Land as It can bee without any notable inconveniencie.

And it is allso agreed That in all partes and Quarters of the Towne where Sundry Lotts do Lie together they shalbe ffenced by a Common ffenc according to proportion of acors by every planter, And yett not to barr any man from perticuler and priuat Inclosure at his pleasure.

This is a true Coppie of the Lawes and orders ffirst Enacted and made by those Appoynted and Impowered by the Genrall Court as it is found in the old book.

THOSE NAMES YT HAUE SUBSCRIBED TO THESE ORDERS:

Edward Brek
Rob^{rt} Brek: } I subscribe to this for my selfe and for my sonn Robert saue that it is agreed that we are not bound to come vpp to inhabit wthin a years time in our owne persons: This is a true Coppie:

Jn^{o} Prescott.
William Kerly
Thomas Sayer
Ralph Haughton } These subscribed together the first

Jn^{o} Whitcomb Seni^{r}:
Jn^{o} Whitcomb Juni^{r}: } Subscribed 20: day: 9 m^{o}: 1652

Richard Linton.
Jn^{o} Johnson.
Jeremiah Rogers } Subscribed: 4th: 9 m^{o}: 1654

Jn^{o} Moore: Subscribed: 11th: first m^{o}: 1653

William Lewes:
Jn^{o} Lewes. } Subscribed: 13th: 1 m^{o}: 1653
Th^{o}: James: mark 21th 3 m^{o}: 1653

Edmund Parker.
Beniamine Twitchell
Anthony Newton. } Subscribed: 1th: 8 m^{o}: 1652

Steephen Day } Subscribed: 15th: 1 m^{o}: 1653
James Aderton } both of y^{m}.

Henry Kerly:
Richard Smith.
William Kerly Jun^{r}.
Jn^{o} Smith.
Lawrenc Waters } Subscribed 15: 1 m^{o}: 1653

Jn^{o} White: Subscribed: 1th May 1653
Jn^{o} ffarrer: Subscribed: 24: Septemb^{r} 1653
Jacob ffarrer: Same date

John Haughton
Samuel Deane } Sub^{d}: same 24: 7 m^{o}: 1653

James Draper.
Steephen Gates: Sen^{r}: } Subscribed: Aprill 3: 1654

James Whiting or Witton: Subscri: Apr^{ll} 7th: 1654

Jn^{o}. Moore and
Edward Kibbie } 13: 2 m^{o}: 1654 Subscribed

Jn^{o} Mansfield: 13: 2 m^{o}: 1654

Jn^{o} Towers:
Richard Dwelly
Henry Ward. } Subscribed 18: 2 m^{o}: 1654

Jn^{o} Peirce.
William Billing } Subscribed 4th: 7 m^{o}: 1654.

Richard Sutton: apr^{ll} 1653.

Thomas Joslin.
Nathaniell Joslin } Subscribed the 12th: 9 mo: 1654. and there is granted to them both 50 acres of vpland & Swamp together for theire home lotts and allso forty acors of Entervale.

John Rugg: Subscribed, 12th: 12 m^{o}: 1654

Joseph Rowlandson: } Subscribed 12th: 12 m^{o}: 1654: and it is agreed by the Towne that he shall haue 20 accors of vpland & 40 acors of Entervale in the Night Pasture:

Jn^{o} Riggby: Subscribed 12th: 12th m^{o}: 1654 and he is to haue 20 acors of vpland & ten acors of Entervale

Jn^{o} Roper: Subscribed 22: 1th mo^{o}: 1656

All these before mentioned are subscribed & theire names Entered according to theire Severall Dates in the old Book & Coppied per Jn^{o} Tinker *Clerk*

Jn^{o} Tinker Subscribed y^{e} first of ffebb^{r}: 1657.

Mordica Maclode his × mark set 1 march $\frac{1657}{1658}$

Jonas ffairbanks: Subscribed the 7th: 2 m^{o}: $\frac{1658}{59}$
Jonas ffairbanks

Roger Sumner subscribed the: 11th of Aprill: 1659.
Roger Sumner

Gamaliell Bemand Subscribed: the 31th: of may 1659
Gamaliell tt Bemand
his marke

Thomas Wyelder: Subscribed the 1th July 1659
Thomas Wyellder

Daniell Gaines Subscribed the tenth day of march $\frac{1659}{1660}$
Daniel Gaiens

Twelve of these fifty-five signers—Twitchell, Newton, Deane, Draper, Whiting, Mansfield, Towers,

Dwelly, Ward, Peirce, Billings and Sutton—never became residents, and were not recognized in land allotments. Steven Day and Robert Breck received house-lots, but never occupied them. Kibbie was probably a resident for a brief time, but received no lands. Philip Knight, though one of the earliest householders, seems not to have signed, and removed. Elizabeth Hall went to her husband in England, selling his house and lot to Richard Smith. Cowdall and Solomon Johnson had sold out to Prescott and Day, and Ball returned to Watertown.

The organization of the corporation being thus complete, the townsmen diligently applied themselves to securing the most obvious necessities for comfortable living as a Christian community. Cowdall's deed of 1647 informs us that Linton and Waters had raised corn upon the fifty-acre intervale lot lying southerly from the present Atherton Bridge before that year, and the deep, rich soil guaranteed a sufficient yield of grain for the planters and their cattle; but there was no mill nearer than that at Sudbury. Prescott had already been taking some steps to supply this prime need of the town. He had at least chosen the site and bargained with a millwright, as is shown by the formal contract made between him and the town November 20, 1653. Six months later his grist-mill was at work.

The assignment of home and intervale lots also engaged the attention of the prudential men in November. The allotments which had been made by Prescott, Day and others in the infancy of the plantation, and subsequent purchases based upon them, were confirmed. Actual settlers were given in the established ranges of lots twenty acres each of upland for a dwelling-place and twenty acres of intervale for planting.

Lancaster has often been called a Watertown colony because John Winthrop so styled it in 1643. But of the fifty-five who signed the covenant, twelve were from Dorchester, six were of Sudbury, six of Hingham and five each from Roxbury and Watertown. The others came from eight or ten different localities. The most prominent of the Dorchester colonists was the first prudential man named in the incorporating act, Edward Breck. He had been one of the selectmen of Dorchester for several years, and upon his ability and experience great dependence was placed by the Lancaster men. He built a house near the wading-place of Penecook, and retained his land, but lived here only for a brief period. His continued absence and the death of Hadlocke seriously obstructed the conduct of the town's prudential affairs, and early in 1654, there being about twenty families in the town, the majority petitioned that they might be relieved from their probationary condition, and allowed full liberties of a town according to law, electing their officers and transacting business by legal town-meetings. There were then but four resident freemen: William Kerly, Thomas Rowlandson, Thomas Sawyer and William Lewis; but the petition was granted, and Lieutenant Edward Goodnow, of Sudbury, and Thomas Danforth, of Cambridge, were at the same time deputed to lay out the bounds of the town's grant, a duty they never found time to perform.

For the needs of the pioneer the meadows, as natural grass lands were called, came next in value to the house-lot and planting-field, and a first division of these open tracts wherever found in the town limits was agreed upon—four acres to be set to each one hundred pounds of estate. During the year 1654 the first legal town-meetings were held. At the earliest "the plantacion upon legall warning assembled;" formally confirmed the recorded acts of the prudential men appointed by the General Court the year before, some of these, as has been noted, not being strictly in conformity with requirements of law. At another town-meeting it was voted "that there should not be taken into the Towne above the number of thirty-five families." The greed of land was strong, but this short-sighted restriction had but a brief life. In the same territory over three thousand families now find "ample room and verge enough."

During the autumn of this year the Christian Sagamore Showanon died. Reverends John Eliot and Increase Nowell were at once sent to Washacum by the court, to prevail if possible, with the Indians, to elect Matthew, nephew of the dead sachem, as his successor. They were successful. There seems to have been some reason to fear that the choice might fall upon another chief, also in the line of succession, whose drunken habits and dislike of the colonists made his accession to power much dreaded. Thus far the friendly relations between the Englishmen and the Nashaways seem to have been in no way strained. The very rare mention of the tribe in the town annals goes to prove that no quarrels or grave jealousies interrupted friendly feeling. Moreover, Eliot gratefully records Showanon's loving hospitality, and the generous care he showed in protecting him with a body-guard on his journeying to the interior. He once complains that the Indian wizards or "powows" had not been wholly silenced; but all Christendom then believed in the reality of demoniacal possession, and little more than a year had passed since Margaret Jones, the witch, had been silenced by hanging in Charlestown. The unregenerate, credulous children of the forest feared sorcery, just as did their enlightened neighbors, only they had not learned the refinements of the English methods of dealing with sorcerers. When they found that drugs were far more efficacious to relieve pain and sickness than charms and juggling tricks, powowing lost its hold upon their credulity.

Standing off at this historic distance, the position

of Sholan and his people living on terms of friendly intimacy with the adventurous pioneers whom they had invited to share the beautiful land of their inheritance, glows with only pleasing and romantic hues.

CHAPTER II.

LANCASTER—(*Continued*).

The First Minister—Arbitration—Commissioners Appointed to Direct Town Affairs—The First Highways—Noyes' Survey—Disaffection of the Indians—Monoco's Raid—James Quanapaug's Fidelity—The Destruction of Lancaster.

THE years 1653 and 1654 saw the addition of seven families to the town, those of Thomas and Nathaniel Joslin, John Rugg, John Rigby, John Moore, Sr., Stephen Gates and Thomas Rowlandson. The year 1654 was also graced by the coming of their chosen pastor, Master Joseph Rowlandson, of Ipswich. His signature to the covenant is dated February 12, 1654, and he, perhaps, did not begin preaching before that time, although he had been listed among the townsmen the March previous. Other ministers had doubtless been solicited to the charge after the disappearance of Norcross, but a church in the wilderness, with its little group of poor immigrants, had small attractions for men of education, unless they were largely endowed with the missionary spirit. We find, therefore, the first clergyman called to Lancaster a youth of twenty-two years, fresh from Harvard College, the lone graduate of 1652; one, moreover, but recently escaped from a whipping-post and penance for a collegiate prank—the penning and posting upon Ipswich Meeting-House of a doggerel satire, which the civil authorities dignified as a "scandalous libell." Master Rowlandson seems at once to have won the respect and love of those among whom he had cast his lot, and to have asserted his own dignity and that of the church; for the saucy maiden, Mary Gates, who contradicted him in public assembly, and the aged reprobate, Edmund Parker, who wouldn't sit under the droppings of the sanctuary, were alike speedily humbled and subjected to ecclesiastical and civil discipline. His father and mother came to Lancaster with him, but before two years had passed he was married to Mary, the daughter of John White, then the richest of his parishioners. A parsonage had been built in a central position between the two villages. The meeting-house was not yet raised, but the site had been already chosen, about twenty rods southeast of the parsonage, on the highest ground in the present Middle Cemetery. A long narrow knoll, a little to the east of the meeting-house site, was set apart for a burial-place.

The prudential men elect soon found the ordering of the town's affairs to be neither an easy nor a pleasant task. Although the divisions of land were governed so far as possible by casting lots, they gave rise to some bickering, and various questions arose about which the managers themselves seriously differed. The Kerly family began to display their characteristic firmness in their own opinions. The salary of Master Rowlandson became a knotty subject of debate. Plainly there was occasion to make trial of the arbitration provided for in the covenant. Major Simon Willard, of Concord, Captain Edward Johnson, of Woburn, and Edmund Rice, of Sudbury, being summoned as arbitrators in April, 1656, by their "determinacions" settled twenty-four mooted points. The minister's salary was fixed at fifty pounds a year, and as in a rural community without money, church tithes must be paid chiefly in products of the land, wheat as a commercial standard was to be reckoned at sixpence per bushel less than the price at the Bay, and other grain in the same proportion.

Stephen Gates had been chosen the first constable, an office of larger dignity and more varied duties than now appertain to it. He neglected to notify the four freemen at the proper time to send in their votes for nomination of the magistrates, was fined, and his black staff of office passed to Prescott.

Ralph Houghton was nominated the first clerk of the writs, and confirmed by the County Court in October, 1656. He was an able penman, and thenceforward methodical records of the town's transactions were faithfully kept by him during twenty years. John Roper, a much esteemed addition, was accepted a townsman this year, and given the home-lot originally Solomon Johnson's. In 1656 also the first county road, that to Concord, was laid out.

Another petition from Lancaster this year demanded the attention of the court. Out of the thirty heads of families there were but five freemen in all, and two of these were disabled by years. The law requiring that in any action by selectmen the "major part" should be freemen, it followed that Kerly, Lewis and Sawyer by necessity could control all such action. Two of these, at least, being men of stubborn character, their opinions doubtless sometimes traversed those of more able and wiser citizens, or denied the just demands of the majority. The only remedies were, to transact all business details by formal town-meetings—which, "by reason of many inconveniences and incumbrances," was not to be thought of—to obtain more freemen, or to petition to be relegated to the care of commissioners. The town "by a general vote" petitioned for the last, and May 6, 1657, Major Simon Willard, Captain Edward Johnson and Thomas Danforth, three of the ablest men in the commonwealth, were appointed commissioners, and empowered "to order the afaires of the said Lancaster, and to heare and determine their seurall diffrences and grieuances which obstruct the present and future good of the towne, standing in power till they bee able to make returne to the Genrall

Court that the towne is sufisiantly able to order its owne affaires according to Law."

The first meeting of this august board of advisers was held at the house of John Prescott, in September, and found abundant matter requiring their adjudication. By this date Lancaster had won a valuable accession in the person of Master John Tinker, who had purchased of Richard Smith the house originally built by Waters, and also the Knight house upon George Hill. Tinker, who had been a resident of Groton for a short time before coming to Lancaster, was a freeman of education and clerkly ability. He had bought the monopoly of the fur trade of Lancaster and Groton for the year 1657, paying eight pounds for it. A gift of land called Gibson's Hill—upon the east end of which now stands the mansion of the late Nathaniel Thayer—was made to Master Tinker by the town at this time, and indicates that there was material reason for his change of residence. The commissioners appointed John Tinker, William Kerly, John Prescott, Ralph Houghton and Thomas Sawyer selectmen, and instructed them in part as follows:

2. *Encuragt master Rowlandson.* That the said Selecttmen take Care, for the due encuragment of master Rowlandson who now Laboureth amongst them in the ministrie of gods holy word, And alsoe that they take care for erecting a meeting house, pound and stokes. And that they see to the Laying out of towne and Countrie high waies and the towne bounds, and the making and executing of all such orders and by Lawes as may be for the Comon good of the plac (i e) respecting Corne feilds, medowes, Comon pasturag Land, fences, herding of Catell and restraint of damage by swine and for the recouring of thos fines and forfitures that are due to the towne from such psones as haue taken vp land and not fullfilled the Condicions of theire respectiue grants wherby the Comon good of the Plantacion hath beene and yett is much obstructed.

3. *Paymt. of towne debts.* That they take Care for the payment of all towne debts and for that end they are herby impowred to make such Levies or rats from time to time, as they shall see needfull for the discharge of the Comon Charges of the towne, And in Case any of the inhabitance shall refuse or neglect to mak due payment both for quality and quantitie upon resonable demand, they may then Levie the same by distresse, And are impowered alsoe to take 2^{s} mor and aboue such fine or Rate as is due to bee paid for the satisfacion vnto your oficer that taketh the distress for his paines theirin.

4. *manor of asesments.* That in all their asesments, all Lands apropriated, (Land giuen for addittions excepted) shall bee valued in manor following (i e) home Lotts the vnbroken att 20^{s} p accor and the broken vp at thirtie shillings by the accor the entervaile the broken at fowertie shillings the accor and the vnbroken at thirtie shillings the accor, and medow Land att thirtie shillings, and in all rates to the ministrie The home Lotts to pay tenn shillings p ann. according to the towne order. And this order to Continue for fiue yeares next ensuing. Alsoe that the selectmen tak spesiall Care for the preseruing and safe keeping the townes Records. And if they see it need full, that they pcure the same to bee writen out fairly into a new booke, to be keept for the good of posterity, the charge wherof to bee borne by the pprietors of the said Lands respectiuely.

5. *none freed from Rats vnless they relinquish vnder hand.* That noe man be freed from the Rates of any Land granted him in pprietie eccept he mak a release and full resignation theirof vnder his hand, And doe alsoe relinquish and surender vp to the vse of the towne, his home Lott Intervaile and medow, all or none.

6. *accomodacons for* 5 *or* 6: *be Left before* 2 *diuision.* That their be accomodacions of Land reserued for the meet encuragment of fiue or six able men to com and inhabit in the said place (i e) as may bee helpfull to the encuragment of the worke of god their, and the Comon good of the place. And that no second deuision be Laid out vnto any man vntil those Lotts bee sett apte for that vse; by the selectmen, that is to say home Lotts entervaile and medow.

7. *master Rowlandsons deed of gift.* The Comisioners doe Judg meet to Confirme the deed of gift made by the towne vnto master Rowlandson (i e) of a house and Land which was sett a part for the vse of the ministrie bering date 1th 6th mon 1657 vpon Condicion that master Rowlandson remoue not his habitacion from the said place for the space of three yeare next ensuing, vnlesse the said inhabitance shall consent theirto, And the Comisioners aproue theirof.

* * * * * * * * * *

finally agst inmates. That none be entertained into the towne as inmates, tenants, or otherwise to inhabit within the bounds of the said towne, without the Consent of the selectmen or the maior pte of them, first had and obtained, and entered in the record of the towne as their act, vpon penalty of twenty shillings p month both to the pson that shall soe offend by intruding himselfe, And alsoe to the pson that shall ofend in receiuing or entertaining such pson into the towne.

Priualedges & voats. And that noe other pson or psones whatsoeuer shalbe admited to the Inioyment of the priualedges of the place and towneshipp, Either in accomodaccions vots elections or disposalles of any of the Comon priualedges and interests theirof, saue only such as haue beene first orderly admited and accepted (as aforesaid) to the enioyment theirof.

The order against entertaining strangers is, of course, an echo of Governor Winthrop's order of court passed in 1637, which was so unpopular at the time that its author felt called upon to publish an elaborate defence of so obvious an infringement of the people's rights. John Tinker inaugurated a more systematic method of recording the town's business, first copying into a new book the contents of the "Old Town Book." The selectmen during 1657 and 1658 ordered that all highways, whether town or county, should be amply recorded for the information of posterity, and the waymarks be annually repaired. All lands granted with butts or bounds were ordered recorded by the town clerk, for which special fees were to be paid him. The valuable registry of lands in four large volumes, beginning in 1657 and ending with the last division of common land in 1836, is the fruit of this order. Mordecai McLeod, a Scotchman, was admitted to citizenship. A letter was sent to Major Willard inviting him to make his residence in Lancaster, with certain proposals "concerning accomodacions," which proved sufficiently attractive to be promptly accepted. The selectmen ordered that the inhabitants on the Neck should build a cart-bridge over the North River near Goodman Waters' house, and that those living south of that river should build a similar bridge over the Nashaway at the wading-place. These bridges were completed that year, and stood, the first a few rods above the present Sprague bridge, the other at or near the site of the present Atherton bridge. The existing highways were duly recorded as follows:

Cuntrie way. One way for the Cuntrie Lyeth: from the entranc in to the towne on the east pte from Wataquadocke hill, downe to the Swann Swampe, and ouer the wading place through Penicooke riuer: that is by the indian warre [weir] and soe along by master Rowlandsons ground and the riuer and againe vp to goodman Waters his barne betweene old goodman Breckes lott and that which was Richard Smithes now in the possession of John Tinker. To bee as it is staked out, att the Least fiue Rods wide, on the neck, and to be as wide as can be on the east side of the riuer vnder tenn Rods and aboue fiue, and soe from goodman Waterses ouer the north riuer, vp by master Rowlandsons the breadth as is Laid out and fenced and marked and staked up to goodman Prescotts Ry feild and soe betweene that and John mores lott and Crosse the brook and vpp betweene John Johnsons and John Ropers Lotts fiue Rods wide; And soe beyond all the Lotts into the woods.

Way to quasaponikin medow. one way: from goodman Waterses barne

to quasaponikin medowes before the houses of goodman gates and both goodman Josllins &c : as it is laid out and marked : fiue rods wide and in the enteruaille 2 rods wide.

To quasaponikin hill. one way : from goodman Breckes house through the end of his ground, and Ralph Houghtons James Athertons goodman Whites and goodman Leweises &c, to quasaponikin hill fiue Rods wide.

To the mill. one way to the mill att the heads of the Lotts of John Prescott Thomas Sawyer Jacob ffarer &c fiue Rods wide from the Cuntrie highway to the mill.

Street in ye south end of ye towne. one way Called the Street or Cross way : from goodman Kerleyes entervaile and the rest of the entervaile Lotts : And soe south beetweene the double rang of Lotts : fiue Rods wide and soetowards washacome when it is past Jacob ffarers Lott : And alsoe Itt runes the same widuess betweene the house Lotts and entervaile lotts northward to the wallnut swampe :

from the Cuntrie highway to ye entervaile of Jo : Prescott soe to Wataquadoke. one way from the mill way att the end of goodman Prescotts Ry feeild, to the Entrance of his entervaile fiue Rods wide, And through the entervailes ouer Nashaway Riuer and the Still riuers, to the outsid fenc, of Jacob ffarers Lott, two Rods and half wide.

Way to the plumtrees & groten. One way : from that entervaile way downe along all the entervailes to the Still riuer and towards groten on the east side of the riuer two rods wide.

With the exception of the last, which was removed to higher land, these ways are all in use to-day, with a few local alterations of line and a general contraction in width.

The minister's maintenance was no small burden upon his little flock, so few and so poor, and there was evidently much dilatoriness and uncertainty in the payment of the stipend. Suddenly, in 1658, it was noised about through the settlement that Master Rowlandson was about to accept an invitation to the church in Billerica. The selectmen at once visited him to learn if the report were true, and became convinced of his determination to go. Twelve days later the messengers from Billerica came "to fetch Master Rowlandson away." The people assembled, and unanimously voted to invite him "to abide and settle amongst them in the worke of the ministrie," and to allow him "fiftie pounds a yeare, one halfe in wheat, sixpence in the bushell vnder the Curant prises at Boston and Charlstowne, and the rest in other good curant pay in like proporcion, or otherwise fiftie and fiue pounds a yeare, taking his pay att such rats as the prises of Corne are sett eurie yeare by the Court." The meeting also confirmed the deed of house and land which had been made in his favor the preceding August. Mr. Rowlandson accepted the invitation upon the terms proposed. The first house for public worship was completed this year, if not earlier. All previous meetings of the selectmen had been at private dwellings, but that of June 22, 1658, was "at the meeting-house."

Thus far in the town's history houses must have been constructed of logs or hewn timber, stone and clay. Prescott's saw-mill was in operation early in 1659, after which more commodious framed structures doubtless began to appear. It having been found impossible to obtain the services of either of the surveyors designated by the court to lay out the bounds of the town, consent was given for the employment of Ensign Thomas Noyes, of Sudbury, a return of whose survey is as follows :

April 7th, 1659 In obedience to the order of the honoured generall Court to the now inhabitants of lancaster layd out ye bounds of lancaster accordinge to the sayd grants, wee begane at the wading place of nassua riuer and rune a lline three mille vpon a west north west poynt one degree westerly, and from the end of ye three mill we rune two perpendicular lines beinge fiue mills in length each line, the one line runing north north est one degree northerly, the other line running south south west one degree southerly wee made right angls at the ends of the ten mille line, runing two perpendicular lines, runninge both of them vpon an east south east poynt on degree esterly, one of the sayd lines beinge the north line wee did rune it eight mill in length the other being the south line, wee did rune it six mill and a halfe in length and ther meeting wth the midell of the line, which is the line of the plantation granted to the petitionrs of Sudbury whos plantation is called Whipsuffrage and so runinge their line four mill wanting thre score perches to the end of their line at the nor west Angle of Whipsuffrage plantation and from the sayd angle of Whipsufrage runing six mille and three quarters ther meeting with ye fore sayd east end of the eight mile line and soe period all the sayd lines and bounds of lancaster which sayd grants rune eighty square milles of land

this by me THOMAS NOYES

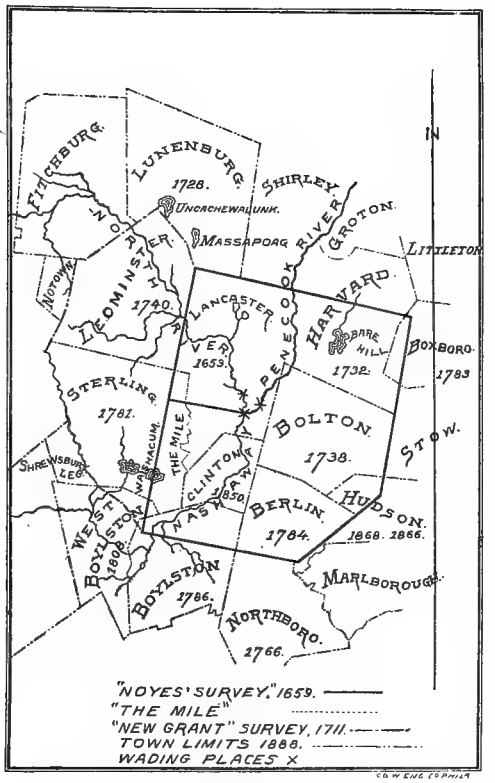
The deputyes approue of this returne. our Honord Magists consenting hereto. 14 October 1672. WILLIAM TORREY, *Cleric.*

The magists consent thereto prouided a farme of a mile square 640 acres, be layd out wthin this bounds for the countrys vse in such place as is not already Appropriated to any—their brethren the deputyes hereto consenting. And that Major Willard, Ralph Houghton & Jno Prescot see it donne.

Consented to by ye deputies EDWD RAWSON *Secretary*
18 . 8 . 72 WILLIAM TORREY, *Cleric.*

Why the report was not approved until thirteen years after the actual survey, and six years after the death of the surveyor, does not appear in records. Neither is there further allusion anywhere found to the mile appropriated for the State, and the provision was perhaps disregarded at first and finally overlooked. The measurements of the survey were made with the liberal allowance usual at that time in laying out town grants, and can hardly be explained by the allowance for swag of chain and irregularity of ground, that being customarily only about one rod in thirty. The ten-mile line of Noyes was, by modern methods of survey, over eleven miles in length, and the other dimensions were proportionably generous. The method of defining the limits of a purchase from the Indians, by distances and courses from a central point, was not unique. Major Simon Willard, in bargaining for Concord in 1636, "poynting to the four quarters of the world, declared that they had bought three miles from that place east, west, north and south, and the sd Indians manifested their free consent thereto." So Sholan and the white men probably stood, in 1642, at the wading-place of the Nashaway, which was very near the bridge known as Atherton's, and agreed upon the transfer of a tract of land five miles northerly, five miles southerly, five miles easterly and three miles to the westward. John Prescott, who was perhaps present at the time of purchase, and certainly the only one of the first proprietors now resident in the town, and acquainted with the exact terms of the compact, accompanied Noyes to see that the mutual intention of grantor and grantees was satisfied. It is to be presumed that the three-mile base-line was run twenty-three and one-half degrees north of a true east and west course, to accord with Prescott's knowledge

of that intent. In running the southern boundary Noyes came upon the north line of the Whipsufferage plantation, which had been settled by court grant and laid out the year before. He could not therefore complete the rectangle called for by Sholan's deed, but added a sufficient triangle on the east to make up for that cut off by this Marlborough grant. The original



territory of Lancaster was therefore an irregular pentagon containing, by Noyes' record of survey, eighty and two-tenths square miles, but actually embracing not far from one hundred.

The extent of their magnificent realm and its capacity for human support seems to have dawned upon the town after the viewing of their boundaries, for this year the restriction of families to thirty-five was rescinded, and a new policy declared that "soe many inhabitants bee admitted as may be meetly accommodated, provided they are such as are acceptable."

From his letters it may fairly be inferred that Master Tinker was neither by physical constitution nor tastes well adapted to the rough life of the pioneers, and this, added to the fact that his ambition and abilities naturally demanded a larger sphere for their exercise, deprived Lancaster of his services. In June, 1659, he had removed to New London, Ct., and died three years later, when on the high road to wealth and political preferment. There were accepted as citizens during the year before, Major Simon Willard, Jonas Fairbanks, Roger Sumner, Gamaliel Beman, Thomas Wilder and Daniel Gaiens. Wilder was at once appointed selectman in place of John Tinker, bought the lot next north of the trucking-house and there resided for the rest of his life. He came from Charlestown. Roger Sumner was of Dorchester, and was, like Wilder, a freeman. He had, in 1656, married Mary, the daughter of Thomas Joslin. He seems to have been the first deacon in the Lancaster Church, although but twenty-eight years of age; being dismissed from the Dorchester congregation August 26, 1660, "that with other Christians at Lancaster a Church might be begun there." At this date doubtless Mr. Rowlandson was ordained—though no record of such fact is found—and the church thus formally organized. Beman also came from Dorchester, bringing a large family. Both he and Sumner were assigned home-lots upon the Neck. Jonas Fairbanks, of Dedham, and Lydia Prescott, the youngest daughter of John, were the first couple whose marriage was solemnized within the limits of Lancaster, the ceremony being performed by John Tinker by authority of special license. They set up their roof-tree upon the next lot south of Prescott's on George Hill, now owned by Jonas Goss. Daniel Gaiens, so far as is known, brought no family with him. He was assigned a house-lot between Rugg and Kerly in the George Hill range.

Major Willard succeeded to the greater portion of Tinker's Lancaster land rights, and occupied the house before often mentioned as the first built in the town. Its site is in the garden of Caleb T. Symmes. Whether the major rebuilt or enlarged the dwelling which had been occupied successively by Waters, Hall, Smith and Tinker is not told, but the Willard home must have been of ample proportions to fill the needs of his natural and enforced hospitality as a magistrate, and also furnish the suitable accommodations for a garrison and military headquarters. That it was a substantial structure, largely of brick or stone, we know from the fact that at its abandonment in 1676 it was partially blown up, which means would not have been used if fire alone could have effected its destruction. It was probably surrounded by a stockade, being the chief garrison. Here Major Willard lived for about thirteen years, often called from home for public duty, now in Council, now in "Keeping County Courts," now in exercise of his military office.

The three commissioners continued to appoint selectmen until, in March, 1664, the town legally assembled confirmed all that had been done and recorded in past years, and elected Major Willard, John Prescott, Thomas Wilder, John Roper and Ralph Houghton selectmen, empowering them "to order all the prudencial afairs of the towne only they are not to dispose of lands." This action of the people was accompanied with a request to the commissioners to ratify their doings and allow them thereafter the full liberty of a town, to which they gladly consented. The General Court did not formally discharge the commissioners, however, until May 7, 1672.

For several years the town's affairs apparently moved on in very quiet fashion. Lancaster had become a vigorous, healthful community, with as much individuality as the jealously paternal nature of the colonial government would permit. The few scant records of town-meetings tell only of the harmonious and commonplace, for under the discreet leadership of Major Willard and Prescott the contentious and the busybodies were soon silenced. That a minority existed who led unedifying lives in the midst of the children of grace is now and then disclosed by the Middlesex County Court records, but seldom were the sins of these such as would call for any court's attention nowadays.

A sermon-scorner, Edmund Parker, who lived squalidly in a hovel, was arraigned, convicted and admonished "for neglect of God's public worship;" Daniel James was presented before the grand jury "for living from under family government;" John Adams was summoned to answer "for lying and false dealing;" William Lincorne "for forcing of himselfe into the towne as an Inhabitant," contrary to law, was warned out and had his goods attached to secure the fine. Nothing more criminal than these examples appears. It may be deemed rather complimentary than otherwise that the town was once presented for not having stocks; it had no use for them.

January 2, 1671, Cyprian Stevens married Mary, the daughter of Simon Willard, and the next year is found in possession of the "Houseings, Barns, Stables, Orchards, Lands, Entervales, meadow lying and being in Lancaster," lately the property of his father-in-law, who had removed to his Nonaicoiacus Farm, then within the bounds of Groton.

No record of the town's doings between 1671 and 1717 are found, save in the register of the proprietors' divisions of common land. This lamentable gap in the manuscript annals of the town is by tradition attributed to the loss of a volume of records by fire. Whatever church records may have existed prior to the pastorate of Rev. John Prentice, in 1708, have likewise disappeared. The facts of the town's history for this period of forty-six years must be chiefly gleaned from county and State archives.

Daniel Gookin, writing the year previous to the breaking out of war with the Wampanoags, says the Nashaways had become reduced by disease and battle with the Mohawks to fifteen or sixteen families; that is, to less than two hundred men, women and children. Matthew, the Englishmen's friend, was dead, and his nephew, the treacherous Sam, alias Shoshanim, alias Upchattuck, reigned in his place. The tribe was not only few in numbers, but sadly degenerate. In fact, the average savage was always a dirty loafer, often besotted, who would not work so long as he could beg or live upon the toil of the women of his wigwam. The tidy English housewife shuddered whenever she saw one entering her kitchen. His habits were repulsive, his presence unsavory, his appetite insatiate. He was quick to take offence, and never forgot an injury or slight.

The Nashaways at first stood in great awe of the white men as superior beings; feared their far-reaching muskets; hoped for their protection against the predatory Mohawks, and craved the hatchets, knives and other skilled handiwork of the smiths, and the cloths, kettles, fish-hooks and gewgaws of their traders. In Sholan's day the strangers were few and gracious, brought with them valued arts, and were much to be desired as neighbors. But familiarity cast out awe and was fatal to mutual respect. The younger warriors, after a time, began to look askance at the increasing power, encroachments and meddlesomeness of the English, and the planters made little concealment of their contempt for the communists of the forest. When, in 1663, the Mohawks made a sanguinary raid into Central Massachusetts, the white men stood aloof, offering no aid to the children of the soil against the marauders. When again, in 1669, the Nashaways, Nipmucks and other Massachusetts tribes combined in an expedition to wreak vengeance upon their life-long foes, the English proffered no assistance. This species of neighborliness was not likely to be forgotten by the defeated warriors. Most of the braves now possessed guns and had learned to use them with more or less skill.

So early as 1653, George Adams, who lived at Watertown, but claimed proprietorship in Lancaster, was convicted of selling guns and strong waters to Indians, and, having nothing to satisfy the law, was ordered to be severely whipped the next lecture day at Boston. When a valuable otter or beaver skin could be got in exchange for two or three quarts of cheap rum, the temptation was too great for Adams, and he was perhaps neither poorer nor less honest than other traders. Even John Tinker broke the law, by his own confession. The red men had not learned the white man's art of transmuting grain into intoxicating drink, but they had quickly acquired the taste for rum, and like wilful children indulged their appetites without restraint when opportunity offered.

Then, as now, there were stringent laws restrictive and prohibitory respecting the sale of strong drink. Then, as now, these laws were evaded everywhere and constantly. Then two sure roads to financial prosperity were the keeping of a dram-shop and buying furs of Indians. What with the refusal to aid against the Mohawks, the peddling of rum, the greed of the peltry-buyers, and the nagging of proselyting preachers and laymen—very few of whom possessed a tithe of the prudence and willingness to make haste slowly which characterized the Apostle Eliot—it is hardly to be accounted strange that degenerate sagamores, succeeding the generous Sholan and Matthew, followed their savage instincts; and that a harvest of blood followed where folly had planted.

Early in June, 1675, before the actual breaking out of hostilities between the colonists and the Wampa-

noags, it was suspected that Philip had solicited the assistance of the Nipmucks, and agents were sent to discover their intentions. The Nashaways were apparently not distrusted. The agents were deceived, and returned with renewed pledges of friendship from the older chiefs. A shrewder messenger, Ephraim Curtis, familiar with Indian wiles, in July came from a similar mission, bringing news that startled the Governor and Council from their fancied security. The inland clans were already mustering for war, and with them were Shoshanim and Monoco, leading the Nashaways. The Council promptly sent a mounted troop to treat with the savages, or if needful to "endeavor to reduce them by force of arms." Counting, in their foolish self-confidence, one trooper equal to ten Indians, this platoon, which should have been a battalion, invited ambush and met disastrous defeat at Menameset, August 2d. Major Willard, at the head of less than fifty men, set out from Lancaster on the morning of August 4th, under instructions from the Council "to look after some Indians to the westward of Lancaster," probably the Nashaways. While on the march, news came to him that Brookfield was beleaguered, and he hastened to the rescue, re-enforcing the besieged garrison the same night. In that quarter he remained until September 8th, five or six companies arriving from the Bay to join his command. Lancaster and Groton were thus stripped of their natural defenders, and wily foes recognized the opportunity.

The Nashaways, led by their two bloodthirsty and cunning sachems, Sam and One-eyed John—who was also known as Monoco and Apequinash—had been conspicuous in the Brookfield fight. On the 15th of August, in the evening, Captain Mosley with a company of sixty dragoons arrived at Lancaster, having been sent thither by Major Willard to pursue a band of savages, reported to be skulking in the woods about the frontier settlements. On the 16th Mosley started out in search of the enemy, but their chief, Monoco, intimately acquainted with all the region around, warily avoided the troopers, got into their rear, and on August 22d made a bloody raid upon Lancaster. Daniel Gookin says that twenty of Philip's warriors were with Monoco, and this is plausible, for Philip, who came into the camp of the Quabaugs with the small remnant of his tribe the day after the siege of Brookfield was raised by Major Willard, there met the one-eyed sachem and gave him a generous present of wampum. From that time Philip seems to have been no more seen in battle, and if his men fought at all, it must have been under other leaders.

Monoco gave no quarter. The foray was made in the afternoon of Sunday. The house of Mordecai McLeod, which was the northernmost in the town situated somewhere near the North Village Cemetery, was burned, and McLeod with his wife and two children were murdered. The same day three other men were slain, and a day or two after a fourth, all of whom were mangled in a barbarous manner. Two of these victims, George Bennett and Jacob Farrar, Jr., were heads of Lancaster families; the others, William Flagg and Joseph Wheeler, were probably soldiers detailed for service here from Watertown and Concord. This massacre was but the prelude to a more terrible tragedy, the most sanguinary episode in Lancaster history.

Over thirty years had passed since the building of the first dwelling in the Nashua Valley. There had been one hundred and eighty-one recorded births in the town, and, including the recent murders by the savages, there had been but fifty-eight deaths. Ten of the oldest planters had died in Lancaster and five elsewhere: Thomas Rowlandson, Thomas James, Thomas Joslin, John Whitcomb, Stephen Gates, John Tinker, Edward Breck, Richard Linton, Thomas Wilder, Steven Day, Philip Knight, John Smith, William Kerly, William Lewis, John White. The sons, as they reached manhood, had usually sought wives among their neighbors' daughters, built homes on the paternal acres, and their families grew apace. John Prescott could number thirty-five grandchildren, nearly all living in sight of the old trucking, house. With its two mills, its skilled mechanics, its spinning-wheels buzzing in every cottage, the town was independent of the world. Its nearest neighbors were Groton and Marlborough, ten miles away. Numerous barns and granaries attested the farmers' prosperity. Cattle, horses, sheep, swine and poultry had multiplied exceedingly. Time and thrift had increased domestic comforts. Frame houses, in which the windows, though small, were glazed, had succeeded the gloomy log-cabins. Orchards had come into bearing and yielded bountifully. All kinds of grain flourished. Wheat was received for taxes at six shillings the bushel, corn at three shillings six pence, and apples were sold at a shilling per bushel. Potatoes were unknown until fifty years later, but of most other vegetables, and especially of peas, beans and turnips, large crops were raised.

The dwellings, as at first, were mainly in two scattered groups of about equal numbers, one occupying the Neck, the other extending along the slope of George Hill. But Prescott with two of his sons now lived near his grist and saw-mills, a mile to the south, the "mill-path" leading thither. John Moore and James Butler had built upon Wataquadock. Several of the houses were more or less fortified, being furnished with flankers or surrounded with a stockade. Of those known were: Prescott's, at the mills; Richard Wheeler's, in South Lancaster; Thomas Sawyer's, not far north from the house of Sally Case, his descendant; Rev. Joseph Rowlandson's and Cyprian Stevens'. It is supposed that a few soldiers from the older towns were distributed among these garrisons.

The Christian Indians, despite the flagrant abuse with which they were treated after the breaking out

of war, generally proved faithful to the English, and their services as scouts were invaluable. Among these none deserves better to be honored in Lancaster story than James Wiser, alias Quanapaug or Quanapohit, whose courage and fidelity would have saved the town from the massacre of 1676, had not his timely warning been unwisely discredited by the apparently lethargic Governor and his slumberous Council.

Quanapaug was a Nashaway, for he owned lands at Washacum in 1670. He was so noted for his brave conduct in the contests between the English and the Wampanoags, when he served as captain of the Christian Indians, that Philip had given orders to his lieutenants that he must be shown no mercy if captured. Governor Leveret having ordered that scouts should be sent out to ascertain something of the numbers, condition and plans of the foe, Major Gookin selected James Quanapaug and Job Kattenanit for this perilous enterprise, and these two men, carrying a little "parcht meal" for sustenance and armed only with knives and hatchets, made the terrible journey of eighty miles upon snow-shoes to the Indians' camp at Menameset, setting out from Cambridge December 30th. They were greatly mistrusted and their lives threatened by some of the Indians; but fortunately James found a powerful friend in Monoco, who respected him as a brave comrade in the Mohawk War, and took him into his own wigwam. But James knew that his every motion was watched by suspicious enemies, and that even Monoco's protection might be powerless in the presence of Philip, who was expected soon. Finding that a meeting with that dangerous personage was inevitable if he delayed longer, and having effected the main purpose of his errand, he escaped by stratagem, and on the 24th of January, 1676, brought to the Massachusetts authorities full information respecting the hostile camp, and especially the intentions of the sagamores; Monoco declaring that "they would fall upon Lancaster, Groton, Marlborough, Sudbury and Medfield, and that the first thing they would do should be to cut down Lancaster bridge, so to hinder their flight and assistance coming to them, and that they intended to fall upon them in about twenty days from Wednesday last."

It can scarcely be believed, but the result proves that no heed was paid to this seasonable warning; no steps were taken to ward off the coming blow. A body of troops, who had been in pursuit of the fleeing Narragansetts not far from Marlborough, had, less than a week before, because of a lack of provisions, been withdrawn to Boston instead of being used to garrison the threatened towns. Even the chief military officer of the State, Daniel Gookin, afterwards confessed that the report of Quanapaug "was not then credited as it should have been, and consequently no so good means used to prevent it, or at least to have lain in ambushments for the enemy." The fact is, little energy or skill of generalship was shown then or afterwards, and the savages wreaked their vengeance in due time upon all the towns named according to Monoco's programme.

Meanwhile some premonition of the approaching tempest reached the valley of the Nashua, and in fear and discouragement the people wrought at such defences as were possible. The outlying houses were abandoned or visited only by day. The chief military officer, Henry Kerly, the minister and perhaps some of the other prominent citizens finally went to Boston to beg for additional soldiers. In their absence the storm burst upon the devoted town. About ten o'clock at night of the 9th of February, Job Kattenanit reached the door of Major Gookin in Cambridge, half dead with fatigue. He had left his wife and children in the hostile camp at New Braintree, and traveled night and day to notify his English friends of their imminent peril. He confirmed every word that his fellow-spy, Quanapaug, had told. On the morrow Lancaster was to be assaulted, and Job had seen the war-party of "about 400" start out upon their bloody errand.

Shortly after the attack upon the Narragansett fort, December 19th, the remnant of that tribe, of which about five hundred were reputed "stout warriors," abandoned their homes. Late in January they joined the Quabaugs and Nashaways in their winter-quarters. The snow lay deep in the woods and the weather had been of unwonted severity, but before the close of the month a thaw suddenly swept away the snow, and the country became again passable. Philip, with his feeble following, seems to have lost that importance as a military leader which tradition has persisted in attributing to him, and had become at best only an artful political general; maliciously instigating animosities, but never appearing in the fight, and often overruled in council. Quanapaug reported the fighting men at Menameset to be "the Nipmuk Indians, the Quabaug Indians, the Pacachooge Indians, the Weshakum and Nashaway Indians." The accession of the Narragansetts more than doubled the force, and a part of them participated in the raid upon Lancaster, which was led by Shoshanim and Monoco, of Nashaway, Muttaump, of Quabaug, Quinnapin, a Narragansett sachem, brother-in-law of Philip, and probably Pakashoag and Matoonas, of the Nipmucks. The unqualified statement made by Rev. Timothy Harrington, in his Century Sermon, that Philip was present at the burning of Lancaster with fifteen hundred men, it must be said, wholly lacks the support of any contemporary authority. Sewall in his diary speaks of Maliompe (alias of Muttaump) as "the general at Lancaster;" and some slight deference may have been paid to that sachem by the others to ensure concert of action; but Sagamore Sam and Monoco doubtless planned the attack. From his prominence in the subsequent correspondence with the authorities

and the price set upon his head, it is evident that in popular estimation, Shoshanim was at least second devil, Philip being first.

Awakened to the emergency, Major Gookin hastened to consult with his neighbor, Thomas Danforth, a member of the Council, and a post-rider was at once despatched to order what soldiers there were stationed at Concord and Marlborough to the aid of Lancaster. About forty men, the company of Captain Wadsworth, were on duty at the latter place. Upon the arrival of the messenger at break of day, Thursday, February 10th, this little force, under their gallant commander, marched immediately for Lancaster Bridge, ten miles distant. They reached it to find the planks removed so as effectually to prevent the passage of horsemen—the river being unfordable at that season; but the troopers did not arrive to be of assistance. Captain Wadsworth forced his way over, and, avoiding an ambush laid on the main road, safely marched by another route to the garrison-house of Cyprian Stevens, near the North Bridge, and only a rifle-shot distant from the minister's.

The assault of the savages was made at sunrise, and simultaneously in five places. The people were nearly all in shelter of the feebly fortified garrison-houses. John Ball, who had for some reason remained in his own dwelling, was butchered together with his wife and an infant; and two older children were carried away captive. Though the position of Ball's house is not exactly known, it was probably on the George Hill range. At John Prescott's, his grandson, Ephraim Sawyer, was killed. Of the garrison of Richard Wheeler, which was in South Lancaster, five were slain: Richard Wheeler, Jonas Fairbanks, Joshua Fairbanks, Henry Farrar and another unknown. The first three were shot by Indians, who climbed upon the roof of the barn and could thence fire down over the palisades. The other two were waylaid while out of the garrison upon some errand.

But the chief slaughter was at the central garrison, that of the minister. For about two hours the savages beset this house in overwhelming numbers, pouring bullets upon it "like hail," and wounding several of its defenders, among whom was the commander, Ensign John Divoll. Unfortunately there was no stockade about the house and its rear flanker was unfinished and useless. The besiegers were therefore able, without much exposure, to push a cart loaded with flax and hemp from the barn, up against a lean-to in the rear, and fire it. One heroic man rushed out and extinguished the kindling flames; but a renewal of the attempt succeeded, and soon the inmates of the burning house had to choose between death by fire and the merciless rage of the yelling demons that stood in wait for them without. There were forty-two persons in the dwelling according to the best contemporary authorities, of whom twelve were men. By some marvel of daring or speed or strategy, Ephraim Roper burst through the horde of savages and escaped. Eleven men were killed, and the women and children that survived this day of horrors were dragged away captive.

We gather our knowledge of the incidents of the massacre and captivity mostly from the pious narrative of Mrs. Rowlandson, first printed in 1682. No literary work of its period in America can boast equal evidence of enduring popular favor with this of a comparatively uneducated Lancaster woman; and very few books in any age or tongue have been honored with more editions, if we except the imaginative masterpieces of inspired genius. Mrs. Rowlandson states that there were thirty-seven in the house, and that twenty-four were carried captive, twelve were slain and one escaped. It is probable that she omits five soldiers casually stationed in the garrison. She gives no names and a full list of the victims cannot now be made. The following includes all that are known:

Killed in Rowlandson Garrison.

Ensign John Divoll.
Josiah Divoll, son of John, aged 7.
Daniel Gains.
Abraham Joslin, aged 26.
John MacLoud.
Thomas Rowlandson, nephew of the minister, aged 19.
John Kettle, aged 36.
John Kettle, Jr.
Joseph Kettle, son of John, aged 10.
Mrs Elizabeth Kerley, wife of Lieut. Henry.
William Kerley, son of Lieut. Henry, aged 17.
Joseph Kerley, do., aged 7.
Mrs Priscilla Roper, wife of Ephraim.
Priscilla, child of Ephraim, aged 3.

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Carried Captive from Rowlandson Garrison.

Mrs Mary Rowlandson, wife of the minister, ransomed.
Mary Rowlandson, daughter of the minister, aged 10, ransomed.
Sarah Rowlandson, do., aged 6, wounded & died Feb. 18.
Joseph Rowlandson, son of the minister, aged 13, ransomed.
Mrs Hannah Divoll, wife of Ensign John, ransomed.
John Divoll, son of Ensign John, aged 12, died captive?
William Divoll, do., aged 4, ransomed.
Hannah Divoll, daughter of do., aged 9, died captive?
Mrs Ann Joslin, wife of Abraham, killed in captivity.
Beatrice Joslin, daughter of Abraham, do.
Joseph Joslin, brother of Abraham, aged 16.
Henry Kerley, son of Lieut. Henry, aged 18.
Hannah Kerley, daughter of do., aged 13.
Mary Kerley, do., aged 10.
Martha Kerley, do., aged 4.
A child Kerley, name & age unknown.
Mrs Elizabeth Kettle, wife of John, ransomed.
Sarah Kettle, daughter of John, aged 14, escaped.
Jonathan Kettle, son of John, aged 5.
A child Kettle, daughter do. 20
Ephraim Roper alone escaped during the assault. 1

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One of Wadworth's soldiers, George Harrington, was slain near Prescott's Mills, a few days later, and John Roper fell on the day the town was abandoned. As the total casualties by reliable authorities were fifty-five, the names of seven sufferers remain unknown. The other garrisons made successful resistance, and the Indians, after plundering and burning most of the abandoned houses, withdrew with their terror-stricken prisoners to the summit of

George Hill, and passed that night in triumphal orgies, cooking and feasting on the spoils of the farm-yards and storehouses. "This," writes Mrs. Rowlandson, "was the dolefullest night that ever my eyes saw. Oh, the roaring and singing, and dancing and yelling of those black creatures in the night, which made the place a lively resemblance of hell." By Saturday afternoon most of the blood-stained crew were again in their camps at Menameset.

The mounted companies arrived the next day, and drove away the skulkers engaged in plunder. The minister and Captain Kerly returned in time to assist in burying the mangled and charred relics of their dead relatives and neighbors. Those of the inhabitants who had a place of retreat in the seaward towns and means to remove, soon fled, and those who were forced to remain behind crowded into the strong garrisons of Thomas Sawyer and Cyprian Stevens. With them were eighteen soldiers. Thence they sent forth, March 11th, an eloquently pitiful appeal to the Governor and Council for help to remove to a place of safety.

On March 26th, Major Willard sent a troop of forty horsemen, with carts, who carried the survivors and some portion of their goods and provisions to Concord. The buildings not before destroyed were soon after burned by the Indians, two only being left standing in the town—presumably those of Butler and Moore, upon Wataquadock.

The valley of the Nashua, blood-stained and disfigured by fire-blackened ruins, lay desolate, and so remained during four years. The quick succeeding raids of the stealthy foe spread dismay even to the sea-coast throughout the English plantations. No outlying town but experienced their barbarity, and several were abandoned. The contest, one of racial antipathy, was now mutually recognized as for existence. In the knowledge of the horrors of defeat, the white men fought with the courage of desperation, and soon learned to meet the cunning tactics of the savages with superior wiles. The Indians, unable to procure a regular supply of food, and often nearly starved, were gathered into villages on both sides of the Connecticut a few miles above Northfield. Early in April the head sachem of the Narragansetts, Canonchet, whose controlling genius held together the incongruous alliance of rival tribes, was fortunately captured and put to death. Distrust and jealousy soon began their work, and a few days later Philip was on his way with the Nashaways to their hunting-grounds about Wachusett. Quinnapin accompanied him, with a portion of the Narragansetts, and with him was Mrs. Rowlandson, his prisoner, the servant of Weetamoo, one of his three wives. A majority of the Nipmucks and Quabaugs soon joined them.

Messengers were sent to Wachusett by the authorities at Boston to negotiate for the redemption of the captives and especially Mrs. Rowlandson. Philip fiercely opposed any bargaining with the English, but his blood-thirsty counsels no longer found listening ears. Some of the prisoners had fallen under the tomahawk, and others had succumbed to exposure and starvation. Most of the survivors were freed during May, for a stipulated ransom. The Nashaway sagamore, though yet far from humble, was evidently tired of hostilities. If we may believe his own letter to the Governor, he even journeyed to the villages of the river Indians to recover certain captives there. In his absence, Captain Henchman, under the guidance of Tom Dublet, an Indian scout, surprised a party of thirty-six Indians fishing at Washacum, of whom he killed seven and captured the others. The prisoners were mostly women and children, and among them were the wives and sons of Shoshanim and Muttaump. After this stroke of ill fortune, the proud boasting of the sagamores was turned to servile supplication. Philip and Quinnapin, fearing treachery, fled to their own land.

Early in September, the harassed and repentant chiefs, Shoshanim, Monoco and Muttaump, worn out with privation and trusting to some alleged promise of pardon from the Council, surrendered themselves and their men at Cocheco. September 26th, the three sagamores with others were hanged at Boston. Their wives and children, with other undistinguished captives, were sold as slaves and shipped to the Bermudas. The score or two of the Nashaways that may have escaped or were allowed to go free joined the Pennacooks. The Indian who captured Hannah Dustin, in 1697, and was killed by her, was one who had lived in Lancaster. A few who had embraced Christianity, like Quanapaug and George Tahanto, probably dwelt at Natick. The tribal history of the Nashaways had reached its finis.

CHAPTER III.

LANCASTER—(*Continued.*)

The Resettlement—French and Indian Raids—The Garrisons—New Meeting-house—The Additional Grant—Early School-masters—Lovewell's War—Worcester County Formed—Birth of Harvard, Bolton and Leominster—Sieges of Carthagena and Louisbourg—The Conquest of Canada.

THE Lancaster exiles were widely scattered as they sought refuge with relatives and friends in the Bay towns. Many of them, so soon as bullet and gallows had avenged their slain kindred and made return possible, looked with longing towards their farms, orchards and gardens, purchased so dearly with years of toil and anxiety, and final blood sacrifice. But first shelter had to be built and leave of court obtained; for the re-occupation of a deserted town, by an order of General Court, was placed in the same class with new plantations, requiring preliminary petition and the appointment of a fatherly committee

to view, and hear, and consider, and order, and enjoin obedience to, a form and manner of resettlement. Probably some buildings were erected and some of the proprietors were upon their lands when John Prescott, with two of his sons, his two sons-in-law, Thomas Sawyer and John Rugg, his grandson, Thomas Sawyer, Jr., and Thomas Wilder, John Moore and Josiah White, sent to the court their petition, in 1679, asking for a committee that they might, together with others, speedily "proceed to settle the place with comfort and encouragement." The committee were appointed and, although no record of their conclusions is known to exist, births in Lancaster were recorded during 1679 and 1680. In 1681 seventeen or eighteen families had returned and petitioned for exemption from "country rates" successfully.

Their minister was not with them. In April, 1677, Mr. Rowlandson had accepted liberal offers from Wethersfield, and was settled as colleague to Rev. Gershom Bulkeley. In that office he died, aged forty-seven years, November 24, 1678, "much lamented." In December, 1681, John Prescott, the founder and the oldest inhabitant of the town, died. The meeting-house having been burned during or after the destruction of the town, a new one was built upon the same site, probably in 1684. Among the newcomers was Samuel Carter, a graduate of Harvard College in 1660, who bought the Kerly homestead on George Hill, and probably served the people as teacher and minister for a time, but accepted a call to Groton in 1692. His sons continued in Lancaster, and the family so multiplied that the Carters soon rivaled the Wilders and Willards in the town census. William Woodrop and Edward Oakes also temporarily preached here, but there was no regular pastor until December 3, 1690, when John Whiting, a Harvard graduate of 1685, was ordained, after preaching on probation for nine months.

Upon the revolutionary deposition of Andros by the people, in 1689, the magistrates and other prominent gentlemen of the colony recommended the towns to send instructed delegates to form an Assembly and assume the responsibility of reorganizing the government until orders should be received from England. Lancaster's action in response was the election of Ralph Houghton as representative, instructed to favor the re-assumption of government by the Governor and assistants elected in 1686. This seems to have been the last public service of Ralph Houghton for the town. He spent the declining years of life with a son in Milton, where he died in 1705. At his departure the most able man of affairs in the town was John Houghton, second of the name, and upon him the duties of town clerk devolved.

Soon the horrors of Indian warfare again menaced the frontier, and a general retreat of the inhabitants was imminent, when a special act was passed forbidding removal from outlying towns under severe penalty. One of the towns named in the act was Lancaster. Some hunters, in April, 1692, reported seeing about three hundred Indians in the neighborhood of Wachusett, and they were suspected of hostile designs. By day or night mothers grew pale at every half-heard cry of bird or beast, imagining it the death-shriek of a dear one, or the dread war-whoop of the savage. The able-bodied men and boys had to delve all day in the planting season, or expect to starve the next winter, and their unintermitting toil ill fitted them to watch every second night, as they were obliged to do in garrison. If they remained in their unfortified houses they were exposed to worse than death in case of an attack. But they could hope for little help from the Bay towns.

There were now eight garrisons in Lancaster:—Josiah White's, of ten men, upon the east side of the Neck; Philip Goss', nine men, near the North River bridge; Thomas Sawyer's, eleven men, in central South Lancaster; Nathaniel Wilder's, eight men, at the old trucking-house site on George Hill; Ephraim Roper's, seven men, a little to the north of Wilder's; Lieut. Thomas Wilder's, thirteen men, on the Old Common; Ensign John Moore's, eight men, on Wataquadock; Henry Willard's, eight men, at Still River. These embraced fifty families, and indicate a population of about two hundred and seventy-five.

July 18, 1692, a small band of Indians surprised the family of Peter Joslin, on the west side of the Neck, while he was absent in the field, killed Mrs. Sarah Joslin, Mrs. Hannah Whitcomb and three young children, and took away as prisoners Elizabeth Howe, the sister of Mrs. Joslin, and Peter Joslin, aged about six years. The boy was butchered in the wilderness. Elizabeth, a girl of sixteen years, when the Indians approached the house, was singing at the spinning-wheel, and tradition says escaped the fate of her sister because of her captors' admiration for her song. She was ransomed from Canada after four years of captivity.

For several years the townspeople lived in a state of continual "watch and ward," plowing, sowing and reaping in fear of the skulking, relentless foe. There were occasional alarms, the garrisons were strengthened at great expense of labor, and in them the whole community huddled together for defence at every rumor of danger. The town became very much impoverished, and the General Court allowed them twenty pounds "for encouragement," October 20, 1694. One Sabbath, in the autumn of 1695, Abraham Wheeler, when on his way from Sawyer's garrison to his own house near the river, was mortally wounded by an Indian lying in wait for him. September 11, 1697, in the forenoon, when the men were many of them in their fields or at their own houses, and the garrison gates were open, a band of savages who had been lurking in the woodland watching for a favorable opportunity, made a sudden dash upon the western portion of the settlement. Their plan had been to

first carry by assault the garrison of Thomas Sawyer, but as they were preparing to rush upon it, Jabez Fairbank galloped at full speed into the gate coming from his own house, and the Indians, supposing that they were discovered—though such was not the fact—turned their attack upon those in the fields and defenceless houses. They surprised the families of Ephraim Roper, the widow John Rugg, Jonathan Fairbank, John Scate and Daniel Hudson, murdering capturing or wounding nearly every member of them, and burning their houses and barns. Meeting the minister, Rev. John Whiting, at a distance from the garrison, they attempted to take him captive, but "he chose rather to fight to the last," and was slain and scalped. Ephraim Roper's was a strongly garrisoned house, and that of Daniel Hudson was fortified. The killed numbered nineteen, the captives eight, five of whom ultimately returned; two others wounded, recovered. Capt. Thomas Brown with fifty men pursued the enemy for two days, during which they came upon the mangled corpse of one of the captured women, probably Joanna or Elizabeth Hudson, whom the retreating savages had slain.

Utterly disheartened, the people in their new distress appealed for exemption from taxes, aid to procure a minister and the help of soldiers in their garrisons. They were given only twenty pounds. As temporary preachers, John Robinson, Samuel Whitman and John Jones served them in the pulpit, and in May, 1701, Mr. Andrew Gardner, a Harvard graduate of 1696, was invited to preach. The following September he accepted an invitation to become their settled pastor. Before this the minister's salary had been in part paid by an annual assessment of ten shillings upon each original home-lot. As these lots were many of them abandoned, and the rule in other respects bore unequally upon the proprietors, the Legislature, upon petition, ordered the levying of their church rate upon all inhabitants in the same way as other taxes.

The regular garrisons in 1704 were eleven in number, and their location and the number of their families mark a very important change in the growth of the town. As one bloody raid after another strewed the slope of George Hill with ruins, the fact that in a military sense the east side of the rivers was much the more secure from surprise, and the most defensible, became obvious;, and thither the increase in population tended. The garrisons on the Neck were: Sergeant Josiah White's, seven men; Ensign Peter Joslin's, nine men. Those on the west side were: Rev. Andrew Gardner's, nine men; Lieut. Nathaniel Wilder's, on George Hill, seven men; and John Prescott's, four men, at the corn-mill. East of the rivers were: At Bride Cake Plain (now the Old Common), Capt. Thomas Wilder's, fifteen men. Upon Wataquadock and eastward: John Moore's, nine men; Josiah Whetcomb's, eight men; Gamaliel Beman's, eight men. At Still River: Simon Willard's, twelve men. At Bare Hill: John Priest's, ten men. There were seventy-six families, indicating a population of about four hundred and twenty-five, of which two-thirds lived on the east side of the rivers. The only innkeeper was Nathaniel Wilder, who had for twenty years been "licensed to sell beer, ale, cider, rum, etc."

In the summer of 1704 a large force of French and Indians, under "Monsieur Boocore," who had designed the destruction of Northampton, finding that place prepared, became disorganized. A portion returned to Canada, but about four hundred determined upon a raid eastward. On Monday, July 31st, early in the morning, this force made a furious onslaught upon Lancaster, and first, as usual, upon the George Hill garrisons. The brave Lieutenant Nathaniel Wilder was here mortally wounded. Re-inforcements from Marlborough and other towns, under Captains William Tyng and Thomas Howe, promptly came, and the enemy were finally driven off with considerable loss. Besides Lieut. Wilder, three soldiers—Abraham Howe, Benjamin Hutchins and John Spaulding—were killed. A French officer of note among the assailants was also slain, "which so exasperated their spirits that in revenge they fired the Meeting-house, killed several cattle and burned many out-houses." Four dwellings at least were destroyed—those of Ephraim Wilder, Samuel Carter and Thomas Ross upon George Hill, and that of Philip Goss near the meeting-house and upon the same site as the Rowlandson garrison destroyed in 1676.

Hostile bands continued to prowl about the frontier towns during the summer and autumn, occasionally scalping some unfortunate victim. During the alarm after one of these murders a pitiful accident deprived Lancaster of her third minister. On Thursday, October 26th, in the night, Samuel Prescott—being the sentinel on duty at the garrisoned house of Rev. Andrew Gardner, walking his beat within the stockade—suddenly saw a man "coming down out of the upper flanker," and having challenged him twice and receiving no reply, he fired upon him, in his surprise supposing him to be "an Indian enemy." To his own grief and horror, as well as that of the whole community, it was found that he had mortally wounded the minister, who had gone up into the watch-tower over the flanker to keep guard by himself, probably in distrust of the wakefulness of the sentinels, who had been scouting in the woods all day. The following May, Rev. John Prentice began his ministry in Lancaster, and on December 4, 1705, married the widow of his predecessor. He was not ordained until March 29, 1708. For nearly two years the Sabbath exercises were held at the parsonage, there being no meeting-house.

October 15, 1705, the savages again invaded the town. There were at this date two saw-mills in Lancaster, Thomas Sawyer, Jr., having, in 1698 or 1699, built one upon Dean's—now called Goodridge's—Brook, at the existing dam near the Deer's-horn's

School-house. At this mill the Indians captured Thomas Sawyer, Jr., his son Elias, a youth of sixteen, and John Bigelow, a carpenter of Marlborough. The three were taken to Canada, where Sawyer was rescued from torture and death at the hands of his captors by the intervention of the Governor, on condition that he and his companions would build a saw-mill upon Chambly River. The mill was built, being the first in all Canada, and the captives returned in safety.

Forty pounds had been granted by the General Court, after the burning of the meeting-house in 1704, towards the building of a new one, to be paid upon the erection of the frame. A large majority of the inhabitants now living upon the east side of the rivers, it was voted in town-meeting to place the building upon Bride Cake Plain, a mile eastward of the old site, and there a frame was set up in 1706. The new location roused a tempest in the community. A committee of four from other towns was appointed to settle the dispute, and being equally divided in opinion made the quarrel worse. Then the Council and the Deputies took opposite sides. Finally, as winter drew near, the majority were given their way. John Houghton donated the land for the building site, Thomas Wilder gave a lot for the burial-ground on the opposite side of the highway, Robert Houghton with his assistants covered in the summer-seasoned frame, and peace reigned once more in the parish.

In 1707 Jonathan White, a youth of fifteen years, was killed by Indians, and August 16th a band killed a woman and captured two men near Marlborough, one of whom escaped. The other, Jonathan Wilder —whose father, Lieut. Nathaniel, had fallen three years before—was murdered when his captors were overtaken by a force which hastily pursued them. In the fight that ensued, Ephraim Wilder, brother of the captive, was severely wounded, Ensign John Farrar, a native of Lancaster, but resident of Marlborough, was killed. Two others of Marlborough suffered, Richard Singletary losing his life and Samuel Stevens being badly wounded. The fight took place in the northwest corner of the "Additional Grant" of Lancaster. For a year or two soldiers were quartered in the town to aid in its protection. The last to be killed by the enemy was an Indian servant of the Wilders, August 5, 1710. He was at work in the field upon George Hill with Nathaniel Wilder, who was wounded at the same time.

In 1711 there were eighty-three families and four hundred and fifty-eight inhabitants in Lancaster, divided among twenty-seven garrisons; and twenty-one soldiers were stationed in the town. Ten years before the proprietors had purchased of George Tahanto, "in consideration of what money, namely, twelve pounds, was formerly paid to Sholan (my uncle), sometime sagamore of Nashuah, for the purchase of said Township, and also six shillings formerly paid by Insigne John Moore and John Houghton of said Nashuah to James Wiser, alias Quenepenett (Quanapaug), now deceased, but especially for and in consideration of eighteen pounds, paid part and the rest secured to be paid by John Houghton and Nathaniel Wilder, their heirs, executors and assigns forever, a certain tract of land on the west side of the westward line of Nashuah Township. . . ." At that time petition was made to the Legislature for sanction of the purchase, which was given, and a committee appointed to view and report. The matter lay dormant until February 15, 1711, when a new committee was authorized and the land surveyed. June 8, 1713, the grant was duly confirmed to the town. Certain parties laying out new townships to the westward in 1720, alleged that the committee surveying this grant had given more generous measure than the terms of purchase warranted, but after a year's wrangling the bounds were again confirmed as conforming to the marks by which the Indian grantors had designated them. Out of this added territory have since been shaped the two towns of Leominster and Sterling, besides a considerable tract given to the Boylstons.

During 1713 and 1714 the growth of enterprise in the town was marked by the erection of two saw-mills—one by Samuel Bennett up the North Branch, and the other by Jonathan Moore on Wataquadock Brook by the Marlborough road. The town was advancing more rapidly than ever before. In December, 1715, the selectmen appeared before the County Court to answer for not having a grammar school according to law. This proves that there were one hundred families within the town limits. For several years the versatile John Houghton, conveyancer, inn-keeper, justice, selectman, representative to General Court, etc.—who served the town as clerk from 1684 to 1724 —had also acted as schoolmaster, and is the first named, although the ministers, during earlier days, served in that capacity. Now the town procured the services of a college graduate, Mr. Pierpont, of Roxbury, as master of their grammar school, and no notice of another is found until 1718, when Samuel Stow, probably of Marlborough, a Harvard graduate of 1715, was elected master at a salary of forty pounds per annum. The minister's salary was then raised from seventy to eighty-five pounds per year.

In 1717 Lancaster was presented "for neglecting to repair ye great bridge," and a special town-meeting, March 10, 1718, considered the rebuilding of the "neck bridge." This is the first mention found of any crossing of the Penecook save by wading-place or canoes. The accounts of the destruction of the town in 1676 point plainly to the existence of two bridges only, one upon each branch. In the discussion of 1705 relative to the location of a new meeting-house, the wording of a petition implies the same condition as existing. Some cheap structure, within the means of the impoverished town, probably was thrown across the main river after the building of the church upon the east side. The bridge of 1718 was ordered to have five trestles and to be thirteen feet

wide. Thirty-five pounds were appropriated for its erection; the townspeople were all, however, expected to assist at the raising, which doubtless was a season of extraordinary jollification.

During Lovewell's War, as it is called, from 1722 to 1726, Lancaster was at no time entered by any considerable force of Indians, but her young men were forward in carrying the war into the enemy's country. An act of 1722 offered one hundred pounds for the scalp of a male Indian over twelve years of age, and half that sum for a woman or child, dead or alive. This proved a sufficient inducement to enlist in the terrible perils and hardships of the scouting parties many bold spirits under popular leaders. Of these, Capt. John White, an associate of Lovewell, won great repute as a successful Indian fighter. Dying in the service, he was eulogized by a contemporary as "a man of religion, probity, courage and conduct, and hearty in the service of his country against the Indian enemy." Capt. Samuel Willard here began a military career that reflected honor upon the town, leading what he dignified in his journals as an "army"—two companies of about ninety men each—to and from the head-waters of the Saco and Pemigewasset, a march of five hundred miles through a pathless wilderness. The numerous bands of rangers not only carried desolation into the strongholds of the savage, but discovered the fertile, sheltered valleys beside the beautiful rivers and lakes of New Hampshire, and the log-cabins of venturesome pioneers soon rising here and there proved that the partisans had well noted the advantages of the land.

Lancaster was no longer a border town, but the mother of new frontier settlements. In a single decade its population had doubled. In 1726 the meeting-house had to be greatly enlarged, and two years later the minister's salary was raised to one hundred pounds. There were now four licensed inn-holders: Capt. Samuel Willard, who had moved to the Neck and probably built the house still standing near the railway crossing; John Wright, at Still River; Oliver Wilder, upon George Hill, and Thomas Carter, where H. B. Stratton until lately resided. Among the chattels of the latter was "one old Indian slave," valued at twenty-five pounds, who lived until 1737. The orchards of the town had become famous, and much of the fruit was converted into cider. What was not "drunk upon the premises" had a ready sale both at Boston and in the new towns. Even the minister in 1728 was credited with a product of sixty-one barrels at the cider-mill of Judge Joseph Wilder.

About the more important garrisons little villages had grown, where the cottagers, with their household industries and simple wants, were almost independent of other communities, except that all gathered at one common meeting-house on the Sabbath to listen to the fervid exhortation of Rev. John Prentice, and all sought Prescott's mill with their grist. In cases of a broken limb or alarming illness, Jonathan Prescott, with his saddle-bags full of drastic drugs, galloped up from Concord when summoned, and for an astonishingly small fee. If the need of medical skill was less pressing, the local herbalist, Doctress Mary Whitcomb, sufficed. Edward Broughton was school-master, graduating the length of his terms according to the taxes contributed, now teaching on the Neck, now at Still River or Bare Hill, or on Wataquadock, until 1727, after which, apparently, the custom came into vogue of employing young Harvard graduates as teachers for short terms. From fifty to sixty pounds per annum were appropriated for the town's schools.

In 1728 a movement began looking to the formation of a new county from certain towns of Suffolk and Middlesex. The town was deeply interested in this project and voted to favor it, provided the superior courts should be held at Marlborough and two inferior courts at Lancaster annually. The next year, on February 3d, the vote was reconsidered, a new plan being then under consideration, "for erecting a new county in ye westerly part of ye County of Middlesex." The meeting favored petitioning for the new county and chose James Wilder and Jonathan Houghton to act for the town in the matter. It is traditional that the Lancaster people fully expected that two shire-towns would be designated, and that Lancaster would be one. No hint of this, however, appears in the recorded action of the town-meetings. Lancaster was not only the oldest, but the wealthiest and the most populous of the fourteen towns set off April 2, 1731, to form the county of Worcester. It remained so until the Revolution was over, save that Sutton for a brief time had a few more inhabitants. Jonathan Houghton, of Lancaster, was chosen the first county treasurer and Joseph Wilder was made judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

In 1731 the first public library of Lancaster was established. It comprised but a single volume, though that was a bulky quarto of nine hundred pages. Rev. Samuel Willard's "Complete Body of Divinity," by vote of the town, was purchased and kept "in the meeting-house for the town's use so that any person may come there and read therein, as often as they shall see cause, and said Book is not to be carried out of the meeting-house at any time by any person except by order of the selectmen."

A petition from a majority of those living in the northerly part of the town in May, 1630, engaged the attention of a special town-meeting. The proposition at first was to cut off about one-third of the original township on the north, which, with additions from Groton and Stowe, should form the new town. After two years' discussion at town-meetings and in the Legislature, the town of Harvard was created by an act published July 1, 1732. This took from Lancaster an area of about eighteen square miles, and included the villages which had sprung up about Bare Hill and Still River.

About ten years before this some of the proprietors

of the "Additional Grant," Gamaliel Beman heading the movement, had set up new homes among the hills of Woonksechocksett, as the Indians called the region north of Washacum. Emboldened by the successful secession of the people in the northeast corner, these residents of the southwest corner of Lancaster, to the number of about a dozen householders, petitioned for separate town organization in May, 1733. The same day there appeared a demand for another precinct or township from some of the residents of Wataquadock and vicinity, proposing to divorce from the old town all the territory east of the rivers not taken by Harvard. Both requests received repulse, and attempts were made to appease disaffection by the introduction of proposals to build three new meeting-houses, so situated as better to accommodate the scattered population. For several years discussion and precinct strategy made town-meetings frequent and lively, and annually some plan for the dismemberment of the town went before the Legislature. The act erecting the new town of Bolton was published June 27, 1738, its western boundary being parallel with the western boundary of the original township and four miles from it. Out of the area thus taken,—about thirty-five square miles,—Berlin and a part of Hudson have since been carved.

Meanwhile the attractions of the valley of the North Nashua in the Additional Grant had drawn thither many Houghtons, Wilders, Carters, Sawyers and others, chiefly the grandsons of the early proprietors. Being more incommoded because of their greater distance from the meeting-house, and soon becoming more numerous than those living at Woonksechocksett, they had a better reason for seeking independence, and complicated the situation by presenting, in February, 1737, their petition for separation. They moreover shrewdly joined with the old town to defeat the aims of other petitioners, in order to gain consent to their own scheme, and July 16, 1740, the act was published which severed about twenty-six square miles more from Lancaster under the title of Leominster. This area was wholly from the Additional Grant, excepting the farm of Thomas Houghton, exsected from the northwest corner of the old township. The Chocksett people were not disheartened. They grew more numerous year by year, and Gamaliel Beman did not recognize defeat. The town finally consented to allow them their wish, provided they would assume perpetual support of the river bridge, now known as Atherton's. This proposition did not please, and, after another year's wrangle, in January, 1742, the "Chocksett War" was interrupted by a truce, the town voting to build two meeting-houses.

The house of worship for the Second or Chocksett Precinct, "near Ridge Hill," was completed so that the first service was held in it November 28, 1742. That for the First Precinct was delayed by the difficulty of agreeing upon its location. The aid of a legislative committee had at last to be invoked for the settlement of the question, and School-house Hill was selected as the most central site. Two hundred pounds were appropriated to build the Second Precinct house, and four hundred for that of the First Precinct, which stood nearly in front of the present residence of Solon Wilder. The meeting-house upon the Old Common was torn down, and the materials divided between the two parishes to aid in the building of school-houses. These, three in number, were placed: one on the Neck, not far from the meeting-house, but on the opposite side of the road; one nearly opposite the present Deershorn's School-house, and the third near the Chocksett meeting-house. Each of them was twenty-four by eighteen feet, with seven foot studding.

The new First Church building was nearly square in plan, being about fifty-five by forty-five feet, with entrance doors in the middle of the north, east and south sides. Across the same three sides were galleries to which stairs led from the side-aisles. One of these was assigned to men exclusively, the opposite one to women. Special seats apart were for "negroes." Directly before, and forming a part of the pulpit, was a deacon's seat. On a part of the floor the wealthier families were permitted to build family pews at their own cost. These were square, mostly about six feet by five, ranged along the walls from the pulpit, while in the centre of the floor, on either side of a central aisle were long seats, the female part of the congregation occupying one side, the male the other. The pews were "dignified," the size and position of each marking pretty well the wealth and social rank of its owner in the community. The sequence of the first families in 1644 appears nearly this: Rev. John Prentice, Deacon Josiah White, Colonel Samuel Willard, Captain John Bennett, Hon. Joseph Wilder, John Carter, Thomas Wilder, etc.

In 1742 the north part of Shrewsbury was set off as a precinct, and Lancaster surrendered to it about five square miles from the most southerly part of its domain. This was the foreshadowing of a new town, which, with slightly altered bounds, was created in 1786, under the name of Boylston.

Although three towns and two precincts had been peopled from the Lancaster hive, attempts at further swarming were not over. In December, 1747, fourteen residents of Lancaster, under leadership of Henry Haskell, covenanted with citizens of Harvard, Groton and Stow, with the intent to be incorporated into a township. This attempt, which signally failed, proposed taking two or three square miles from the northeast corner of the town. When the district of Shirley was finally authorized, in 1753, Lancaster's bounds were not disturbed.

The avocations of peace had been unharassed by war alarms for fifteen years, when, in 1740, a recruiting officer drummed for volunteers in Lancaster, and

succeeded in persuading eighteen or nineteen of her young men to wear the cockade. Captain John Prescott, of Concord, a lineal descendant of the father of Lancaster, was the senior officer of a battalion of five hundred men raised by Massachusetts to join the expedition of Vice-Admiral Vernon against Carthagena, and Jonathan Houghton, of Lancaster, was one of his lieutenants. Those who enlisted with Houghton from this town, so far as known, were: Daniel Albert, David Farrar, Nathan Farrar, Ephraim Fletcher, Benjamin Fry, John Hastings, Thaddeus Houghton, Ezekiel Kendall, Peter Kendall, Joshua Pierce, Benjamin Pollard, Gideon Powers, Timothy Powers, Oliver Spaulding, Darius Wheeler, William Whitcomb, Jacob Wilder. Few, if any of them, ever saw their homes again, giving their lives for the King in a quarrel of doubtful justice, not in the front of victorious battle, but slain by virulent disease after defeat.

Upon the breaking out of the war for the Austrian Succession it was not to be hoped that the New England colonies could remain at peace with their French neighbors. Governor Shirley was gifted with sufficient sagacity to see that only by the capture of Louisbourg could Massachusetts retain her valuable cod fisheries, or expect exemption from invasion. Against that fortress, upon which had been lavished all the resources of military art, he skilfully organized an expedition, which accomplished his desperate behest by sheer audacity, the sublime pluck of the New England rank and file and happy fortune, rather than by any prescience or rare judgment of plan.

February 17, 1745, Colonel Samuel Willard received orders to take command of the Fourth Massachusetts Infantry, enlisted for this expedition. The regiment numbered about five hundred men in ten companies, and, as the fleet sailed from Boston, March 24th, was recruited within thirty days. This speaks well for the popularity and energy of its leader, but the enterprise itself took on much of the nature of a crusade. Thomas Chandler, of Worcester, was lieutenant-colonel and Seth Pomeroy major of the regiment. Colonel Willard's own company had for its officers: Captain-lieutenant, Joshua Pierce; Lieutenant, Abijah Willard; Ensign, John Trumbull. Abijah Willard, the colonel's second son, was soon promoted a step, and another son, Levi, became ensign. In this company doubtless were many men of Lancaster and vicinity, but the majority of Lancaster soldiers were probably in the Fourth Company, the officers of which were: Captain, John Warner; Lieutenant, Joseph Whetcomb; and Ensign, William Hutchins. Unfortunately, the muster-rolls of this expedition are not known to exist, and the names of the soldiers are mostly unknown. Captain Warner died in hospital and Thomas Littlejohn fell in action. Many of their townsmen probably succumbed to the rigors of the climate and the toils of the siege, for the victims of disease were counted by hundreds.

January 6, 1748, Rev. John Prentice died. For forty-three years he had preached, and during forty was the ordained pastor of the town. He was the son of Thomas and Sarah (Stanton) Prentice, born in Newton, 1682, and a graduate of Harvard in the class of 1700. By his two wives—Mrs. Mary Gardner and Mrs. Prudence (Foster) Swan—he had ten children. His contemporaries prized him for his learning, his humility and his steadfastness. His juniors tell of his sturdy dignity and Puritan manners. His four printed sermons suggest that as a preacher he was orthodox, clear in his convictions, earnest and explicit in his exhortations. He was selected to deliver the Election Sermon at Boston, May 28, 1735. Reverends Benjamin Stevens, William Lawrence, Stephen Frost and Cotton Brown temporarily supplied the vacant pulpit, but in February the last named was invited to become pastor of the parish. He declined, and August 8th the church made choice of Timothy Harrington to be their minister. November 16th of that year he was installed. He had been pastor of a church at Lower Ashuelot, a town abandoned during the Indian raids of 1747.

November 19, 1752, Colonel Samuel Willard was seized with apoplexy and died the next day. He was the wealthiest citizen of Lancaster, and, Judge Joseph Wilder perhaps excepted, the most prominent socially and politically. For twenty-five years he had been the highest military officer of the district, and for nearly ten judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He was a grandson of Major Simon and son of Henry Willard, born in Lancaster, 1690. Judge Joseph Wilder died March 27, 1757, aged seventy-four. His contemporaries unite in lavish praise of his virtues and abilities. Rev. Timothy Harrington in a funeral sermon speaks of him as furnished "with a penetrating judgment, strong reason and a tenacious memory, and all, so far as we can judge, were consecrated to the honour of the Most High." Appointed judge at the organization of Worcester County, he was chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas at his death. He was a son of the second Thomas Wilder.

The one hundredth birthday of Lancaster, May 28, 1753, was appropriately celebrated by a "century sermon" in the First Parish meeting-house. This discourse was printed, forming a pamphlet of twenty-nine pages, and contains the early annals of the town in sadly condensed form. Unfortunately, the author, Rev. Timothy Harrington, bound by the mode of his times, was more anxious to preserve the pulpit dignity of his rhetoric than to gather and embalm for posterity the reminiscences of the gray-headed veterans among whom he daily walked. He devotes half his pages to the history of the Jews and primitive Christians, and accords but half a dozen lines to the hospitable Sholan and the Nashaways. He gives details of the various sieges of Jerusalem, but omits all mention of the deeds of Colonel Willard's regi-

ment at Louisbourg, and the pitiful sacrifice of Lancaster youth at Carthagena.

The town entered upon its second century prosperous and free from internal dissension. The Second Precinct, temporarily content with its gain of semi-autonomy, had, December 19, 1744, secured Rev. John Mellen for their pastor, a Harvard graduate of 1741. He had married Rebecca, the daughter of Rev. John Prentice, the year after her father's decease, and had given token of abilities that soon placed him in the very front rank of the ablest clergymen of his day. The repayment by England to Massachusetts, in 1749, of its expenditures in the late war, made possible the redemption of the paper currency, which had greatly depreciated, and specie again appeared in the channels of trade. But life in Lancaster was with most a struggle for shelter, food and raiment. The only measure of wealth was the ownership of acres and cattle. Few things better illustrate the simplicity or luxury of a community than its conveniences for travel. In 1753 Lancaster paid tax to the Province upon three chaises; in 1754 upon one chaise; in 1755 upon two chaises and three chairs; in 1756 upon two chaises and two chairs—while most of the younger towns, until recently Lancaster soil, had neither chair nor chaise. The heavy carts and wagons of the farm were the only wheeled vehicles.

No census of the town was taken until ten years later, but the population of its centennial year can be fairly estimated from an existing tax-list of 1751, practically a census of the heads of families at that time. Although by the dowering of Harvard, Bolton, Berlin and Leominster it had lost more than half its area, its gain by births, and by immigration from other towns, had fully made up the loss of inhabitants. The rate list of 1751 contains two hundred and eighty-five names, representing three hundred and fifty-five polls. The population at that date did not, therefore, fall far short of fifteen hundred souls. That of the towns excised from Lancaster amounted to nearly as many. Provision, generous for the times, was annually made for educating the young. Rev. Josiah Swan was generally the teacher of the Neck School from 1747 to 1760, and Rev. Josiah Brown was schoolmaster at Chocksett for as many years. For the third school the teachers were successively: Stephen Frost, Edward Bass, Joseph Palmer, Moses Hemmenway and Samuel Locke—all Harvard graduates—the last named a resident of the town, afterwards president of Harvard College.

Seven years of pretended peace between Canadian Jesuit and New England Puritan passed, and again the British colonies were hurrying preparations for a decisive struggle with their alert and aggressive foes. During the autumn of 1754 several mechanics of Lancaster, under Capt. Gershom Flagg, were engaged in the construction of Fort Halifax. Others of her citizens were serving on the eastern frontier in the regiment of Col. John Winslow, and Ensign John May led thirteen soldiers to join Col. Israel Williams at the western frontier.

Of the four great expeditions planned in 1755 to break through the cordon of French occupation that extended from the Ohio to the mouth of the St. Lawrence, Lancaster was represented in two—that against Crown Point, and the Acadian campaign. In the former Samuel Willard, the eldest son of the deceased colonel of the same name, was commissioned to raise a regiment of eight hundred men. John Whitcomb, of Bolton, was second in command; but Col. Willard died at Lake George shortly after joining the army, and Whitcomb was promoted to the vacancy. In the regiment were seven men of Lancaster, including two lieutenants, Hezekiah Whitcomb and William Richardson, Jr. Lieut. Benjamin Wilder led a mounted troop of thirty-three volunteers from Lancaster and its neighborhood, serving in the regiment of Col. Josiah Brown. But the majority of the Lancaster men, fifty-one in number, fought in the regiment of Col. Timothy Ruggles, under three Lancaster captains—twenty-four with Capt. Joseph Whitcomb, sixteen with Capt. Asa Whitcomb, and eleven with Capt. Benjamin Ballard. All three companies were in the bloody melée of August 8th, known as "the morning fight," when the valor of the New England rustics snatched victory from what at first seemed defeat. On that day ten of the fifty-one were killed or mortally wounded: Ithamar Bennett, Samuel Fairbanks, William Fairbanks, Isaac Kendall, Peter Kendall, Oliver Osgood, Josiah Pratt, Jr., Phineas Randall, Joseph Robbins, Jr., John Rugg. Others, enfeebled by camp fevers, in the late autumn dragged themselves homeward, or were brought thither by short stages through the wilderness upon horseback. The campaign, a barren one save for the experience and confidence in themselves gained by the colonial officers and soldiers, ended with the year.

The Acadian expedition, though even more inglorious than that against Crown Point, is far more famous in story, and Lancaster's part in it was a more prominent one than has ever been given it in history. Of the force of two thousand men embarking from Boston May 20, 1755, under Col. John Winslow, for the purpose of dislodging the French from the regions bordering on the Bay of Fundy, one company of one hundred and five men, allotted to the Second Battalion, was organized at Lancaster and officered by men of that town. These were: Capt. Abijah Willard, Lieut. Joshua Willard, Second Lieut. Moses Haskell, Ensign Caleb Willard. Thirty-six of the rank and file were credited to Lancaster, of whom William Hudson was killed in the attack made by the Acadians upon the force engaged in burning the "Mass House" at Peticodiac. The company took part in the capture of Beau Sejour. Capt. Willard was selected by Lieut.-Col. Monkton, the King's officer in command, to lead a detachment to Tatmagouche.

There, opening his sealed orders, to his great surprise and pain he found assigned to him the ungracious task of laying waste that whole fair district to the Bay of Verts, and removing the residents to Fort Cumberland. Amid the wailing of women and children, and the smoke of blazing cottages, barns and storehouses, Capt. Willard marched from hamlet to hamlet, leaving desolation behind, in accordance with the letter of his orders, but tempering them with such mercy as he could; his kindly heart, as his journal testifies, bleeding for the distress he was compelled to inflict.

Leaving their families among the smoking ruins of their homes, the Acadian men were marched to Fort Cumberland, and Capt. Willard received the gracious commendation of the British officer. During the rigors of a Canadian winter the Lancaster men, ill provided with food and clothing, remained in barracks at the fort, but were allowed to return home the following April. Massachusetts was ordered to care for one thousand of the "French neutrals," and apportioned three families—twenty persons—to Lancaster. There these exiles lived in the wretchedness of squalid poverty, disease and homesickness for ten years, housed, fed and cared for by the town authorities. The last of them were finally shipped to France.

The general plan of the campaign of 1756 was almost identical with that of the previous year, but Shirley was superseded by pompous and loitering officers of high rank in the British army. Their conceit and inactivity gave the daring Montcalm an opportunity to win some glory, and neutralized the enthusiasm and costly preparations of New England. The Lancaster soldiers were in the field as early as the opening of spring would permit military operations, building roads and bridges and transporting stores up the Hudson to Fort Edward, and thence to Fort William Henry. Col. John Whitcomb was one of the Committee of War for Massachusetts. William Richardson and Hezekiah Gates were efficient agents of the committee for procuring and forwarding military supplies. Twenty soldiers from Lancaster were in the regiment of Col. Jonathan Bagley, mustered in the company of Capt. Benjamin Ballard, and eight or ten others are found serving in other regiments and among the artillerymen of Fort William Henry.

The year 1757 saw a new plan of operations, but the campaign under the same haughty and inefficient generals ended as before in discomfiture. Several Lancaster men served in the regiment of Col. Fry, who, with most of his command, were in the massacre which followed the surrender of Ft. William Henry to Montcalm, and escaped with the loss of everything but life. Nine others were in the regiment of Col. Israel Williams. The fall of Ft. William Henry spread consternation through the colonies, for it was expected that the French would follow up their success by an invasion of the English settlements. The militia were hurriedly sent towards Albany. Capt. John Carter with a mounted troop, and Capt. Nathaniel Sawyer with an infantry company—one hundred men in all—marched as far as Springfield whence they were recalled, Montcalm having returned to Canada with his easily-won spoils.

With the year 1758 the inspiration of a new war policy, that of William Pitt, was felt throughout the colonies. They obtained payment for their military expenses and were promised relief from the extortion and insolence they had constantly experienced from Crown officials. The impetuous Wolfe and the chivalrous Lord Howe were sent with some of the best troops in England, to infuse energy into the campaign, and the slothful Loudoun retired. The ministerial orders required vigorous assault along the whole frontier. The enthusiasm awakened in Massachusetts is apparent in the zeal which Lancaster evinced in the contest.

Col. Jonathan Bagley's regiment in Abercrombie's advance upon Ticonderoga was in the van of the right division, and charged upon the French at the time Lord Howe lost his life. It was also engaged in the assault upon Ticonderoga and met with some loss. Of this regiment John Whitcomb was lieutenant-colonel, and his brother, Capt. Asa Whitcomb, served in it with forty of his Lancaster neighbors. Six of them laid down their lives in the service: William Brabrook, Eben Bigelow, Jonathan Geary, Philip Geno, John Larkin, Jacob Smith. In Colonel Timothy Ruggles' regiment, under Capt. Joseph Whitcomb, of Lancaster, and Capt. James Reed, of Lunenburg, were twenty-one more Lancaster men, of whom one, Simon Kendall, lost his life; eleven others served in other organizations, making at least seventy-three known to have enlisted in the campaign. Capt. Aaron Willard, who led a light infantry company in the regiment of Col. Oliver Partridge, was shot through the body in the murderous assault upon Ticonderoga, but survived to take part in the war for independence. After the untimely death of Lord Howe the imbecility of Abercrombie had again nullified the sacrifice and bravery of the provincials. The veterans who had fought at Louisbourg in 1745 under Pepperell, and conquered under Lyman at Lake George in 1755 were fast learning to despise as well as hate the supercilious British regular officers, who contemptuously spurned the counsels of soldiers like Pomeroy, and always were defeated by inferior forces of the enemy.

The campaign of 1759, under Amherst, directed towards the same strategic points as those of two years before, brought to the front once more Capts. Aaron Willard and James Reed, and with them were forty-five Lancaster men, three of whom—George Bush, Stephen Kendall and Reuben Walker—died during the campaign. These two officers' companies served in Col. Timothy Ruggles' regiment. Abijah Willard also appears again, now as colonel of a regiment of eighteen companies; Cyrus Fairbanks was his adjutant

and Manasseh Divol his quartermaster. Capt. Thomas Beman, with twenty-two other men of Lancaster, served in Willard's command, and five more were in other companies.

Amherst did nothing to add to his own reputation, and, in disregard of Pitt's positive orders, displayed no energy in the movement to assist Wolfe. The younger general's fame shone the brighter, and all New England mourned him as their preserver. Col. Willard and his fellow-townsmen marched home before the snows fell and rested by their own firesides through the winter, preparing for the final struggle.

With the spring Col. Willard again led his regiment to the frontier. In his staff were most of the old members, but Samuel Ward, of Worcester, afterwards to become one of Lancaster's most valued citizens, was made his adjutant. Capt. Beman again accompanied him, with Sherebiah Hunt for his lieutenant, and thirty enlisted men of Lancaster formed a part of his company. Rufus Putnam, who in Revolutionary days became chief engineer and brigadier-general in the patriot army, was his ensign. Six Lancaster volunteers served in other companies of Willard's regiment. In Col. Ruggles' regiment were Captains Aaron Willard and James Reed, with eighteen Lancaster soldiers.

Col. John Whitcomb also served in the campaign of 1760, and with him were Lieuts. Ephraim Sawyer and Henry Haskell, with eighteen others of Lancaster. Sergt. Josiah Prentice died and Joseph Stewart was drowned during the year. Under Col. William Haviland, these two regiments leisurely rowed down Lake Champlain in batteaux about the middle of August. Arriving at Isle au Noix, Col. Whitcomb was ordered to throw up defences while the rest of the army moved to attack the fortified post; but the enemy did not await assault, and Haviland moved on towards Montreal. September 8th, orders were read announcing to the troops the closing act in the conquest of Canada, the capitulation of the Marquis Vaudreuil. On the 10th the Massachusetts regiments began the march back to Crown Point, where for two months they were engaged in the construction of earthworks and barracks. In November Cols. Whitcomb and Willard led their commands through the wilderness across Vermont to Charlestown, N. H., and by the forest paths to Lancaster, where they were disbanded about December 1st.

For six years the town had, with the coming of each spring, sent forth to the blood-stained frontiers scores of her stalwart sons under their chosen leaders. About seventy-five of her citizens annually were, for at least eight or nine months, in the army. At least thirty-three of these are known to have perished by bullet, tomahawk or disease while on duty. Of the wounded no record was kept.

CHAPTER IV.

LANCASTER—(*Continued*).

The First Census—Organization for Revolution—Lexington Alarm—Bunker Hill and the Siege of Boston—War Annals—Separation of Chocksett—Shays' Rebellion—Bridge Lotteries.

THE long war between alien races and religions was hardly ended before the domestic "Chocksett War" again broke out. But the town-meeting vote of 1762 proved that the Second Precinct was not yet strong enough to carry its point. It persisted in its endeavors year after year, but whenever the proposition to divide the town gained a favoring vote, it was always upon condition that the support of some bridge of vagrant habits should be perpetually borne by the seceders. To this they refused consent, and the contest was prolonged until all local questions were forgotten in the turmoil of the struggle for national existence. The two parishes were nearly equal in population. The town-meetings were sometimes held in the Second Precinct meeting-house, and the grammar-school was kept alternately at Ridge Hill and on the Neck—the proportion of the two terms being decided in town-meeting.

The first colonial census, that of 1764, gives Lancaster 1999 inhabitants, living in three hundred and twenty-eight families and three hundred and one houses, classified as follows:

	Males.	Females.
Under 16 years of age	514	421
Over 16 years of age	505	532
Colored	12	14
Indians	1	

How many of the twenty-six colored were slaves is not told. Ten years before this there were but five "servants for life" in the town. Seven years later than this five slaves were reported between the ages of fourteen and forty-five. At least ten slaves are known to have died between the two dates. The total population of the four towns included in the original Lancaster grants was four thousand eight hundred and one. Notwithstanding the great waste of human life in the war, the town's growth had been steady and healthy, and so continued. It will be seen that the average family then numbered over six individuals. In the latest census, omitting the State school, the average family is less than four and four-tenths persons.

The direct descendants of the first proprietors were yet largely in the majority, gave character to the town, and almost monopolized the management of its affairs. But into the procession of the town's life had come several prolific families, and some men of political weight and large social influence. John Warner, of Woburn, appeared about 1700; the Osgood family, always prominent in the church, first came in 1710, Hooker Osgood, a saddler from Andover, purchasing the Rowlandson estate of Philip Goss. About the same date, and from the same source, came Edward

Phelps, the weaver, and bought lands not far from Lane's Crossing. Soon followed John Fletcher, from Chelmsford, progenitor of a sturdy race that peopled a portion of George Hill. Thomas Whitney, of Stow, and his sons John and Jonathan, about 1720 built upon Wataquadock Brook. From Woburn, William Richardson came in 1721, found a wife in Captain Ephraim Wilder's daughter, became a prominent justice and represented the town several years in the Legislature. Samuel Locke, also of Woburn, and connected by marriage with the Richardsons, came to Lancaster in 1742, and kept a famous tavern where Wm. A. Kilbourn now lives. Nathaniel and Abijah Wyman, from Woburn also, about the same time bought homes upon the Neck. Benjamin Ballard, from Andover, a little earlier founded a new home upon the northern portion of the George Hill range and gave his family name to that section of the town. The Dunsmoors appeared first about 1740 and furnished the town two physicians, father and son. The last, Dr. William Dunsmoor, in whose veins flowed mingled Sawyer and Prescott blood, developed political abilities that soon placed him in leadership of the revolutionary spirits of the neighborhood, and gave him prominence even in colonial councils. The Thurstons, Peter and Samuel, second cousins (the first from Exeter, the second from Rowley), appeared about the middle of the century.

In 1768 Lancaster received an addition to its territory—a tract of land at its southwestern corner about three miles long by one and one-half wide, known as "Shrewsbury Leg." It included the site of the present village of Oakdale, but then contained less than a dozen families. The same year a trader came from Groton to form a mercantile partnership with Levi Willard. The store of the firm was at the cross-roads of South Lancaster, and became the widest known and best patronized of any in the region. The senior partner sometimes made a journey to England to buy goods. He lived in a house which stood near the well on the lawn of E. V. R. Thayer's residence. The junior partner, Captain Samuel Ward, already mentioned as holding a commission in the French and Indian War, purchased an ancient house and lot upon the opposite corner, being a part of the Locke farm, and the eastern end of the original home-lot assigned to John Moore in 1653. Captain Ward was not only a man of unusual business ability, but his rare intellectual powers, quick and accurate judgment of character, prudence and shrewd management of men would have given him exalted political place had he not resolutely shunned all official position. He soon became a conservative leader in the town.

It was apparently a season of calm and prosperity. War had left few visible scars. The British government had re-imbursed to the colony the sums contributed in aid of the expulsion of the Bourbons from America, and plenteous harvests had gladdened the farmers. But a jealousy of all authority not delegated by popular suffrage everywhere began to appear, pervading church as well as state politics. The pulpits about Lancaster were all jarred, and some severely shaken, by a revolt against clerical councils; and the orators proclaimed the divine right of an anointed king subject to the divine right of the majority. The veteran soldiers had not forgotten the insults they had borne, year after year, from the King's officers, nor the needless campaigning and bloodshed chargeable to the incompetency of the generals set over them. The nagging encroachments of the British ministry upon charter rights found the majority of the colonists already on the verge of rebellion, for which seven years of war had been a practical school of arms.

The first town-meeting record in Lancaster for 1773 anticipates by three and one-half years the liberty-breathing sentiments of the Declaration of National Independence. The action of that meeting took form in written instructions for the guidance of the town's representative, Capt. Asa Whitcomb, and a series of resolutions drawn up by a "Committee for Grievances," as follows:

* * * * * * * * * *

1. *Resolved*, That this and every Town in this Province have an undoubted Right to meet together and consult upon all Matters interesting to them when and so often as they shall judge fit: and it is more especially their Duty so to do when any Infringement is made upon their Civil or Religious Liberties.

2. *Resolved*, That the raising a Revenue in the Colonies without their Consent, either by themselves or their Representatives, is an Infringement of that Right which every Freeman has to dispose of his own Property.

3. *Resolved*, That the granting a Salary to his Excellency, the Governor of this Province, out of the Revenue unconstitutionally raised from us, is an Innovation of a very alarming Tendancy.

4. *Resolved*, That it is of the highest Importance to the security of Liberty, Life and Property, that the publick Administration of Justice should be pure and impartial, and that the judge should be free from every Bias, either in Favour of the Crown or the Subject.

5. *Resolved*, That the absolute Dependency of the Judges of the Superior Court of this Province upon the Crown for their Support would, if it should ever take Place, have the strongest Tendancy to bias the Minds of the Judges, and would weaken our Confidence in them.

6. *Resolved*, That the Extension of the Power of the Court of Vice-Admiralty to its present enormous Degree is a great Grievance, and deprives the Subject in many Instances of that noble Privilege of Englishmen, Trials by Juries.

7. *Resolved*, That the Proceedings of this Town be transmitted to the Town of Boston.

These resolutions were signed by the committee: Dr. William Dunsmoor, John Prescott, Josiah Kendall, Ebenezer Allen, Nathaniel Wyman, Joseph White and Aaron Sawyer. The instructions to the town's delegate breathe the same spirit, and enjoin him to use his "utmost efforts . . . to obtain a Radical Redress of our Grievances."

The organization of revolution began the next year, with the plan of establishing permanent Committees of Correspondence in the towns throughout Massachusetts. The members of the first Lancaster Committee, chosen September 5, 1774, were Dr. William Dunsmoor, Dea. David Wilder, Aaron Sawyer, Capt. Asa Whitcomb, Capt. Hezekiah Gates, John Prescott, Ephraim Sawyer. The chairman

was the youngest of the number. The next day the patriots of the town marched to Worcester, where an armed convention of the people gathered on the green, prepared to give a warm reception to the force of British troops which Governor Gage had proposed to send for the protection of the court. As the regulars did not appear, attention was turned towards the royalists. The justices, who recently had sent a loyal address to the Governor, were compelled to sign a recantation, and appear before the assemblage to acknowledge it. Of these justices were Joseph Wilder, Abel Willard and Ezra Houghton, of Lancaster.

During the same month the town voted "That there be one hundred men raised as Volunteers, to be ready at a minute's warning to turn out upon any Emergency, and that they be formed into two Companies, and choose their own officers," and that these volunteers should be "reasonably paid by the Town for any services they may do us in defending our Liberties and Privileges." One company was enlisted in each precinct. The Committee of Correspondence was also authorized to purchase two field-pieces, and two four-pounders were at once obtained from Brookline, for which eight pounds were paid. One of these was stationed in each parish, with a supply of powder, ball and grape-shot. Capt. Asa Whitcomb and Dr. William Dunsmoor were chosen to represent the town in the First Provincial Convention. The constables were instructed to pay over the taxes, when collected, to a special committee—Aaron Sawyer, Ephraim Sawyer and Dr. Josiah Wilder—who were to account for the same to the patriot receiver-general. The same committee were ordered "to Post up all such Persons as continue to buy, sell or consume any East India Teas, in some Public Place in Town." In the town-meeting of January 2, 1775, a committee was chosen to receive donations "for the suffering poor of the Town of Boston, occationed by the late Boston Port Bill." It was also then voted "to adopt and abide by the spirit and sense of the Association of the late Continental Congress, held at Philadelphia," and a committee of fifteen were selected "to see that the said Association be kept and observed by all."

The whole male population was now training for the conflict seen to be inevitable. The re-organization of the militia began in 1774, by a popular demand for the resignation of all military commissions. The Second Worcester was known as the Lancaster Regiment, and consisted of ten companies and a mounted troop, four companies and the troop being of Lancaster, including all the able-bodied males between sixteen and fifty years of age, save a few by law exempts. With the division of the training-bands into minute-men and militia, new company officers were chosen, young men aglow with the hot temper of the times. These line officers elected the brothers John and Asa Whitcomb, two veterans of the French War, as their colonels—the former of the minute-men, the latter of the militia. Abijah Willard was perhaps the most gifted and experienced officer in the town, but unfortunately favored the side of the King. Dr. William Dunsmoor and Ephraim Sawyer were the majors of the minute-men, and David Osgood the quartermaster. Col. John Whitcomb was chosen a major-general in February, by the Second Provincial Congress.

Every soldier was expected to furnish himself with arms and equipments, and if too poor to do so, he was supplied by the town, or by contributions from the more wealthy. No attempt was made to secure uniformity in dress; each wore his own home garb, and as there was a much greater variety in the color and form of men's wear then than now, the ranks always presented a motley appearance.

There were at this period but seventeen towns in Massachusetts which could boast a larger population than Lancaster. It had a greater proportion of mechanics and traders than other inland towns—fulling-mills, tanneries, potash boilers, a slate quarry and even a little furnace for casting hollow-ware. But its farmers raised nearly ten bushels of grain for every man, woman and child in the town, and four times as many cattle, sheep and swine per inhabitant as were credited to the town in the census of 1885. There was, therefore, a large surplus above the needs for home consumption. Pork was sold at six pence, salt beef at three pence, mutton at two pence, cheese at four pence and butter at eight pence, per pound; corn meal at three shillings, beans at six shillings, potatoes at one shilling four pence per bushel; cider at seven shillings eight pence per barrel. There was no public conveyance for travelers, no post-office nearer than Cambridge. Silent Wilde, the news-carrier, rode out from Boston on Mondays, with the papers for regular subscribers, and jogged through Lancaster on his way to the Connecticut River towns and back once a week. His trips were soon to cease, and the day fast approached which was to test anew Lancaster's patriotism.

On the morning of April 19, 1775, a post-rider came galloping in hot haste through the town shouting to every one he saw that the "red coats" had come out from Boston. The tidings, long expected, were spread by mounted messengers and the firing of cannon; the minute-men were soon hurrying down the Bay road, and the militia followed not far behind. Two hundred and fifty-seven men marched from the town to Cambridge that day. General John Whitcomb reached the scene of action before the running fight ended and took part in directing it; but it is hardly probable that any great number of his regiment, save the mounted troop, perhaps, kept pace with him. The six Lancaster companies were: two troops of thirty-two men each under Captains John Prescott, Jr., and Thomas Gates; two companies of minute-men, with Captains Samuel Sawyer

and Benjamin Houghton; and two companies of militia led by Captains Joseph White and Daniel Robbins. They remained at Cambridge about two weeks.

The Provincial Congress immediately resolved upon the enlistment of an army of thirteen thousand men for eight months. Col. Asa Whitcomb was one of those authorized to raise a regiment, and, on May 25th, reported his command containing eleven companies, five hundred and sixty men—one company above the complement. Ephraim Sawyer was major, and Dr. William Dunsmoor surgeon of the regiment. The Lancaster men were mostly in the companies of Captains Andrew Haskell and Ephraim Richardson. There is a tradition in old families that on the day of the battle of Bunker Hill the Lancaster regiment was stationed at Cambridge, but was ordered to furnish reinforcements to Prescott, and some of its companies reached the hill and fought in the final struggle, while others were coming up when the retreat began. The historian Bancroft says: "From the regiment of Whitcomb, of Lancaster, there appeared at least fifty privates, but with no higher officers than captains." If he had written thrice fifty he would have been more nearly just. By official returns the regiment lost five killed, eight wounded and two missing, which was a larger list of casualties than was credited to eight others of the sixteen regiments in which casualties of battle occurred. Daniel Robbins was killed upon the hill and Sergt. Robert Phelps was mortally wounded and died a prisoner in Boston. Both were in Haskell's company. Sergt. Israel Willard and Joseph Wilder were probably wounded, the former mortally, as special allowance was made for them by the Legislature at the same time as to the heirs of Robbins and Phelps. Evidence is found in petitions for aid, showing that Burt's Harvard and Hastings' Bolton company were also in the fight, and the historian Frothingham supposes Wilder's Leominster company to have been engaged. Capt. Andrew Haskell so commended himself by his conduct at Bunker Hill, that he would have been promoted but for certain unofficer-like traits which he seemed unable to overcome.

During the siege of Boston the Lancaster regiment was brigaded with the Rhode Island troops under Gen. Greene and stationed on Prospect Hill. Col. Whitcomb was one of the wealthiest farmers of the town, a deacon in the Second Parish, a sterling patriot, and evidently, from his enduring popularity, gifted with noble qualities of heart. He was also a brave and experienced soldier, but too amiable to preserve proper discipline in his command. Upon the consolidation of the Provincial regiments to bring them to the Continental model, sundry supernumerary officers were discharged, and Washington, with the concurrence of Greene, selected Whitcomb as one whose services should be spared. His men resented this, and refused to re-enlist under another commander, when Col. Whitcomb reproached them for their lack of patriotism, and offered to enlist as a private with them. Washington, hearing of this, reinstated him and complimented him in special orders for his unselfish zeal. The worthy colonel's military service ended April 1, 1777, however, and he returned to his farm. Impoverished by his sacrifices for country, he was compelled to part with his lands, removed to Princeton, and there died, March 16, 1804, aged eighty-four years.

In the closing scenes of the siege, March 9, 1776, Dr. Enoch Dole, of Lancaster, was killed on Dorchester Heights by a cannon-ball. The town had several soldiers with Arnold and Montgomery at the gates of Quebec, and two or three were there wounded and captured.

About five thousand refugees from Boston during the siege were scattered through the inland towns, and to these were added the people of Charlestown after the burning of that place. One hundred and thirty of the homeless were assigned by the Provincial Congress to the charity of Lancaster, but the actual number seeking refuge here was much greater, for the proposed formal distribution of the exiles had speedily to be abandoned as impossible. Many sought Lancaster who added to its social force; such were Daniel Waldo, Edmund Quincy, Esq., and Nathaniel Balch. A few became permanent residents of the town; for example, Josiah Flagg and John Newman.

In August, 1776, the Court of General Sessions, in authorizing five hospitals for inoculation for smallpox, appointed Doctors William Dunsmoor and Josiah Wilder directors of one at Lancaster. There is no record of the location of this hospital, but fourteen years later, when this scourge of humanity became again virulent, Dr. Israel Atherton established one for the same purpose upon Pine Hill, where it was kept during four years.

After the departure of the American army for New York, the defences of Boston Harbor were entrusted to the militia, and during 1776 about fifty men of Lancaster served in two regiments stationed at Hull, with Capt. Andrew Haskell and Lieuts. John Hewitt and Jonathan Sawyer for their officers. A requisition upon the State for five thousand militia to temporarily re-enforce the army at New York came from Congress in June, and Lancaster's quota for four months' service was seventy-two men. They served under Capt. Samuel Sawyer and Lieuts. Salmon Godfrey and Nathaniel Sawyer, in the regiment of Col. Jonathan Smith. The whole command was a hurried levy of rustic youth, wholly undisciplined. September 15th, at Kip's Bay, they met the splendidly-drilled Hessian corps, and came off with scant honor. Four Lancaster men were then missing—probably killed—and several were wounded.

Capt. Aaron Willard, who still suffered from his terrible wound received at Ticonderoga in 1758, un-

like his more noted cousins and neighbors—Abijah, Abel and Levi Willard—was earnest in the patriot cause. He was one of the two commissioners appointed by Washington to visit the Acadians, in order to ascertain the strength of their alleged sympathy with the revolutionists. The mission was found so hazardous that the commissioners made their report from information gained without entering the province. Willard received a commission as colonel of a regiment drafted to strengthen the northern army under Schuyler, but was prevented from service by a painful accident. Capt. Manasseh Sawyer, August 18th, marched to join the regiment of Col. Nicholas Dike at Dorchester, with a company of ninety-two men, enlisted for eight months. Thirty-two of these were of Lancaster. Henry Haskell, who had distinguished himself in the battle of Bunker Hill as captain of a Shirley company, was lieutenant-colonel of the regiment. Capt. Daniel Goss and Lieut. Jabez Fairbank, with a company of militia, chiefly Lancaster men, served at Dobbs' Ferry, in a regiment of which their townsman, Ephraim Sawyer, was lieutenant-colonel.

October 7, 1776, the town voted to empower the House of Representatives "to draw up a Form of Government" for the State, stipulating that it should be sent to the people for ratification. Dr. William Dunsmoor was at the same date elected representative.

The popular colonial system of short enlistments forbade the growth of a well-disciplined national army and menaced the success of any complex campaign. A complete re-organization was resolved upon by the formation of eighty-eight three-years' regiments of six hundred and eighty men each. Fifteen of these were demanded from Massachusetts, and it required one man in every seven to fill the call. A bounty of twenty dollars and one hundred acres of land was promised volunteers, and the monthly pay of privates was fixed at six and two-thirds dollars. December 9, 1776, the male inhabitants of Lancaster over sixteen years of age numbered six hundred and seventy-two, including thirteen negroes. Her quota was, therefore, ninety-six men, and that number volunteered in due time. Three more levies for three years were made during the war. Ten soldiers were sent by the town to the Continental army in the spring of 1780, thirty-five in the spring of 1781, and seven in March, 1782, the sum of the quotas being one hundred and forty-eight. These men were all volunteers, the draft being resorted to only for short-service calls. Large bounties had to be paid at last, and a few non-resident substitutes were hired. The men were scattered through the Massachusetts regiments, the town being represented in every one but the First and Ninth. The largest numbers were in the Tenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth. Most of them participated in the battles which compelled the surrender of Burgoyne. Those holding commissions were:

Henry Haskell, lieut.-col. 15th.
Ephraim Sawyer, capt. 16th.
William Harris, paymaster 16th.
Jonathan Sawyer, lieut. 14th, *killed*.
John Hewitt, lieut. 10th.
John Whiting, lieut. 12th.
Philip Corey, lieut. 10th.
Joseph House, lieut. 2d.
Winslow Phelps, ensign 13th.
Jonathan Wheelock, drum-major 14th.

The year 1777 was marked in Lancaster for a persecution of suspected loyalists by the extremists of the patriot party. A resolve of the Legislature concerning "the danger from internal enemies" gave reason for the creation of a committee to search for and obtain evidence against such suspects, and Col. Asa Whitcomb was selected. A black-list was presented by him in September, bearing the names of Moses Gerrish, Daniel Allen, Ezra Houghton, Joseph Moore, Solomon Houghton, Thomas Grant, James Carter and Rev. Timothy Harrington. Abijah and Abel Willard and Joseph House had fled with the British upon the evacuation of Boston, and their estates had been confiscated. Levi Willard and Joseph Wilder were dead. Of those in Whitcomb's black-list, Gerrish, Moore and Ezra Houghton were imprisoned, Solomon Houghton escaped from the country, Carter's and Allen's names were stricken from the list in town-meeting, and Grant is found serving in the patriot ranks. The attempted proscription of Harrington was apparently the more bitter because of his connection with the troubles in the Bolton parish. He made a shrewd and spirited defence, when called into town-meeting to face his accusers, signally triumphed over them, and was held in increased respect thenceforward.

The loss of Ticonderoga and the victorious advance of Burgoyne southward spread dismay throughout New England. One-half of the alarm list were hurriedly marched from Lancaster to Bennington in August, mostly embraced in companies led by Captains John White and Solomon Stuart. During the autumn months of 1777 about thirty men of the town participated in the Rhode Island expedition of General Spencer.

February 5, 1778, it was voted "to accept the Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union between the United States of America," and May 18th the town voted upon the acceptance of the new State Constitution, when one hundred and eleven were found in favor of and forty-one against it. It was, however, rejected by the people. Four thousand and forty-nine pounds were appropriated to pay the soldiers hired to serve for eight and nine months' service in the Continental Army. These men were thirty-two in number and joined the forces stationed along the Hudson. Captain Manasseh Sawyer and over fifty Lancaster men were engaged in the unsuccessful attempt to drive the British from Newport and fought at Quaker's Hill under General Sullivan. There were also constant details for guard duty. Frequently twenty or more of the town's youth were at Cambridge or Rutland in charge of prisoners.

The paper currency had steadily depreciated and

counterfeit money was so abundant that the most reputable persons innocently received and paid it out. Trade was fast becoming a system of barter. Foolish attempts were made to fix the prices of common necessities by law, and annually committees were chosen by the town to make up a schedule of these prices. June 28, 1779, the town solemnly voted "that the price of the Comodityes of the farmer and any other article do not rise any higher than at this time."

Eighteen men of the town were mustered June 25, 1779, for nine months, to re-enforce the Continental Army, and a company of militia were serving at Claverack with Captain Luke Wilder, Andrew Haskell being his lieutenant.

The State Constitution was voted upon May 13th, and one hundred and three favored it, while only seven declared against it. Dr. William Dunsmoor, Captain Ephraim Wilder and Captain William Putnam were Lancaster's delegates in the convention which formed it. In June, 1780, the town was called upon to furnish forty men for six months' service. Certain of the radical leaders, and especially Josiah Kendall, who had been vociferously patriotic in the earlier days of the war, avowed their belief that the men could not be obtained, and counseled non-compliance with the demand of the government. Captain Samuel Ward, who had narrowly escaped proscription for his conservative views, saw his opportunity and promptly advocated in an eloquent harangue immediate obedience to the requisition, at whatever cost. He was made chairman of a committee of twelve empowered to hire the soldiers "on any terms they think proper." The forty men within twelve days were on their way to the camps, each having been promised "£1400 lawful money, or £13 6*s.* 8*d.* in Corn, Beef and Live Stock or any Produce as it formerly used to be sold." From this the silver dollar would seem to have been worth one hundred and five paper dollars at that date.

During both 1780 and 1781 a full company of militia served in Rhode Island for from three to five months, and others were stationed for similar terms of service on the Hudson. The rolls found indicate that fully one-quarter of the whole male population of Lancaster above the age of sixteen, were kept constantly in the army during the most eventful years of the struggle for freedom. Over six hundred names of Lancaster soldiers in the Revolution are already listed. Almost no records of casualties are discovered in muster-rolls, but they disclose the names of thirty men of Lancaster who died of wounds or disease between the battle of Lexington and 1779. Those who for any cause were exempted from military service lived lives of toil and sacrifice. Money was annually appropriated for the care of soldiers' families, and the widows and orphans received systematic aid after the war, the town's expenditure being finally refunded by the State. Lancaster is credited with having paid for such purposes from 1781 to 1785 the sum of £1852 1*s.* 4*d.*

Twenty-three residents of the extreme southerly portion of the town, May 15, 1780, presented a petition to be set off to Shrewsbury. To this public consent was given in June, and an act of Legislature consummated the division February 2, 1781. The area thus parted with was about six square miles, and was incorporated with Boylston in 1786. The Second Precinct had by 1780 so grown as to outvote the older portion of Lancaster, and the autonomy it had long sought could no longer be denied. April 25, 1781, Chocksett was incorporated under the name of Sterling, in honor of General William Alexander, Earl of Sterling. By this change Lancaster lost over half of its population and but thirty-six and one-half square miles of its territory remained.

The noise and smoke of rejoicing over honorable victory and independence won soon passed, and there was time for the town to reckon up its sacrifices and take account of domestic resources and necessities. The outlook was not encouraging. The paper currency had become worthless and disappeared. Farmers and mechanics were crushed with debt, and half maddened by burdensome taxation, while lawyers and merchants were reaping a golden harvest. Bankrupt sales were advertised on every hand. Soon a spirit of anarchy was born of the general discontent, which culminated in Shays' Insurrection. No citizen of Lancaster is known to have joined the armed force of malcontents, and very few sympathized with the appeal to violence. The town sent delegates to the county conventions, voted in favor of enactment of laws to alleviate the distress of the people, and recommended relieving the farming interest by excise and import duties.

But when, January 16, 1787, the two militia companies were called out by Col. William Greenleaf, the sheriff, the men were found almost unanimously in favor of supporting the law, and upon his calling for twenty-eight volunteers to march to the defence of the courts at Worcester on January 23d, thirty-one offered themselves. Lancaster was the rendezvous of the troops from the eastern part of the county, and Captains Nathaniel Beaman and John Whiting led companies in the regiments which, under General Benjamin Lincoln, pursued Shays and scattered his "regulators." The service was not long nor attended with bloodshed, but it was arduous in the extreme. Those who participated in it often grew eloquent in reminiscence of the terrible night march from Hadley to Petersham, February 3, 1787, facing a furious snowstorm in a temperature far below zero. Among those serving as privates was Captain Andrew Haskell. Three years later this veteran soldier was slain in battle with the Indians at the defeat of General Arthur St. Clair. Hon. John Sprague accompanied the expedition against Shays upon the staff of General Lincoln, as his legal adviser.

Authority had been obtained by an act dated February 15, 1783, for lotteries to meet the extraordinary cost of rebuilding and repairing bridges and causeways. Twelve classes of the Lancaster Bridge Lottery were drawn—the net proceeds of which amounted to only £3286; and the results in other respects did not encourage the continuance of the scheme.

By this time there were ten bridges over the Nashua rivers, and eight of them were a public charge. They were all built with one or more trestles in the bed of the stream, and an ice jam or unusually high freshet often tore several of these from their anchorage. A September flood in 1787 swept away the Ponikin saw-mill, and damaged or demolished half the bridges in town. The Sprague, Ponikin and Atherton bridges were rebuilt in 1788. The Sawyer bridge, so-called, on the site of the present Carter's Mills bridge—whither it had been moved from the discontinued Scar road in 1742—was rebuilt in 1789.

The majority in Lancaster were opposed to the ratification of the National Constitution, and elected Hon. John Sprague their delegate to the State convention of January, 1788, with the usual instructions as to their wishes. Mr. Sprague, however, finally favored the ratification, although but six of his Worcester County associates voted with him. This use of his discretion did not seriously offend his constituency for at the first meeting for choice of a Presidential elector, December 18, 1788, he received thirty-one of the sixty-two votes cast in Lancaster.

Rev. Timothy Harrington became physically unable to attend to the duties of his pastorate in 1790, and on October 9, 1793, Rev. Nathaniel Thayer was ordained as his colleague, receiving as a settlement two hundred pounds, with a yearly salary of ninety pounds. Mr. Harrington was born at Waltham, February 10, 1716, was graduated at Harvard College in 1737, and died at Lancaster, December 18, 1795, having been pastor over the church here forty-seven years. By a first wife, Anna Harrington, he had two sons and four daughters. He married Ann, the widow of Rev. Matthew Bridge, April 11, 1780. He was a lovable man, attracting young and old by his gentleness, affability and simplicity of manners. He was especially remarkable for his day, because of his liberality of sentiment, shown in speech and conduct—a broad charity toward all humanity. Three of his sermons were published, and his century discourse was reprinted in 1806 and 1853.

In 1791, February 7th, the proprietors voted "to relinquish to the several towns in the bounds of Old Lancaster all their right to roads in the respective towns."

An increased interest in the subject of education began to be visible in 1788. Some of the leading citizens organized a central grammar school, and Timothy Whiting and Jonathan Wilder were elected a town visiting committee—the first recorded—to serve with the minister and two others chosen by the supporters of the school. The following year, under a new State law, the town was divided into districts, thirteen in number. In 1790 a new building for the grammar school was erected on common ground "opposite General Greenleaf's garden." The next year one hundred and fifty pounds were appropriated for education, one-third of which was devoted to the grammar school, one hundred being divided among the districts. From 1792 Rev. Nathaniel Thayer became chairman of the school committee annually elected by the town, which at first consisted of seven, but was increased to eleven in 1796.

Numerous landed estates passed from the ownership of the older families shortly after the Revolution, in all sections of the town, and many new names began to appear in the tax-lists. The ruling spirits in the town management were Hon. John Sprague, Capt. Samuel Ward, General John and Judge Timothy Whiting, Sheriff William Greenleaf, Michael Newhall, Col. Edmund Heard, Ebenezer Torrey, Joseph Wales, Merrick Rice, William Stedman, Jonas Lane, John Maynard, Jacob Fisher, Eli Stearns and John Thurston, not one of whom was a lineal descendant of the early settlers. At the north part of the town many of the old residents became converts of Mother Ann Lee, and joined the Shaker community. A little colony of Reading families succeeded to their farms. At the south end, as the nineteenth century opened, the Burditts, Lowes, Rices and Harrises, mostly from Leominster and Boylston, came, bringing with them the horn-comb industry. For a few years, besides the saw and grist-mills of Col. Greenleaf, at Ponikin, a trip-hammer and nail-cutting machine were in operation. The quarry in the northern end of the town sent annually to Boston a large quantity of roofing-slate; but these industries were short-lived. The first post-office was established in Lancaster, April 1, 1795, with Joseph Wales as postmaster. Jonathan Whitcomb carried the mails and passengers daily to and from the city, by the "Boston, Concord and Lancaster mail line" stages, when the century closed.

CHAPTER V.

LANCASTER—(*Continued*).

Hon. John Sprague— Cotton and Woollen Mills—The Academy—War of 1812— The Whitings— The Brick Meeting-house— Lafayette— The Printing Enterprise— Dr. Nathaniel Thayer— New Churches— Clinton Set Off—Bi-Centennial—Schools—Libraries—Cemeteries.

SEPTEMBER 21, 1800, Lancaster lost her leading citizen by the death of Hon. John Sprague. He had been for thirty years resident of the town, coming from Keene, N. H., in 1770, to form a law partnership with Abel Willard. He was a son of Noah and Sarah Sprague, of Rochester, Mass., born June 21, 1740, and was graduated at Harvard College in 1765. He served the town ten years as Representative and

two as Senator, was sheriff for three years, and for two years was chief justice of the Court of Common Pleas. He was widely respected as a peacemaker, a safe adviser. a learned lawyer and an impartial judge.

In 1805, Moses Sawyer and Abel Wilder built the dam and first mill, at the bridge over the Nashua in the village then called New Boston. This water-power soon came into possession of Elias Bennett, and a fulling-mill was started in addition to the saw and grist-mills. The clothiers and wool-carders successively here were Ezekiel Knowlton, Asa Buttrick and Ephraim Fuller. Asahel Tower, Jr., also operated a nail-cutting machine in connection with the saw-mill. Samuel Carter purchased the property, and, about 1844, built a cotton factory, which was leased to the Pitts Brothers and others. This was burned July 7, 1856, and the present factory built upon the same site.

In 1809 Poignand & Plant founded the first cotton factory in Lancaster on the site of Prescott's mills, and James Pitts, in 1815, built the second, upon the Nashua. The details of these important enterprises will be found in the history of Clinton.

Burrill Carnes, Sir Francis Searles and Capt. Benjamin Lee, three Englishmen of wealth, during about ten years successively owned and lived upon the Wilder farm, on the Old Common, now occupied by the State Industrial School, and by lavish expenditure gave it the semblance of an old-world baronial estate. In 1804 the place was bought by Maj. Joseph Hiller, of Salem, who resided here until his death, in 1814. He was an officer of the Revolution, had been appointed by Washington the first collector of Salem, and was an ardent Federalist, a Christian gentleman and a very valuable accession to Lancaster. His two highly accomplished daughters became the wives of their cousins, Capt. Richard J. and William Cleveland, who also came to reside here, and won prominence in town councils. As children came and grew to boyhood Capt. Cleveland and his wife felt the need of a higher education for them than the town's grammar school could give, and persuaded several gentlemen to join in establishing the Lancaster Latin Grammar School in 1815.

This classical school was kept for about eleven years upon the Old Common. The teachers' names best tell the quality of the education there afforded: Silas Holman, 1815; Jared Sparks, 1816; John W. Proctor, 1817; George B. Emerson, 1818-19; Solomon P. Miles, 1820–21; Nathaniel Wood, 1822–23; Levi Fletcher, 1824; Nathaniel Kingsbury, 1825. These scholarly young men, together with Warren Colburn and James G. Carter, at the most enthusiastic period of life's work, sitting at the hospitable board of the Clevelands, discussed with the cultured host and brilliant hostess the need of a new education which should develop the reasoning powers of youth; and here they formed the opinions upon which some of them, as the most influential factors, remodeled the common-school system of the State.

September 15, 1808, Maj. Hiller, Hon. William Stedman and Capt. Samuel Ward were chosen by the town to draft a petition to President Jefferson for a suspension of the embargo, which it was alleged had closed the chief sources of the nation's wealth and destroyed the customary incentives to enterprise and virtuous industry. The friends of the French party, as the Jeffersonians were nicknamed, were but few in Lancaster. At a special town-meeting, June 24, 1812, resolutions remonstrating against declaring war with England as suicidal and unnecessary were passed by a vote of one hundred and fifteen to fifteen. August 20th, Rev. Nathaniel Thayer, it being a fast day, preached a sermon denouncing what he termed the iniquitous policy of the President. But when, in September, 1814, the British fleet appeared off the coast, and Boston was fearing an attack, there was no lack of belligerency. Among the first military companies to report to the Governor, in answer to his summons, were the light artillery and an infantry company of Lancaster, who, after a service at the meeting-house, on Sunday, September 14th, proceeded to Cambridge. Capt. Ezra Sawyer marched his infantry command back the same week, having been ordered out by mistake. The artillery, forty men all told, remained on duty until November 5, 1814. Capt. John Lyon, who led the company from Lancaster, was superseded by Capt. Silas Parker. Henry, Levi and Fabius Whiting served with distinction in the regular army, attaining the rank of first lieutenant during the war. Henry Moore was killed at Brownstown, Josiah Rugg died in the army, and Nathan Puffer served in the United States artillery.

September 3, 1810, John Whiting died at Washington, aged fifty years. He had been commissioned lieutenant-colonel of the Fourth United States Infantry in 1808. Both he and his brother Timothy, Jr., served throughout the War of the Revolution, during which their father came from Billerica to Lancaster. Both became associate justices of the Court of Sessions, and were more than once candidates of the Jeffersonian party for Congress. An indication of John Whiting's ability, probity and lovable character is found in the fact that when two Lancaster men were candidates for Congressional honor, in 1804, he received eighty-four votes, while William Stedman, the regular Federalist nominee, had but seventy-six, although it was a fevered period in partisan politics and the town's voters were usually more than three-fourths Federalists. Tradition still recalls Whiting's suave dignity when presiding over a town-meeting and his courtly grace in social assemblies. He was deacon in the church and brigadier-general in the militia. His daughter, Caroline Lee, as Mrs. Hentz, became a very popular writer of verse and fiction. His son, Henry, Brevet Brigadier-General, U. S. A., published two volumes of poetry, and contributed articles to the *North American Review*.

The corner-stone of the brick meeting-house was

laid with appropriate ceremony July 9, 1816. Two acres for the site were purchased for $633.33, being part of a farm belonging to Capt. Benjamin Lee. The designer of the building was Charles Bulfinch, the earliest professional architect in New England, who also designed the State House in Boston and that at Augusta. Thomas Hersey was the master-builder. The cupola has been pronounced by competent critics to be almost faultless in its proportions. On Wednesday, January 1, 1817, the building was dedicated. The final cost of the structure complete was $20,428.99, and it was proposed to pay for it by sale of the pews. They were accordingly appraised, eighteen being given the highest valuation, $230, the lowest being priced at $30. At the auction sale Capt. Ward paid the highest sum, $275, for pew No. 4; Capt. Cleveland paid $255 for pew No. 57. A bell weighing thirteen hundred pounds was presented to the parish by several gentlemen. It was cracked within a few years, had to be recast, and now weighs eleven hundred pounds. The old meeting-house stood until 1823, and was used as a town-house. In that year a new town-house was built largely from the material obtained in tearing down the old one.

In the year 1823 the town dared a temporary departure from the old style of bridge construction. For twenty years the subject had been anxiously discussed by special committees and town-meetings. One committee had presented and advocated a plan for a double arch stone bridge, but the cost was great and there was a well-founded fear that the central pier would seriously obstruct the passage of ice. The town also seriously considered a curiously unscientific wooden structure, in which the planking was to be laid upon the top of seven timber arches, unbraced and without chords. Almost yearly one or more of the trestle bridges yielded to ice or freshet, and was whirled down stream. Daniel Farnham Plummer, a wheelwright of South Lancaster, exhibited for several years a model of a wooden arch bridge, which he claimed to have invented. This model, three or four feet in length, made of hickory sticks about as thick as one's finger, readily bore the weight of a man; and the town, when the Atherton and Centre bridges next went seaward, voted to adopt Plummer's principle. The new bridge was out of the reach of flood, but had in itself sufficient elements of instability, and the wonder is that it stood ten years. The town returned to the stereotype trestle form again, except at the Centre, Ponikin and North Village, where covered lattice girders were built, which did good service for from thirty-five to forty years. The river bridges were all finally replaced between 1870 and 1875 with iron structures, for which, including the thorough rebuilding of most of the stone abutments, the total expenditure was thirty-five thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars.

Friday, September 3, 1824, is a date famous in the annals of Lancaster, because of the visit of Lafayette, the nation's guest. The general had passed the night at the mansion of S. V. S. Wilder in Bolton, and at half-past six in the morning, escorted by cavalry, proceeded to Lancaster by the turnpike. He was received at the toll-gate with a national salute from the artillery, and upon arrival near the meeting-house was met under an elaborately decorated arch by the town's committee and conducted to a platform upon the green. There, in the presence of an immense concourse from all the country around, he was welcomed in an address by Dr. Thayer, to which he made brief response, evidently deeply affected by the eloquent words to which he had listened, and by the spontaneous homage of a grateful people. After a brief stay, during which the surviving soldiers of the Revolution were presented to him, amid the booming of cannon and the tearful acclamations of the multitude, the cavalcade moved on towards Worcester.

To this time and for a decade later the martial spirit of the people was kept bright by the militia laws. At least once a year the peaceful highways of the town were wont to bristle with bayonets; and the rattle of drum, the squeak of fife and the odor of burnt cartridges overpowered all the sweet sounds and smells of Nature. This was the "May training." The "muster-fields" are historic, and old citizens continue to recount the humors of the parades and sham-fights. The original territory of Lancaster had sixteen military companies, which, with half a dozen from adjoining towns, made up the Lancaster regiment. The town kept up a mounted troop until 1825, and also had a light artillery company and one of light infantry, besides the ununiformed militia.

The one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the destruction of the town by the Indians was celebrated February 21, 1826, when an oration was delivered by Isaac Goodwin and a poem read by William Lincoln. The former was printed.

So early as 1792 public attention was called to the desirability of a canal from the seaboard to the Connecticut, through Lancaster and Worcester, and preliminary examination of a route was made. This project was again brought forward in 1826, and Lancaster was earnest in its promotion. Loammi Baldwin made a survey through Bolton and Lancaster, his line crossing the Nashua at Carter's Mills; but capital failed to forward the enterprise. The traffic, as before, continued to be conducted by heavy wagons drawn by teams of horses. Forty such wagons daily passed through the town to and from Boston, bearing as many tons of merchandise or farm products. At intervals of a mile or two stood taverns, which entertained many wayfarers, and nightly attracted to their sanded-floored bar-rooms a jovial company, which grew hilarious as the hours sped, under the inspiration of unlimited flip. The most direct route for the Boston and Fitchburg Railway lay through Lancas-

ter and Bolton, but the blind selfishness of inn-keepers and stage proprietors was able to create sufficient hostility to the road to carry it by a more tortuous line through towns then less populous. Repentance soon followed, and upon the inception of the Worcester and Nashua road its projectors were met in liberal spirit. Hopes of a more direct connection with Boston have been often raised, and, finally, April 30, 1870, the Lancaster Railroad Company was incorporated. Its road was built by George A. Parker, who became president of the company, but has never been used owing to a controversy between the Fitchburg and Worcester and Nashua Railway corporations.

Capt. Samuel Ward died August 14, 1826, aged eighty-seven. He had for fifty-nine years been resident in Lancaster, an active and liberal citizen. Born in Worcester, September 25, 1739, he was for a time a pupil of John Adams, but entered the army when a boy of sixteen. His career to the date of his coming to Lancaster has been outlined in a previous page. He was devoted to mercantile pursuits until the last twenty years of his life, which he spent in the care of his ample landed estate. His generous hospitality brought many guests to his board, and the charm of his bright presence and richly-fraught speech glows for us in the grateful reminiscences of those who were blessed by his friendly interest. He left a legacy of five hundred dollars, the income of which he desired should be annually distributed "to those who are unfortunate and in indigent circumstances" in Lancaster. This sum has been increased by sundry similar legacies, and forms the Lancaster Charitable Fund. Capt. Ward had outlived wife and children many years, and willed his estate to his niece, Mrs. Dolly Greene, wife of Nathaniel Chandler. Squire Chandler, as he was always called, thenceforward resided in Lancaster. He was a man of culture, bright wit and quaint individuality; born in Petersham, October 6, 1773, graduate at Harvard College in 1792, died June 4, 1852. Madame Chandler survived her husband seventeen years, living to the age of eighty-five. Their daughter, Mrs. Mary G. Ware, remains in possession of the homestead.

During 1826 a brick, two-storied structure was built a little south of the meeting-house, and the Latin Grammar School was removed thither from the Old Common. Hitherto a school for boys only, from this time both sexes were admitted. The building was paid for by subscription, and the ground for it was the gift of George and Horatio Carter. An act of incorporation was obtained February 11, 1828, by the subscribers, under the title of the Lancaster Academy. April 7, 1847, a second corporation with the same title took possession of the building by purchase, and, in 1879, the town having bought it, tore it down to make room for the present grammar-school house. The first teacher of the academy in this locality was Nathaniel Kingsbury. He had numerous successors; among those who served for several years were Isaac F. Woods, Henry C. Kimball, A.M., and William A. Kilbourn, A.M.

The year 1826 was also memorable for the publication of the first systematic history of the town, under the title of "Topographical and Historical Sketches of the Town of Lancaster," occupying ninety pages of the *Worcester Magazine*. Its able and painstaking author, Joseph Willard, Esq., was descended from a Lancaster family, and practiced law here from 1821 to 1831. He proposed publishing a more comprehensive history of Lancaster, and made valuable collections of material for it, but it was postponed for other literary work, and at his death, in 1865, was found too incomplete for print.

During 1827 the brothers, Joseph and Ferdinand Andrews, wood and copper engravers, came to Lancaster from Hingham. The latter had been editor of the *Salem Gazette*. George and Horatio Carter built the brick house nearly opposite the hotel, in Lancaster Centre, for a book-store and printing office, and thence, March 4, 1828, the first number of the *Lancaster Gazette* was issued. It was a sheet of five columns to the page, edited by Ferdinand Andrews, and printed every Tuesday. One of its standing advertisements was: "Wood, corn and oats received in pay for the Lancaster Gazette." The last number was printed April 13, 1830, and Lancaster had no newspaper again until the birth of the *Lancaster Courant*, in 1846.

Maps had been printed and colored here as early as 1825 by the Carters, who were copper-plate printers. Although the newspaper enterprise did not prosper, the firm of Carter & Andrews did an extensive business in book publishing, engraving on wood, copper and steel, map printing and coloring, book-binding, etc., employing nearly one hundred persons. A type foundry was established by Charles Carter, and a lithographic press was set up by Henry Wilder in connection with the firm. In 1834 the business passed under control of Andrews, Shephard & Hastings, and, in 1835, Marsh, Capen, Lyon & Webb took possession, using for their publication title "The Education Press." The enterprise was abandoned in 1840. Among many books printed in Lancaster were: "Peter Parley's Works," "Farmer's General Register of the First Letters of New England," "The Comprehensive Commentary," "The Common School Journal," various standard school books, "The Girl's Own Book," by Lydia M. Child, a series called "The School Library," etc. The wood engraving was superior to any work of the kind before that date in the United States.

The Lancaster Bank was incorporated in the name of Davis Whitman, Jacob Fisher, Jr., Stephen P. Gardner and associates, April 9, 1836, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. This was increased by twenty-five thousand dollars in 1847, again by twenty-five thousand in 1851, and by fifty thousand in

Nath'l Thayer.

1854. In 1876 the capital was reduced to the original amount, and in 1881 the bank was removed to Clinton. The first president was James G. Carter, who was succeeded in 1840 by Jacob Fisher, Jr. He resigned in 1874 and George W. Howe was chosen president. Caleb T. Symmes, who had been cashier for thirty years, retired in 1874 to be succeeded by Wm. H. McNeil. Closely connected with this was the Lancaster Savings Bank, incorporated in 1845, which, after an exceptionally prosperous career, was ruined by a series of unfortunate investments and placed in the hands of receivers. The deposits amounted to about one million dollars, of which the depositors have received fifty-three and one-third per cent., and a small balance awaits the settlement of the Lancaster Bank affairs.

The dam and mills at Ponikin, from the first saw-mill built there in 1713 to the existing cotton factory, have seen many changes in ownership, location and production. The chief proprietors have been Samuel Bennett, Joseph Sawyer, Col. Joseph Wilder, Col. William Greenleaf, Major Gardner Wilder, Charles E. Knight, Charles L. Wilder, etc. When the last-named built the present dam, only traces of the older ones, lower upon the stream, were visible, but about a mile up the river stood a prosperous saw and grist-mill, owned by the Shakers, but built by Sewall Carter about 1828, near the site of a saw-mill founded by David Whitcomb as early as 1721. This mill was bought by the American Shoe Shank Company, and for several years leather board, patent shanks, etc., were manufactured there. The works were burned in December, 1883.

While journeying for health and recreation Nathaniel Thayer, D.D., died very suddenly at Rochester, N. Y., June 23, 1840. There had been for nearly two centuries but one meeting-house, one religious society in Lancaster. Sectarian differences there were, but they seldom disturbed the harmony of social relations. The revered pastor was always the prominent central figure of the community, the father of the parish. Nathaniel Thayer was twenty-four years of age when he began his ministerial labors as the colleague of Rev. Timothy Harrington, having been born at Hampton, N. H., July 11, 1769. He was the son of Rev. Ebenezer and Martha (Cotton) Thayer. His mother was a lineal descendant of John Cotton, the first minister of Boston, and through her he is said to have inherited certain mental and moral features which had distinguished her ancestors,—"an uninterrupted succession of clergymen for nearly two hundred and thirty years." He was fitted for college in the first class at Phillips Exeter Academy and graduated at Harvard in 1789. Two years after his coming to Lancaster, on October 22, 1795, he was married to Sarah Toppan, of Hampton, and made his home at first in the old house now generally known as Mrs. Nancy Carleton's, removing, after the death of his venerable colleague, to the parsonage which stood a few feet south of the well in front of Mrs. Nathaniel Thayer's present residence. He received the degree of S.T.D. in 1817.

Dr. Thayer was in person not over medium height, nor was he otherwise of rare mould, but his dignified mien and a melodious voice of great compass and flexibility gave impressiveness to his oratory. Twenty-three occasional sermons of his have been printed. Though always appropriate and sometimes rich in thought happily expressed, the effectiveness traditional of his discourses was largely due to the thrilling tones and skilful emphasis of the orator. He was conscientiously averse to repeating an old sermon even when his time was overtasked. Because of his power in the pulpit and wisdom in church polity he was frequently summoned even from great distances to aid in ordination and council.

But not alone nor chiefly for his public teachings was he prized by his people. His benignant presence was sought as a blessing in times of joy, a comfort in great sorrow. The prayer from his lips was the never-omitted prelude to business at the town-meeting. The young bashfully, the old unreservedly confided their hopes, soul experiences and troubles to him, assured of hearty sympathy and wise counsel. He was the depositary of family secrets; the composer of neighborhood disputes; the ultimate referee in mooted points of opinion or taste. To a gravity which might have graced the Puritan clergymen, his maternal ancestors, he joined an affability that showed no discrimination in persons, and made him beloved of children.

The day was never too long for his activity. In the summer mornings by five o'clock the early travellers saw him tilling his garden by the roadside. In the after part of the day he rode about his extended parish, stopping to greet every one he met with kindly inquiry, carrying consolation to the sick and sorrowful, help to the destitute, the refreshment of hope to the despondent, cheerfulness and peace to all. The charm of his fireside, with its hearty hospitality, freely and unostentatiously open to every chance guest, its frugal comforts made sweeter by abounding Christian graces, was never forgotten by those who came under its influence. The wife and mother, who presided with simple dignity over the household, survived her husband exactly seventeen years, falling asleep at the ripe age of eighty-two. In 1881–82 an apse was added to the brick meeting-house, called the Thayer Memorial Chapel, in honor of Dr. Thayer and his wife. In it, besides the spacious chapel, are an elegantly appointed church parlor, a kitchen with closets, etc., a Sunday-school library room, basement and entrance hall. Its cost, amounting to about fifteen thousand dollars, was defrayed by a popular subscription among the friends of the church, and its memorial character is indicated by portraits and a suitably inscribed wall-tablet.

Rev. Edmund Hamilton Sears, of Sandisfield, graduate of Union College, 1834, was installed as Dr. Thayer's successor December 23, 1840. Failing health compelled him to obtain rest from the cares of so

large a parish, and his pastoral connection with the First Church closed April 1, 1847, to the great grief of his people, and the regret of all citizens of the town; for his presence had ever been a quickening influence to true and earnest living. His subsequent life was largely devoted to literary labors, and of his writings, both prose and poetry, some have won a wide reputation, and that not confined to the so-called religious circles. In 1871 Mr. Sears was honored by Harvard College with the degree of S.T.D. He died at Weston, January 16, 1876. Before him no minister of the First Church had asked or received dismission.

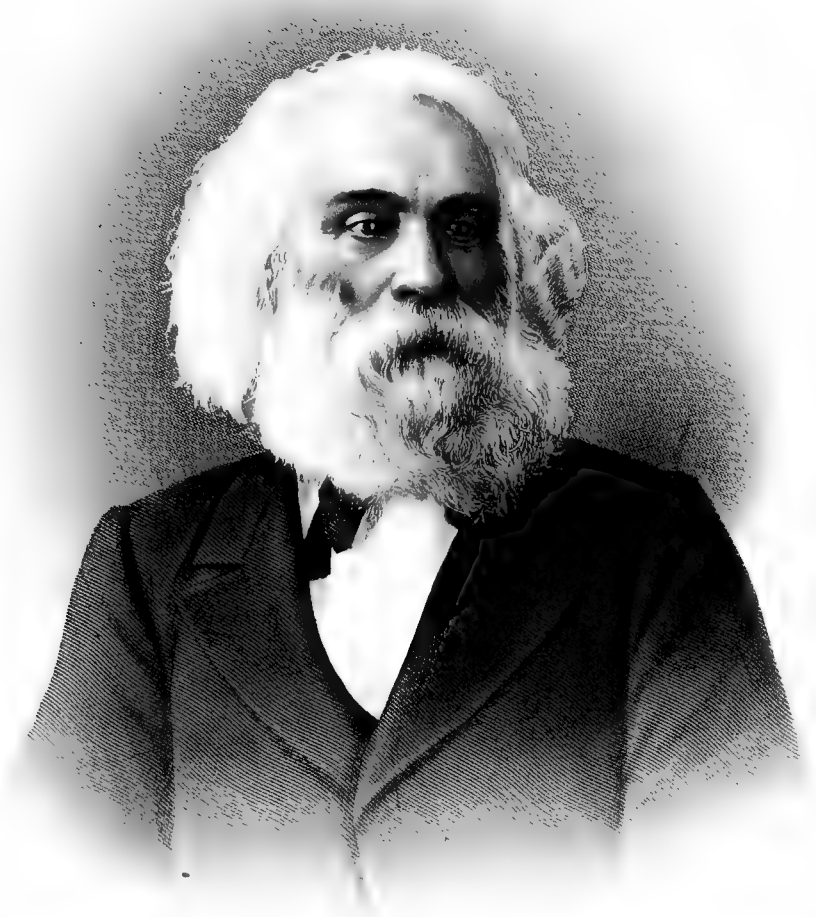
It is now two hundred and thirty-five years since Master Joseph Rowlandson began his ministrations in the Nashua Valley, and there have been but eight incumbents of the pulpit in the church he founded, two of whom were slain when their joint service amounted to but twelve years. The present pastor, George Murillo Bartol, was unanimously called to his office a few months after the loss of Mr. Sears, and the fortieth anniversary of his ordination was feelingly celebrated by his parishioners on August 4, 1887. He was born at Freeport, Me., September, 18, 1820, fitted for college at Phillips Exeter Academy, was graduated at Brown University in 1842, and from the Cambridge Divinity School in 1845. His power for good has not been limited by parish confines, nor restricted to the stated religious teachings of his order. The clergy in Lancaster had ever been held the proper supervisors of the schools, and upon his coming Mr. Bartol was at once placed in the School Board, and was annually rechosen, until, having given faithful service, usually as chairman of the board, during twenty-one years, he felt constrained to ask relief from this onerous duty. From the establishment of the public library he has always stood at the head of the town's committee, entrusted with its management, and in its inception and increase his refined taste, rare knowledge of books and sound literary judgment have been invaluable. With talents and scholarship that invited him to a much wider field of service, he has clung lovingly to his quiet country parish, making it the centre of his efforts and aspirations. He is an enthusiastic lover of Nature in all her moods, a discriminating admirer of beauty in art, earnest in his soul convictions, although averse to sectarian controversy —and so tender of heart as to seem charitable to all human weakness, save that he is intolerant of intolerance.

The Universalist Society was organized April 3, 1838, and held its meetings for several years in the academy building. Rufus S. Pope, James S. Palmer, Lucius R. Paige, S.T.D., and John Harriman successively supplied the pulpit until 1843. A meeting-house was built in South Lancaster, and dedicated April 26, 1848, but seven years later was closed, in 1858 was sold to the State, and now stands in the grounds of the Industrial School. Rev. Benjamin Whittemore, born in Lancaster, May 3, 1801, son of Nathaniel, was pastor of the society from 1843 to 1854. He received the degree of S.T.D. from Tufts' College in 1867, and died in Boston, April 26, 1881, having been totally blind for the last ten years of his life.

The First Evangelical Congregational Church was organized at the house of Rev. Asa Packard, a retired clergyman resident in Lancaster, February 22, 1839. Mr. Packard was a fifer in the Continental Army, was seriously wounded at Haerlem Heights, entered Harvard College and was graduated in 1783. He was for many years a noteworthy figure in the town, by reason of his old-school manners and dress. He wore knee-breeches and silver buckles, the last seen in Lancaster. March 20, 1843, he was found dead in his chair, being then eighty-five years of age. He preached here but a few times. Rev. Charles Packard was ordained January 1, 1840, resigned his pastorate here in 1854, and died at Biddeford, Me., February 17, 1864. He was the son of Rev. Hezekiah Packard, born in Chelmsford, April 12, 1801, and was graduated at Bowdoin College, 1817. During his valuable ministry in Lancaster, Mr. Packard was familiarly known and greatly esteemed by all classes. Firm in opinion, outspoken where a principle was involved, he was, nevertheless, genial, respectful to the convictions of others, and always a preserver of peace. The meeting-house was dedicated December 1, 1841, was enlarged in 1868, and its accommodations increased in 1852 and 1884, by the addition of a chapel, church parlor, etc.

The successors of Mr. Packard have been: Franklin B. Doe, graduate of Amherst, 1851, ordained October 19, 1854, resigned September 4, 1858; Amos E. Lawrence, graduate of Yale, 1840, installed October 10, 1860, resigned March 6, 1864; George R. Leavitt, graduate of Williams, 1860, ordained March 29, 1865, resigned 1870; Abijah P. Marvin, graduate of Trinity, 1839, begun preaching here 1870, was installed May 1, 1872, and asked dismission September 12, 1875, but remains a resident of Lancaster, and an actively useful factor in its affairs; Henry C. Fay, graduate of Amherst, employed 1876; Marcus Ames, acting pastor, 1877; William De Loss Love, Jr., graduate of Hamilton, 1873, ordained September 18, 1878, dismissed July, 1881; Darius A. Newton, graduate of Amherst, 1879, ordained September 21, 1882, dismissed 1885; Lewis W. Morey, graduate of Dartmouth, 1876, is now acting pastor.

The New Jerusalem Church of Lancaster was not legally organized until January 29, 1876, but neighberhood meetings had been held by believers of Swedenborg's doctrines so early as 1830, and for many years Reverends James Reed, Abiel Silver and Joseph Pettee at intervals visited the town and held services, usually in an ante-room of the town hall. Richard Ward was called as the first pastor in 1880, and was installed on the same day with the dedication of the



chapel, December 1, 1880. Besides the tasteful chapel, the society owns the parsonage and a small fund, due to the beneficence of Henry Wilder, who was for about twenty years the reader at meetings of the New Church believers. At his death his property was found to be willed for the establishment of this church.

The Catholic chapel was consecrated July 12, 1873. The parish is in charge of Rev. Richard J. Patterson, of Clinton.

The Seventh-Day Adventist Church in South Lancaster was organized in 1864, and its meeting-house was dedicated May 5, 1878. Stephen N. Haskell was ordained its elder in August, 1870.

The old town-house being inadequate to the public needs, in April, 1847, it was voted to erect a new one of brick "between the Academy and the brick meeting-house," if land could be obtained, in accordance with plans furnished by John C. Hoadley, a noted civil engineer then living in Lancaster. The building was completed in 1848, costing about seven thousand dollars. It had only a single story at first, but the hall proved almost useless as an auditorium because of echoes, and in 1852 a second story was added at an expense of twenty-five hundred dollars. This has been used ever since as a school-room. The annex at the rear was built in 1881.

Under the stimulus of the comb manufacture and the temporary prosperity of the cotton factories of Poignand & Plant and James Pitts, the southerly portion of Lancaster had slowly grown in population to nearly fifty families by 1830, and became known as the Factory Village. The valuable water-power of the locality was not half developed for lack of enterprise and capital. In due time these came, and combined with them came rare inventive genius. The Clinton Company began its prosperous career in the manufacture of the Bigelow coach-lace in 1838. In 1841 the Bigelow quilt-looms were started. In 1844 the foundations of the great gingham-mills on the Nashua were laid. Soon after the Bigelow power-looms revolutionized the making of Brussels carpeting. Lancaster suddenly awoke to find, built upon Prescott's mill-site, the bustling, ambitious village of Clintonville, embracing within a single square mile more people than dwelt in all its borders elsewhere. Another division of the old town was seen to be inevitable, and Lancaster, on the 15th of February, 1850, granted to her daughter, Clinton, 4907 acres of land and independence, which grant the Governor and Legislature confirmed on March 14th.

June 15, 1853, a great multitude from near and afar assembled in Lancaster to commemorate the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town. After exercises at the meeting-house, which included an oration by Joseph Willard, the historian, a procession was formed and marched to the elm-shaded lawn at South Lancaster, where three of the town's ministers, Whiting, Gardner and Prentice, had lived and died. There hosts and guests found tables loaded with food, and the usual social exercises ended the festivities. The proceedings of the day were published, forming a volume of two hundred and thirty octavo pages, containing much local history.

The eminent educator, Professor William Russell, established the New England Normal Institute in Lancaster, May 11, 1853. It had but a brief life, though a very useful one, ceasing to be in the autumn of 1855. Dependent for support upon the fees received of students, it could not longer compete with the free normal schools of the State. Professor Russell thenceforward made Lancaster his home, and here died August 16, 1873, "universally beloved and respected for his many virtues, Christian graces and scholarly attainments." He was a native of Glasgow, Scotland, born April 28, 1798, and a graduate of Glasgow University.

Lancaster began the printing of its annual school reports with that of Rev. Edmund H. Sears for the school year 1842–43. The first free high school was established in 1849, but was discontinued after the separation of Clinton in 1850, although the town from time to time voted to pay the tuition at the academy of scholars qualified for a high school course. In 1873 the free high school was re-established and located in the upper rooms of the town hall, and the academy ceased to exist. In 1851 the town, by authority of a recent enactment, abolished the school districts, since which year four of the original eleven district schools have been abandoned, and all schools of suitable size have been graded into primary and grammar departments. New school buildings, with modern furniture and appointments, also have replaced the time-worn structures owned by the districts. The town has nearly always stood first in rank in the county, and among the first twenty-five of the State in its expenditure for education. The appropriation for 1888 is six thousand eight hundred dollars, the children of school age numbering three hundred and twenty-four.

It is now one hundred years since the first recorded election in Lancaster of a school visiting committee. Dr. Thayer became chairman of the board in place of Rev. Timothy Harrington in 1794, and held the position forty-six years, until his decease. Silas Thurston, a veteran schoolmaster, was first elected in 1820 and served for thirty-seven years. He also died in office, October 25, 1868. Capt. Samuel Ward served about twenty-five years between 1788 and 1816. Rev. George M. Bartol was of the school committee during twenty-one years between 1848 and 1872. Solon Whiting served sixteen years between 1820 and 1843. Fifteen others have been members of the School Board ten years or more each.

After the destruction of Lancaster in 1676, Master Rowlandson's books are spoken of by Mather as though a considerable part of his loss. Mention is often found in early inventories and elsewhere of

respectable literary collections in the possession of Lancaster scholars. But the first considerable library of a public character here was established by an association of citizens in 1790, and known as the Lancaster Library. This society was reorganized in 1800 as the Social Library Association. In 1850 the books were sold at auction to the number of a little over a thousand. The Library Club was organized the next year, and in 1862 its collection, numbering over six hundred volumes, together with one hundred and thirty volumes of the Agricultural Library Association, were offered in aid of a free public library, provided the town would assume its support and increase as authorized by statute. The town accepted the gift, added the little school libraries which had been purchased in 1844, and opened the collection to the public October 4, 1862, in an upper room of the town hall.

January 22, 1866, Mr. Nathaniel Thayer proffered the town a permanent fund of eight thousand dollars, the income of five thousand to be expended in the purchase of books for the library, and that of the remainder for the care of the public burial-grounds. The trust was accepted at the next town-meeting with grateful acknowledgments. At this date there had been some discussion about the erection of a monument to those men of Lancaster who had given their lives for their country during the Rebellion. It was wisely decided at the town-meeting of April, 1866, that the memorial should take the form of a useful public building, with suitable tablets and inscriptions upon its inner walls. The town voted the sum of five thousand dollars for the erection of a library room, to be known as Memorial Hall, provided an equal amount should be obtained by private subscription The building was completed and dedicated June 17, 1868, Rev. Christopher T. Thayer being the orator of the day, and Nathaniel Thayer presiding. The cost of this memorial was nearly thirty thousand dollars, of which Nathaniel Thayer defrayed nearly two-thirds.

Hon. Francis B. Fay subscribed one thousand dollars, and afterwards gave one hundred dollars more for a clock. Colonel Fay had been a resident of the town for about ten years, having built a mansion in 1859 upon the site now covered by the country-house of E. V. R. Thayer. He was born in Southborough June 12, 1793, had served in both branches of the Legislature for Chelsea, of which city he was the first mayor, and for a brief time was Representative in Congress, being appointed by Governor Boutwell to fill the unexpired term of Hon. Robert Rantoul, deceased. He died in 1876.

George A. Parker presented the library with a large collection of costly works relating to the fine arts, selected by himself and valued at over five hundred dollars, and gave seven hundred dollars for the purchase of books of similar character. This enlightened benefaction of Mr. Parker claims the gratitude of the community not only, nor chiefly, for its munificence, but because it richly endowed a department which must otherwise have been meagrely furnished,—affords the means for gratifying the love of beauty, innate in all humanity,—combats utilitarianism and teaches refinement—exerts a humanizing and exalting influence by appeals to hope and imagination from beyond the dry line of knowledge. The nature of the gift discloses something of the character of the donor, who was a man of broad intellect, keen powers of observation and comprehensive views upon measures of public utility. Extensive travel had developed in him cosmopolitan tastes, he had acquired a wide acquaintance with English literature, and his private collection of books was of choice selection and the largest in the town.

George Alanson Parker was born May 9, 1822, at Concord, N. H., one of thirteen children. Being early thrown upon his own resources, he was forced reluctantly to abandon cherished hopes of a classical education, although fitted for entrance to Harvard College, and began his life's work in the office of the noted civil engineer, Loammi Baldwin. In 1842 he opened an engineering office in Charlestown, Mass., associated with Samuel M. Felton, whose youngest sister became his wife. Among other public works in which he was engaged during this part of his career were the surveys of the Fitchburg, Peterboro' and Shirley and Sullivan roads, and the building of the Sugar River and Bellows Falls bridges. In the spring of 1857 he came to Lancaster to reside. He became the chief engineer for the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railway, and during a long illness of President Felton was acting president of the corporation. The building of the Susquehanna Bridge at Havre de Grace, Md., was his most celebrated professional success, and one which gave him a national reputation. In the earlier stages of its construction he patiently overcame almost insuperable natural difficulties, and when the superstructure was well advanced a tornado destroyed, in a few moments, the labors of months. This terrible misfortune he bore with cheerful fortitude, displaying great fertility of expedient and fresh energy in the reconstruction. During the Rebellion he was agent of the government for supplying rolling-stock to the roads used by the War Department. His latest work was the building of the Zanesville and Ohio River Railway. He was for many years consulting engineer of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad corporation. He freely gave his townsmen the benefit of his large experience and skill for the permanent improvement of the public ways and bridges, and served them faithfully for three years in the Legislature.

Throughout a life of unusual activity and grave responsibility never did his home in Lancaster fail to give him peace, rest and inspiration for new work. For Lancaster he always had a devoted affection, and for her people a sincere regard, which displayed

Geo. A. Parker

itself in earnest and ready sympathy in time of need. Though too busy a man to be greatly given to social recreation, his hospitality was unbounded, and he was one of the most entertaining and genial of hosts, the most kindly and helpful of neighbors. He lived in closest sympathy with Nature, having the tenderest appreciation of every beauty in her realms of field, forest and stream. In the marvelous order of the seasons, in the development of animate and inanimate creation, he recognized the law and beneficence of the Almighty and found confirmation of his strong and abiding religious faith. By the roadsides and within the borders of his own estate remain the ever-growing evidence of his love for trees and his thought for his children's children and the townspeople. In the graceful outline and the grateful shade of a stately tree he felt truly that to them who should live after him he had left a kindly memory.

He died very suddenly April 20, 1887, before any waning of bodily or mental vigor was discernible in him, and before he had reached the span of life allotted to man; but he had done a full life-time's work. Death came as he would have had it—in his own home and when his earthly labors had found successful conclusion.

Hon. George Bancroft, September 20, 1878, in memory of kindness received in boyhood of Capt. Samuel Ward, asked the town to receive one thousand dollars in trust, the income "to be expended year by year for the purchase of books in the department of history, leaving the word to be interpreted in the very largest sense." The trust was accepted with proper expression of thanks, and is entitled the Bancroft Library Fund, in memory of Capt. Samuel Ward. The income of two thousand dollars, the bequest of Rev. Christopher T. Thayer, who died in 1880, is also available for the purchase of books. Special bequests have been received from Mary Whitney, Deborah Stearns, Sally Flagg, Mrs. Catherine (Stearns) Ballard and Martha R. Whitney. Henry Wilder and Dr. J. L. S. Thompson, by their intelligent interest and zeal, secured valuable archæological and natural history collections, which are constantly increasing by donations.

The library is more generously endowed with expensive and beautiful works on the natural sciences and art than most public libraries of twice its size and age. It is also rich in local history and bibliography, as such a collection should be. The town appropriates for its care and increase one thousand dollars annually, besides the dog-tax, fines and sales of duplicates—amounting to four or five hundred dollars more.

The memorial hall, occupying the larger part of the edifice, serves as a reading-room, contains shelving for twenty thousand volumes, and a tablet upon which are cut the names of the town's soldiers who died in the war. A fire-proof room is used by town officers, and contains the town records. The natural history collections are displayed in an upper hall. The number of bound books is now twenty thousand; of pamphlets, over ten thousand. About thirteen thousand volumes were loaned during 1887 for home use, or an average of twenty-nine for each family in town. The management of the library and cemeteries is vested in a committee of seven. Rev. George M. Bartol has been chairman of this board from the first. Dr. J. L. S. Thompson served as librarian, with the exception of one year, until 1878, and Miss Alice G. Chandler has held the office since that date. The original building being already crowded by the growth of the collections, extensive additions are in progress which will more than quadruple the shelf capacity. The cost of these improvements is assumed by the four sons of Nathaniel Thayer, honoring their father's generous interest in this noble institution, the pride of the town.

There are six public burial-grounds in Lancaster, all save one thickly set with the narrow homes of the town's majority. The oldest is mentioned in 1658 as "burying-place hill," and probably was set apart for its purpose in 1653, being close by the site of the first meeting-house. The oldest date legible is that upon a stone marking the grave of the first John Houghton —April 29, 1684. There are older memorial stones, however, but undated. Among them are that of the first John Prescott, 1683, and that of Dorothy, the first wife of Jonathan Prescott, who died a year or two before the massacre. The earliest stones are rude slabs of slate, and the brief inscriptions, now almost illegible, seem to have been incised by an ordinary blacksmith's chisel in unskilled hands. The graves of four of the earlier ministers—Whiting, Gardner, Prentice and Harrington—are grouped together in this yard.

The second burying-ground is that upon the Old Common, opposite the site of the third church. The land for this was given by the second Thomas Wilder, probably in 1705. The third, called the North Cemetery, as a town institution dates from 1800, but the field had been used for burial purposes several years earlier.

The Middle Cemetery contains about two acres, and was purchased of Dr. Thayer and Hon. John Sprague in 1798. The North Village Cemetery covers about four acres, and was bought in 1855. Eastwood embraces forty-six acres, was purchased in 1871, accepted as a cemetery in April, 1874, and dedicated October 12, 1876. The grounds are forest-clad and naturally beautiful, the highest elevations commanding extensive views. They are laid out with winding drives according to a plan made by H. W. S. Cleveland, landscape architect, a native of Lancaster. All the public burial-places are cared for by a special committee. The town's appropriation for this purpose is usually three hundred dollars, and the income of seven special funds amounts to two hundred dollars more.

CHAPTER VI.

LANCASTER—(*Continued*).

The Rebellion—The Town's History Printed—The Town's Poor—Death of Nathaniel Thayer—General Statistics, Etc.

AT the Presidential election of 1856 the vote of Lancaster was: For John C. Fremont, 232; James Buchanan, 35; Millard Fillmore, 10. The vote of 1860 stood: For Abraham Lincoln, 183; Stephen A. Douglas, 42; John Bell, 41. The men who thus voted, when traitors appealed from the ballot-box to the sword, were not tardy in defence of their convictions. One of Lancaster's sons served in the Sixth Regiment, in which was shed the first blood of the Rebellion, in 1861, on the anniversary of the battle of Lexington. The news of that bloodshed told every village of the North that the bitterness of civil war had begun. Monday evening, April 22d, a mass-meeting of the citizens in Lancaster town-hall, Dr. J. L. S. Thompson chairman, deliberated upon the grave dangers threatening the republic. Enthusiastic patriotism ruled the assembly; nor was it content with flamboyant resolutions only, but began then and there the organization of a company for the defence of the government.

This company, seventy-eight men, chiefly of Lancaster and Bolton, was called the Fay Light Guard, in honor of Hon. Francis B. Fay, of Lancaster. It was soon drilling under command of Thomas Sherwin, captain-elect, and three weeks later joined the Fifteenth Regiment, in camp at Worcester. Without any sufficient reason, alleged or apparent, the Governor arbitrarily refused to commission the company's chosen commander as captain, and the men, in response, encouraged by the sympathy of the whole camp, refused to be sworn in under the stranger from another county set over them. The company was therefore disbanded, when the rank and file, almost without exception, enlisted in other companies of the Fifteenth and Twenty-first Regiments. They had received an outfit, and been paid one dollar per day for all time spent in drill, at an expense to the town of nearly one thousand dollars. Before the end of August, 1861, forty volunteers represented Lancaster in the Union Army, and before October closed, four of these slept their last sleep on the banks of the Potomac, victims in the defeat at Ball's Bluff.

Meetings for drill were held in the town-hall on Monday evenings, in which many a volunteer who afterwards did good service in the field received his first lessons in the school of the soldier. Donations of money, underclothing, etc., were solicited by a citizens' committee, and, during the first winter of the war, forwarded for distribution among the town's soldiers. In July, 1862, systematic measures were adopted for affording relief to the sick and wounded. Frequent public meetings kept enthusiasm from flagging. Seventeen three-years' men were demanded of the town, and were soon marching with the Thirty-fourth Regiment. It was voted, July 23d, to pay each recruit sworn in the sum of one hundred dollars. Twenty-one nine-months' men were called for in August, and entered the camp of the Fifty-third, under Lieut. Edward R. Washburn.

The Soldiers' Relief Association was formed August 27, 1862, with Mrs. Harriet W. Washburn, president, and Miss Elizabeth P. Russell, secretary and treasurer. It soon became a branch of the Sanitary Commission, held weekly meetings, which were uniformly well attended, and quietly accomplished a vast amount of beneficent work.

In the calls of 1863 the town again offered one hundred dollars bounty in addition to that promised by State and national government, and her quota was quickly filled, most of the recruits being assigned to the Thirty-fourth and Thirty-sixth Regiments. In 1864 the premium was raised to one hundred and twenty-five dollars, the maximum allowed by law, and sundry substitutes were hired. As news came from the great battle-fields one by one, Lancaster learned that her sons were doing their duty everywhere, and family after family mourned their unreturning brave. Capt. George L. Thurston came from the battle-ground of Shiloh, his constitution undermined by fatigue and exposure, to die among his kindred. Capt. Edward R. Washburn was brought from the bloody charge at Port Hudson with a shattered thigh, to die at home within a year. In the very last days of the struggle Col. Frank Washburn fell mortally wounded, while leading a desperate cavalry charge against an overwhelming force of the enemy at High Bridge.

The following is a complete roster of those who served for Lancaster:

Albee, John G., 53d (nine months), I; 18; Oct. 18, '62; taken prisoner at Thibodeaux, La.; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Alexander, Nathaniel, 15th, C; 40; Dec. 17, '61; discharged for disability Oct. 15, '62.

Atchinson, William, 28th, A; 22; Aug. 10, '63; mustered out June 30, '65; a substitute for C. L. Wilder, Jr.

Ayers, John Curtis, 53d (nine months), I; 25; Oct. 18, '62, as sergeant; 2d lieut. May 22, '63; 1st lieut. July 2, '63; mustered out Sept. 2, 1863.

Balcom, Charles H., 15th, C; 33; Dec. 14, '61; transferred to V. R. C. April 15, '64; re-enlisted; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Ball, Henry F., 4th Cav., C; 24; Dec. 31, '63; hospital steward Sept., '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65; credited to Clinton.

Bancroft, Frank Carter, *alias* Henry T. Colter, 8th New Hampshire, A; 17; Oct. 25, '61; drummer; wounded in ankle at Maryville, La., May, '63; re-enlisted; mustered out Oct. 28, '65.

Barnes, Frank W., U. S. Navy; enlisted Sept. 15, '62, on frigate "Minnesota;" discharged Sept., '63.

Barnes, George A., 16th, C; 18; corporal July 2, '61; shot through foot and taken prisoner at second battle of Bull's Run, Va., Aug. 20, '62; discharged for wound Oct. 10, '62.

Beard, Jonas H., 25th, C; 25; Sept. 28, '61; re-enlisted; wounded in hip at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64; mustered out July 13, '65.

Bell, John, 2d Cav.; 25; May 7, '64; unassigned recruit; a non-resident substitute.

Bigelow, William W., 25th, D; 21; Sept. 27, '61; taken prisoner in N. C.; discharged for disability March 18, '63.

Bergman, Albert, 3d Cav.; 26; July 2, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Blood, Charles E., 34th, H; 21; Dec. 19, '63; transferred June 14, '65, to 21th, G; sergeant; mustered out Jan. 20, '66.

Bridge, James A., 34th, H; Dec. 19, '63; shot in forehead at Newmarket, Va., May 15, '64, and died of wound.

Brooks, Walter A., 53d (nine months), I; 25; Oct. 18, '62; corporal; died at Memphis, Tenn., Aug. 22, '63.

Brown, Jonas H., 34th, H; 41; July 31, '62; mustered out June 16, '65.

Burbank, Levi B., 34th, H; 43; July 31, '62; discharged for disability Feb. 27, '64.

Burditt, Charles F., 36th; 43; Dec. 26, '63; unassigned and rejected recruit; a veteran of the Florida war.

Burditt, Thomas E., 20th, D; 22; Sept. 4, '61; mustered out Sept. 14, 1864.

Burke, James E., 21st, E; 26; Aug. 23, '61; killed at Chantilly, Sept. 1, 1862.

Carr, William D., 13th New Hampshire, G; 40; Sept. 19, '62; corporal; wounded by shell May 13, '64, and died of wound June 20, '64.

Chafee, George E., 53d (nine months), I; 35; Oct. 18, '62; taken prisoner at Brashear City, La, June 20, '63; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Chandler, Frank W., 53d (nine months), I; 18; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Chaplin, Solon W., 34th, H; 38; July 31, '62; color corporal; killed at Piedmont, Va., June 5, '64, by shell.

Clinton, Joseph, 2d, I; 22; May 7, '64; mustered out July 14, '65; a non-resident substitute.

Cobb, William L., 34th, H; 22; 2d lieut. July 18, '62; 1st lieut. Aug. 23, '62; wounded in forehead at Ripon, Va., Oct. 18, '63; taken prisoner at Cedar Creek, Va, Oct. 13, '64; capt. Feb. 18, '65; mustered out May 15, '65, as 1st lieut.

Coburn, George B., 34th, H; 18; July 31, '62; shot through foot, accidentally, before Petersburg, and discharged therefor May 16, '65.

Coburn, Cyrus E., 5th (one hundred days), I; 21; July 19, '64; mustered out Nov. 16, '64.

Copeland, Joseph, 15th, D; 21; April 29, '64; transferred to 20th, E, July 27, '64; died a prisoner at Salisbury, N. C., Dec. 21, '64; a substitute.

Coyle, John, 2d Cav., H; 22; May 7, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Cutler, George W., 15th, C; 22; July 12, '61; shot through head at Ball's Bluff, Va., Oct. 21, '61.

Cutler, Isaac N., 15th, C; 20; July 12, '61; severely wounded in left ankle at Antietam, Md., Sept. 17, '62, and discharged therefor March 20, '63.

Cutler, Henry A., 53d (nine months), I; 18; Oct. 18, '62; died at Baton Rouge, La., July 9, '63.

Dailey, James, 34th, H; 18; July 31, '62; mustered out June 16, '65.

Damon, Daniel M., 34th, H; 25; July 31, '62; 1st sergt.; taken prisoner at Winchester Sept. 19, '64; 2d lieut. May 15, '65; mustered out June 16, '65, as 1st sergt.

Davidson, Thomas H., 15th, A; 25; July 12, '61; discharged for disability April 25, '62.

Davis, George W., 13th Battery L. A.; 23; April 6, '64; mustered out July 28, '65; a non-resident substitute.

Day, Joseph N., 34th, H; 22; Jan. 4, '64; wounded in head at Winchester, Va., Sept. 19, '64; transferred to 24th, G, June 14, '65, and to V. R. C. May 2, '65; discharged July 25, '65.

Dillon, James, 34th, H; 26; July 31, '62; discharged for disability April 7, '63, and died at home May 10, '63, of consumption.

Divoll, George W., 7th Battery L. A.; 37; Jan. 5, '64; died at New Orleans, La., Sept. 21, '64; credited to Leominster.

Dupee, John, 33d, E; 36; July 2, '64; transferred to 2d, A, June 1, '65; mustered out July 14, '65; a non-resident substitute.

Elden, Henry H., U. S. Signal Corps; 23; Dec. 2, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Ellis, Warren, 15th, F; 20; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam, Md., Sept. 17, '62; transferred to U. S. Signal Corps Oct. 27, '63.

Fahay, Bartholet, 15th Unattached Co. (one hundred days); 21; July 29, '64; mustered out Nov. 15, '64.

Fairbanks, Francis H., 15th, C; 25; July 12, '61; discharged for disability April 10, '62; re-enlisted in 34th, H, July 31, '62; taken prisoner at Cedar Creek, Va., Oct., '64, and died at Salisbury, N. C., Jan. 4, '65.

Fairbanks, Charles T., 1st New Hampshire Inf. (three months), F; 23; May 2, '61; mustered out Aug. 9, '61; re-enlisted in N. H. Batt. of N. E. Cav. Sept. 15, '62; shot through body June 18, '63, and died the next day.

Farnsworth, John A., 34th, H; 18; July 31, '62; corporal; wounded in arm at Piedmont June 5, '64; discharged for disability May 18, 1865.

Farnsworth, Franklin H., 15th, C; 19; July 12, '61; killed at Fair Oaks, Va., May 31, '62.

Farnsworth, George W., 34th, H; 18; Jan. 4, '62; wounded in head at Piedmont, June 5, '64; discharged for disability June 8, '65.

Farnsworth, John E., 34th, H; 18; July 31, '62; corporal; wounded in leg at Newmarket May 15, '64; in arm and hip at Winchester Sept. 19, '64; mustered out June 16, '65.

Farnsworth, William H., 7th, B; June 15, '61.

Field, Edwin F., 21st, E; 29; Aug. 23, '61; sergt.; 2d lieut. Dec. 18, '62; resigned May 8, '63.

Finnesey, James, 42d New York, K; 21; corporal; Aug. 9, '61; sergt., transferred to 59th N. Y.; mustered out August 5, '64; died at Indianapolis Oct. 10, '64.

Fisher, William H., 53d (nine months), I; 18; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Flagg, Albert, 53d, K; 18; Oct. 17, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Flagg, Charles B., 34th, A; 23; June 23, '62; mustered out June 16, 1865.

Fox, William L., 21st, E; 19; August 23, '61; corporal; wounded in arm at Chantilly Sept. 1, '62; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64; sergt.; discharged as supernumerary Sept. 24, '64.

Fox, Thomas, 11th Battery L. A.; 18; Dec. 23, '64; mustered out June 16, '65; a substitute.

Frary, Oscar, 53d (nine months), I; 30; Oct. 18, '62; died at Baton Rouge, La., July 28; '63.

Fuller, Edward M., 34th, F; 20; corporal; Aug. 9, '62; appointed capt. in 39th U. S. C. T. March 21, '64; maj. U. S. C. T. June 1, '65; mustered out Dec., '65; wounded in head at Petersburg July 30, '64.

Fury, Michael, 34th, H; 26; July 31, '62; wounded in leg at Piedmont June 5, '64; mustered out August 6, '65.

Goodwin, John, 2d Cavalry, L; 18; Sept. 13, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Gould, John, U. S. Navy; enlisted August, '62, on supply steamer "Rhode Island."

Gray, Stephen W., 34th, H; 30; July 31, '62; died at Martinsburg, Va., April 2, '64.

Gray, James M., 15th, C; 23; July 12, '61; discharged for disability Feb. 16, '63.

Hardy, George H., 21st, D; 21; Aug. 23, '61; corporal; wounded in leg at Roanoke Island Feb. 7, '62; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64, and transferred to 36th, I; wounded in body at Petersburg, Va., June 1, '64; transferred to 56th June 8, '65; mustered out July 12, '65; credited to Harvard and Leominster.

Harriman, Harris C., 53d (nine months), I; 33; Oct. 18, '62; wounded by shell in leg at Port Hudson, La., June 14, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Haynes, John C., 36th, G; 29; Jan. 2, '64; died at Camp Nelson, Ky., March 19, '64.

Hills, Thomas Augustus, 53d (nine months), C; 21; Nov. 6, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63; enlisted in 5th (one hundred days) July 22, '64; mustered out Nov. 16, '64, as sergt; credited to Leominster.

Hodgman, Oren, 34th, C; 19; July 31, '62; taken prisoner at Newmarket, Va., May 15, '64, and died at Charleston, S. C., Sept. 30, 1864.

Horan, Fordyce, 15th, A; 20; Dec. '24, '61; transferred to 1st U. S. Artillery, Co. I, Nov. 17, '62; died at Washington Nov. 3, '64.

Hosley, Henry H., 15th, C; 18; July 12, '61; transferred Nov. 12, '62, to 1st U. S. Artillery, I; mustered out July 12, '64; credited to Townsend.

Hunting, Albert G., 16th, B; 19; July 2, '61; killed at Fair Oaks June 25, '64; credited to Holliston.

Hunting, Joseph W., 16th, B; 22; July 2, '61; mustered out July 27, '64; credited to Holliston.

Hunting, Thomas A. G., 34th, H; 45; July 31, '62; shot through the body and taken prisoner at Piedmont, Va., June 5, '64; discharged for disability May 23, '65.

Jackson, David W., 53d (nine months), I; 33; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

James, John, 53d (nine months), I; 21; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Johnson, Adelbert W., 15th, C; 23; July 12, '61; discharged for disability May, '62; enlisted in 53d, Nov. 6, '62, from Leominster; wounded in knee at Port Hudson, La., and died at Baton Rouge July 11, '63.

Joslyn, Edward R., 13th Illinois, B; 21; enlisted at Sterling, Ill., May 24, '61; taken prisoner May 17, '64, and died at St. Louis, Mo., April 13, '65.

Kelly, Martin, 60th New York, H; 20; enlisted at Ogdensburg, N. Y., Oct. 17, '61; corporal; re-enlisted Dec. 14, '63; mustered out July 17, '65.

Kern, John, 2d Heavy Artillery; 22; July 2, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Keyes, Sumner W., 5th (one hundred days), I; 21; July 19, '64; mustered out Nov. 16, '64.

Keyes, Stephen A., 53d (nine months), K; 18; Oct. 17, '62; died and buried at sea off Florida Aug. 10, '63.

Kilburn, Sumner R., 15th, C; 18; July 12, '61; re-enlisted Feb. 18, '64; wounded in Wilderness, Va., May 6, '64, and died at Fredericksburg May 16, '64.

Kingsbury, Joseph W., 15th, A; 18; Aug. 1, '61; taken prisoner and discharged for disability Nov. 27, '62.

Kittredge, Solomon, 15th, C; 42; Dec. 17, '61; transferred May 1, '62, to V. R. C.; re-enlisted July 1, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Krum, John, 35th, K; 24; June 29, '64; transferred to 29th, K, June 9, '65; a non-resident substitute.

Langley, James, 2d Cavalry; 22; May 7, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Lawrence, Sewell T., 23d, H; 31; Oct. 5, '61; discharged for disability Aug. 11, '62; credited to Clinton.

Lawrence, Willard R., 15th, C; 28; July 12, '61; shot through body and killed at Ball's Bluff, Va., Oct. 21, '61.

Leroy, Frank B., 57th, C; 18; Feb. 18, '64; mustered out June 22, '65; a non-resident substitute.

McCarron, William, 3d Heavy Artillery, L; 23; May 30, '64; discharged for disability Sept. 30, '64; a non-resident substitute.

McKay, William S., 3d Cavalry, A; 24; April 8, '64; sergt.; sergt.-major July 26, '65; mustered out Sept. 28, '65; a non-resident substitute.

McQuillan, Charles E., 21st, E; 20; Aug. 23, '61; corporal; wounded at Antietam, Sept., '62; transferred to 2d U. S. Cavalry, K, Oct. 30, '62 re-enlisted in Hancock's U. S. Vet. Vols. Dec. 9, '64; mustered out Dec. 9, '65.

McRell, Ephraim, U. S. Navy; 18; enlisted Aug. 26, '63; served one year, chiefly on gunboat "Nipsic" in Charleston blockade.

McRell, William J., U. S. Navy; 21; enlisted Aug. 12, '62; wounded by concussion of shell Feb. 1, '63, at Stone Inlet, S. C.; taken prisoner.

Mahar, Dennis, 21st, B; 21; Aug. 23, '61; discharged for disability Jan. 16, '63; claimed also by Clinton.

Mann, George C., 15th, F; 21; July 12, '61; taken prisoner at Ball's Bluff, Va., Oct. 21, '61; wounded in right leg at Gettysburg, July 2, '63; mustered out July 28, '64.

Matthews, David W., 34th, H; 20; Sept. 19, '63; transferred to 24th June 14, '65; mustered out to date from Jan. 20, '66.

Matthews, George W., 34th, H; 18; Sept. 19, '63; wounded in leg at Newmarket, Va., May 15, '64; taken prisoner at Liberty, W. Va., June 17, '64, and in Andersonville prison; discharged for disability June 1, '65.

Mayo, John, 2d, G; 24; July 2, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Mellor, William H., 34th, H; 18; July 31, '62; transferred to V. R. C. Jan. 19, '65.

Miller, Frank, 2d Heavy Artillery, A; 27; July 2, '64; died at New Berne, N. C., May 12, '65; a non-resident substitute.

Moeglen, John Louis, 20th, A; over 50; discharged for disability April 29, '62; enlisted in 2d Cavalry, M, Feb. 2, '64; died Sept. 28, '64, of a bullet wound in Shenandoah Valley.

Monyer, John, 2d Cavalry; 35; Dec. 27, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Moore, Joseph B., 53d (nine months), I; 38; Oct. 18, '62; wounded in head May 27, '63, at Port Hudson, La.; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Moore, Oliver W., V. R. C.; 20; July 21, '64, on re-enlistment; mustered out Nov. 17, '65; a non-resident substitute.

Moses, Robert R., 15th, C; 24; Dec. 17, '61; shot through lungs at Antietam Sept. 17, and died Oct. 3, '62.

Murphy, William F., 32d, D; Sept. 7, '63; transferred to U. S. Navy May 3, '64; a non-resident substitute for E. W. Hosmer.

Neu, Louis, 2d Heavy Artillery, A; 22; July 2, '64; died Nov. 22, '64, at Plymouth, N. C.; a non-resident substitute.

Nourse, Byron H., 53d (nine months), I; 24; Oct. 18, '62, as sergt; 1st sergt. Jan. 22, '63; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Nourse, Roscoe H., 53d (nine months), I; 22; Oct. 18, '62; drummer; mustered out Sept. 2, '63; enlisted in 5th (one hundred days), E, July 22, '64; mustered out Nov. 16, '64.

Nourse, Henry S., 55th Illinois; 30; enlisted in Chicago Oct. 23, '61; commissioned adjutant March 1, '62; capt. Co. H, Dec. 19, '62; commissary of musters 17th A. C. Oct. 24, '64; mustered out March 29, '65.

Nourse, Frank E., 51st (nine months), C; 21; Sept. 25, '62; mustered out July 27, '63.

Nourse, Fred. F., 5th (one hundred days), E; 21; July 22, '64, died at New Brunswick, N. J., Sept. 13, '64.

O'Brien, Michael, 28th, 23; May 7, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Ollis, John, 1st Heavy Artillery; 18; corporal; Dec. 3, '63; wounded in foot by shell at Petersburg, Va., June 22, '64; mustered out July 31, '65.

Ollis, Luke, 21st, E; 19; Aug. 23, '61; transferred to 2d U. S. Cav., Co. K, Oct. 23, '62; re-enlisted and died of wound in Shenandoah Valley Oct. 13, '64.

Otis, Edwin A., 51st (nine months), C; 19; Sept. 25, '62; mustered out July 27, '63.

Parker, Leonard H., 36th; 21; Dec. 29, '63; mustered out June 8, '65.

Parker, Henry J., 6th (three months), B; 25; June 19, '61; enlisted in 33d, E, August 5, '62; 1st sergt.; sergt.-maj. Feb. 18, '63; 2d lieut. March 29, '63; 1st lieut. July 16, '63; killed at Resaca, Ga., May 15, '64; credited to Townsend.

Patrick, George H., 53d (nine months), I; 19; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63; enlisted in 36th, G, Oct. 14, '64; transferred to 56th, E, June 8, '65; mustered out Aug. 7, '65.

Plaisted, Simon M., 51st (nine months), E; 24; Sept. 25, '62; mustered out July 27, '63; enlisted in 1st Heavy Artillery, F, Aug. 15, '64, corporal; mustered out June 28, '65.

Pierce, William D., 5th (nine months), I; 23; Sept. 16, '62; mustered out July 2, '63; credited to Bolton.

Pierce, Frank E., 21st, E; 20; Aug. 23, '61; transferred to 2d U. S. Cavalry, K, Oct. 23, '62; re-enlisted Feb. 29, '64.

Pierce, Edward, 35th, B; 21; June 29, '64; transferred to 29th, B, June 9, '65; a non-resident substitute.

Priest, Henry S., 7th Battery L. A.; 25; Jan. 4, '64; discharged.

Puffer, Charles, 26th, E; 41; Aug. 9, '64; mustered out Aug. 26, '65.

Putney, Henry M., 45th (nine months), F; Sept. 26, '62; shot through head at Dover Cross-Roads, N. C., April 28, '63.

Rice, Walter C., 53d (nine months), I; 45; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Richards, Ebenezer W., 21st, E; 35; Aug. 23, '61; killed at Fredericksburg, Va., Dec. 13, '62, by a shell.

Richards, George K., 16th, C; 39; Nov. 25, '61; transferred to V. R. C. Aug. 11, '63; re-enlisted Nov. 30, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Robbins, William H., 21st, A; 39; in band and mustered out Aug. 11, 1862.

Ross, William, 2d Cavalry, H; 27; May 7, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Rugg, James, 53d (nine months), K; 42; Oct. 17, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Rugg, Henry H., 15th, C; 21; July 12, '61; wounded in shoulder at Ball's Bluff, Va., Oct. 21, '61, and discharged therefor May 1, '62; enlisted in 53d (nine months) Oct. 17, '62, and in 42d (one hundred days) July 22, '64; mustered out June 16, '65.

Sawtelle, Edwin, 53d (nine months), I; 24; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Sawyer, Oliver B., 21st, E; 21; Aug. 23, '61; discharged for disability June 30, '62; enlisted in 40th, B, Aug. 22, '62; mustered out June 16, 1865.

Schumaker, William, 4th Cavalry, E; 21; Jan. 27, '64; died a prisoner at Andersonville, Ga., Sept. 13, '64.

Sheary, Patrick, 34th, H; 28; Jan. 5, '64; transferred to 24th, Co. G, June 14, '65; mustered out Jan. 20, '66.

Sinclair, Charles H., 21st, E; 21; Aug. 23, '61; Killed at New Berne, N. C., March 14, '62; credited to Leominster.

Smith, John, 28th, D; 23; May 7, '64; mustered out June 15, '65; a non-resident substitute.

Smith, William, 28th; 25; May 7, '64; a non-resident substitute.

Smith, William, 13th Battery L. A.; 22; April 8, '64; mustered out July 28, '65.

Sweet, Caleb W., 23d, H; 23; Sept. 28, '61; re-enlisted Dec. 3, '63; wounded and taken prisoner at Drewry's Bluff, Va., May 16, '64, and died at Richmond Aug. 3, '64.

FRANCIS WASHBURN.

In the month of April, 1838, John M. Washburn, then a merchant on the eve of retiring from business, removed from Boston to Lancaster, and in the July following his third son, Francis, was born. Bringing into his life and character, as an inheritance from his Puritan ancestors, an integrity of purpose and an indomitable will, it seemed from his childhood that he was born to be a leader of men. Of a nature somewhat reserved, though deeply imbued with the spirit of tenderness for a few, his boyhood was not one of numerous friendships, nor was he in manhood a seeker for popular favor. From the academy of his native town he went, at the age of sixteen years, to serve a regular term in the Lawrence Machine Shop, that he might know his work from the beginning and become a master of the details of practical engineering. From Lawrence he went to the Scientific School at Cambridge, and in 1859 to the famous school of mining and engineering at Freiburg, in Saxony. He became an accomplished student in these subjects, determined to fully equip himself for the important positions which were already awaiting his acceptance on his return. Jesse Boult, of San Francisco, who was one of his fellow-students at Freiburg, says of him that he was regarded then as a young man of the highest intellectual powers, and sure of a very brilliant future.

When, in 1860–61, the storm that now seems so far from us, began to blacken in our civil sky, he wrote "I must hasten my return. If the war comes I shall sail at once." When the storm broke upon the country he said, "I will take a commission if it is offered; I will go as a private soldier at all events." He came home to find a commission already promised, but also to find that his father was languishing in fatal disease, which was rapidly hastening towards its termination. Restrained, therefore, by filial solicitude and duty, from immediately proceeding to the field, he now studied the arts of war with the same fidelity with which he had devoted himself to those of peace.

In December, 1861, his commission came, and with it orders to proceed at once to duty. His only regret in receiving it was that it came one day too late to receive his father's sanction. Waiting only to pay the last tribute of honor and affection, he reported for duty and was mustered as a second lieutenant in the First Regiment of Massachusetts Cavalry, then in camp at Reedville. The history of this distinguished regiment is part of that of the war and need not be dwelt upon here.

He was successively captain in the Second, and lieutenant-colonel in the Fourth Cavalry, and, on the resignation of Colonel Rand, was, in February, 1865, commissioned as colonel, which position he held until and at the time of his death.

Though constantly in the service, and often employed in difficult and dangerous cavalry service, Colonel Washburn escaped any injury till his last engagement, and was seldom, if ever, off duty by reason of sickness. After the death of his brother, Captain Edward Richmond Washburn, who died of wounds received at the first assault on Port Hudson, La., he made two brief visits to his home. He was always considerate in asking leave of absence, feeling that such privileges were more valuable and more due to brother officers who had left wives and children behind them. Nor was he less considerate of the men under his command. At the time of his last visit he said earnestly and with a strong sense of justice: "If I die on the field, you must leave me there. The men in my regiment have just as much to live for as I have: their death will bring equal sorrow to their homes; the officer is no more than his men. Buried where they fell, so let it be with me."

He was mortally wounded in the brilliant and chivalrous engagement at High Bridge, Va., the last in the war, on April 6, 1865. This was one of those forlorn hopes, in which it became the duty of a small, well-disciplined and gallant band to make a stand against the flower of the Confederate Army, in its retreat from Richmond. The orders were not wholly clear; but the purport of them was to hold back the retreating army to the last possible moment.

Whether these orders were wisely and judiciously given may not now properly be inquired; but history tells that they were executed with a firmness and valor unsurpassed in the annals of ancient or modern times. The odds were too great to be computed. Colonel Washburn charged the enemy with an intrepidity and effectiveness which called out their expressed admiration on the field and in their subsequent accounts of the engagement. The orders were literally and fearlessly obeyed, and the enemy was held back till every officer of the command had been killed, wounded or made a prisoner. The courage and gallantry displayed in this action were noted by the highest officers of the army, and Colonel Washburn was, at the request of Lieutenant-General Grant, commissioned as a brevet brigadier-general for gallant and meritorious services.

The actual hand-to-hand encounters of sabre with sabre, as well as the actual crossing of hostile bayonets, were rare in our Civil War, as in most of the wars of history. But in this action men fought hand-to-hand. An accomplished swordsman, this brave officer had already disarmed one antagonist, and was engaged with another, when he received a pistol-shot from the first. After this he received the blow of the sabre which proved fatal, fracturing the skull. And thus, by bullet and sabre-stroke, his magnificent physique, but not his dauntless spirit, was conquered.

The untiring devotion of one[1] who had with equal faithfulness performed the same loving service for his brother Edward, brought Col. Washburn from the field of battle to the house of his brother, Hon. John D. Washburn, of Worcester. He had hoped to reach the home of his childhood, and this was all the hope that could be counted as reasonable, since from the first the complication of his wounds rendered recovery almost impossible. His strength proved, however, unequal to the full journey. Not on the field, nor in the hospital and among strangers, but in the presence of those he loved, and in his brother's home, he died at the early age of twenty-six, on the 22d of April, 1865. So gave himself a willing sacrifice in his country's cause, this young and noble citizen, whose name has been and will ever be honored at home, and to whom, for his known purity of character and brave and chivalrous deeds, has been accorded from abroad the well-merited appellation, "The White Knight of Modern Chivalry."

The following tribute to that heroic battalion of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry and their gallant leader appeared in the *New York Evening Post* fifteen years after their desperate charge on the memorable 6th of April, 1865. Its repetition here may serve as a fitting close to this sketch of one of many modest heroes, who bravely dared, patiently endured and nobly died in defense of their country's life and honor.

God give us and our children's children grace
To own the debt, and prize the heritage
Thus nobly sealed in blood.

THE CHARGE OF "THE FOURTH CAVALRY."

DEDICATED TO THOSE WHO FELL ON THE SIXTH OF APRIL, 1865.

[The fourth Massachusetts Cavalry, or rather a small portion of its rank and file, but with most of its field and staff officers, and led by its Colonel, Francis Washburn, formed part of the advance which, to use General Grant's words in his last general report of the war, "heroically attacked and detained the head of Lee's column near Farmville, Va., until its commanding general was killed and his small force overpowered." Less than a thousand men, all told, without any artillery, held in check for a considerable time, when every moment almost was worth an empire, a rebel force outnumbering them ten to one. Of the twelve Fourth Cavalry officers who went into the fight eight were killed and wounded, including their gallent leader. He lived to reach his home, and died in his mother's arms.]

Onward they dash:
It mattered not the toilsome march,
The foeman's cannon crash;
Their souls were in their swords,
Their steed beneath one throb:
Onward they charge,
The grave's disdain to rob!

Many or few?
"Six hundred?" nay; that were a host
Besides this band so true.
Four score of trusty arms
Against an army lined.
Ah! weep with us
The comrades left behind!

I see them still:
Down deep ravine, then up "to form"
On battle-shaken hill;
One word is all enough,
One waving blade their light
Into the hordes
Of rebel-raging fight.

He at their head
A knight, a paladin of old,
A hero—honor led,
And fibered with the faith
Of ages won to God—
O what to him
The soaked and waiting sod!

O sweet is it
For love of land to do and die;
The heart-strings heaven-knit,
Relaxed from tensest strain
Upon his arm to rest
In whom alone
Is earthly conflict blest!

And shall not we—
Survivors of the martyred brave,
By tears and blood made free—
Give what they gladly gave?
Yes! by the loved and lost,
Most sacred hold
Our country's priceless cost.

A. Z. G.

[1] The late Dr. Henry H. Fuller.

GEN^L FRANCIS WASHBURN.

Souveur, Charles L., 26th, 21; May 7, '64; a non-resident substitute.
Sykes, Edwin, 57th, C; 29; Feb. 18, '64; a non-resident substitute.
Taylor, Henry T., 15th, A; 27; July 12, '61; discharged for disability April 25, '62.
Thompson, William, 16th, B; 18; July 2, '61; wounded in head May, '64, at Spottsylvania, Va.; mustered out July 27, '64.
Thompson, George, 53d (nine months), C; 21; Nov. 6, '62; died at Brashear City, La., May 30, '63; credited to Leominster.
Thurston, George Lee, 55th Illinois; 30; enlisted in Chicago Oct. 23, '61; commissioned adjt. Oct. 31, '61; capt. B March 1, '62; died Dec. 15, '62, at Lancaster.
Tisdale, Charles E, 34th, H; 20; July 31, '62; corporal; discharged for disability Jan. 8, '63.
Toole, John, 11th Battery L. A.; 18; Dec. 23, '64: mustered out June 16, '65; a non-resident substitute.
Tracy, David H., 2d; 29; July 2, '64; a non-resident substitute.
True, George H., 28th, A; 21; band Oct 8, '61; discharged Aug. 17, '62.
True, James G., 28th, A; 25; band Oct. 8, '61; discharged Aug. 17, '62.
Turner, Luther G., 15th, C; 23; July 12, '61; wounded in arm at Ball's Bluff, Va., Oct. 21, '61, and died Nov. 1, '61.
Turner, Horatio E., 34th, F; 18; Aug. 2, '62; died a prisoner at Andersonville, Ga., Sept. 8, '64.
Turner, Walter S. H., 53d (nine months), I; 18; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.
Valdez, Joseph, 11th Battery L. A.; 30; Dec. 23, '64; mustered out June 16, '65; a non-resident substitute.
Veret, John, 4th Cavalry, F; 28; Jan. 5, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.
Warner, James G., 15th, C; 31; July 12, '61; killed by bullet or drowned at Ball's Bluff, Va., Oct. 21, '61.
Washburn, Edward R., 53d (nine months), I; 26; 1st lieut. Oct. 18, '62; capt. Nov. 8, '62; thigh shattered at Port Hudson, La., June 14, '63; died of wound Sept. 5, '64.
Washburn, Francis, 1st Cavalry; 24; 2d lieut. Dec. 26, '61; 1st lieut. March 7, '62; capt. 2d Cavalry Jan. 26, '63; lieut.-col. 4th Cavalry Feb. 1, '64; col. Feb. 4, '65; wounded in head April 6, '65, at High Bridge, Va., and died at Worcester April 22, '65; brevet brig.-gen.
Watson, George, 2d; 32; July 2, '64; a non-resident substitute.
Weld, George D., 47th (nine months), K; 44; Oct. 31, '62; mustered out Sept. 1, '63.
Wheeler, Abner, 11th, C; 25; June 13, '61.
Whitney, Edmund C., 53d (nine months), I; 26; as corp. Oct, 18, '62; wounded in arm June 14, '63; sergt. July 14, '63; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.
Whittemore, Woodbury, 21st, E; 33; 2d lieut. Aug. 21, '61; 1st lieut. March 3, '62; capt. July 27, '62; resigned Oct. 29, '62.
Wilder, Charles H., 53d (nine months), I; 42; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.
Wilder, J. Prescott, 7th Battery L. A.; 31; Jan. 4, '64; mustered out June 8, '65.
Wilder, Sanford B., 2d Heavy Artillery, M; 24; Dec. 24, '63; mustered out Sept. 3, '65; credited to Clinton.
Wiley, Charles T., 11th Rhode Island (nine months), D; Oct. 1, '62; mustered out July 13, '63.
Wiley, George E., 34th, H; 22; Jan. 1, '64; transferred to 24th, G, June 14, '65; wounded in arm at Fisher's Hill, Va., Sept. 22, '64; discharged for disability June 26, '65.
Wilkinson, Charles, 20th; 30; July 18, '63; mustered out June, '65; a non-resident substitute for George E. P. Dodge.
Willard, Edwin H., 15th, C; 23; July 12, '61; mustered out July 28, 1864.
Willard, Henry W., 34th, C; 21; Aug. 2, '62; discharged for disability Feb. 26, '63; credited to Leominster.
Wise, John Patrick, 34th, A; 21; July 31, '62; died at home March 15, '64.
Worcester, Horace, 42d (one hundred days), K; 20; July 18, '64; mustered out Nov. 11, '64.
Wyman, Benjamin F., 5th (nine months), E; 23; Sept. 16, '62; mustered out July 2, '63.
Zahn, Peter, 2d; 24; May 7, '64; a non-resident substitute.

The following were born and lived until manhood in Lancaster, but were resident elsewhere when the war began:

Atherton, Roswell, 33d, E; 30; served for Groton; discharged for disability Nov. 30, '62.
Bancroft, Charles L., 11th Illinois Cavalry, B; 34; 2d lieut. Dec. 20, '61; 1st lieut. July 6, '62; mustered out Dec. 19, '64; wounded at Meridian, Miss.
Bowman, Henry, colonel. (See Clinton.)
Bowman, Samuel M., lieutenant. (See Clinton.)
Bradley, Jerome, 3d Iowa Battery L. A., etc.; 28; 2d lieut. Sept., '61; 1st lieut. and q.m. 9th Iowa Infantry March 16, '62; capt. and a.-q.m. U. S. Vols. Feb. 19, '63; resigned Jan. 9, '65.
Cleveland, Richard J., 9th Iowa, B; 40: Oct. 9, '61; discharged April 1, '63.
Cutler, Francis B., 35th New York, A; 25; killed at Fredericksburg Dec. 13, '62.
Dudley, John Edwin, 1st. Cal. and 30th Mass.; 35; 1st sergt.; 2d lieut. Dec. 7, '64; 1st lieut. Dec. 8, '64; capt. April 21, '65.
Fletcher, James T., 11th Rhode Island, G; Oct. 1, '62; mustered out July 13, '63.
Fuller, Andrew L., lieut. 15th. (See Clinton.)
Green, Asa W., 19th, F; 22; enlisted in Haverhill; wounded at Fredericksburg, Va., in leg Dec. 13, '62, and transferred to V. R. C.
Green, Franklin W., 19th, F. (See Clinton.)
Jones, David W., 20th Connecticut, F; 46; killed at Chancellorsville May 3, '65.
Newman, James Homer, 1st Connecticut H. A., F; 27; served May 23, '61, to Sept. 25, '65.
Robinson, Charles A., 1st Cavalry, G; 21; Oct. 5, '61; discharged for disability, Feb. 6, '63; credited to Lowell.
Rugg, Daniel W., 21st, D; 32; served for Fitchburg July 19, '61, to Dec. 20, '62.
Sawyer, Frank O., 9th Vermont; 30; 1st lieut. and q.m. June 10, '62; capt. and a.-q.m. U. S. Vols. Aug. 15, '64; mustered out May 31, '66.
Warren, Thomas H., 12th Vermont, C; 35; served Oct. 4, '62, to July 14, '63.

Lancaster's quota under all calls was one hundred and seventy-one men for three years, and there were credited to her one hundred and eighty-one. The preceding list proves this to be an underestimate of the town's contribution of men for the suppression of the great treason. The veteran re-enlistments numbered fifteen. Ten citizens were drafted and paid each three hundred dollars commutation. Thirty-seven non-resident substitutes were hired. Twenty of Lancaster's sons won commissions; twenty-seven were killed or mortally wounded in action, and twenty-three died of disease during the war. On Independence Day, 1865, the town celebrated the victory of free institutions in the grove at the "Meeting of the Waters;" Rev. George M. Bartol delivered a thoughtful address to the great throng of people there assembled, and Professor William Russell read the Emancipation Proclamation.

Early in 1879 a comprehensive, illustrated history of Lancaster was published, forming an octavo volume of seven hundred and ninety-eight pages. For several years previous the desirability of such a publication had been privately and publicly discussed, it being supposed that among the papers of Joseph Willard, Esq., deceased in 1865, would be found a history of the town partially prepared for the press. Disappointed in this hope, at a town-meeting in April, 1876, the subject was referred to a committee, consisting of Rev. George M. Bartol, Rev. Abijah P. Marvin, Jonas M. Damon, Charles T. Fletcher and Charles L. Wilder, with power to take such action as they might deem expedient. Mr. Marvin was employed to write the history, and in March, 1877, the town sanctioned the doings of the committee and appropriated fifteen

The college graduates known are: Samuel Willard, 1659, Harvard, acting president; Josiah Swan, 1733, Harvard; Abel Willard, 1752, Harvard; Samuel Locke, 1755, Harvard, S.T.D. and president; Peter Green, 1766, Harvard, M.M.S.S.; Josiah Wilder, 1767, Yale; Israel Houghton, 1767, Yale; Samuel Stearns, M.D., LL.D., probably in Scotland; John Mellen, 1770, Harvard, A.A. et S.H.S.; Levi Willard, 1775, Harvard; Timothy Harrington, 1776, Harvard; Joseph Kilburn, 1777, Harvard; Isaac Bayley, 1781, Harvard; Henry Mellen, 1784, Harvard; Prentiss Mellen, 1784, Harvard, LL.D., U. S. Senator; John Wilder, 1784, Dartmouth; Pearson Thurston, 1787, Dartmouth; Artemas Sawyer, 1798, Harvard; Samuel J. Sprague, 1799, Harvard; Benjamin Apthorp Gould, 1814, Harvard, A.A.S.; Hasket Derby Pickman, 1815, Harvard; Sewall Carter, 1817, Harvard; Moses K. Emerson, 1817, Harvard; Paul Willard, 1817, Harvard; Leonard Fletcher, ——, Columbia; Jonas Henry Lane, 1821, Harvard, M.M.S.S.; Samuel Manning, 1822, Harvard; Ebenezer Torrey, 1822, Harvard; Levi Fletcher, 1823, Harvard; Christopher T. Thayer, 1824, Harvard; Frederick Wilder, 1825, Harvard; Stephen Minot Weld, 1826, Harvard; Richard J. Cleveland, 1827, Harvard; Henry Russell Cleveland, 1827, Harvard; Nathaniel B. Shaler, 1827, Harvard; William Hunt White, 1827, Brown; George Ide Chace, 1830, Brown, LL.D., acting president; Christopher Minot Weld, 1833, Harvard, M.M.S.S.; Francis Minot Weld, 1835, Harvard; George Harris, 1837, Brown; Richard C. S. Stilwell, 1839, Harvard, M.M.S.S.; Frederick Warren Harris, 1845, Harvard; Alfred Plant, 1847, Yale; James Coolidge Carter, 1850, Harvard, LL.B.; Sidney Willard, 1852, Harvard; John Davis Washburn, 1853, Harvard, LL.B.; Henry Stedman Nourse, 1853, Harvard; Sylvanus Chickering Priest, 1858, Amherst; Enos Wilder, 1865, Harvard; Stephen Van Rensselaer Thayer, 1870, Harvard; Albert Mallard Barnes, 1871, Harvard; Francis Newhall Lincoln, 1871, Harvard; Nathaniel Thayer, 1871, Harvard; John Emory Wilder, 1882, Agricultural; Samuel Chester Damon, 1882, Agricultural; Edward E. Bancroft, 1883, Amherst, M.D.; Josiah H. Quincy, 1884, Dartmouth, LL.B.; John Eliot Thayer, 1885, Harvard; William J. Sullivan, M.D., 1886, Bellevue; John M. W. Bartol, 1887, Harvard; Azuba Julia Latham, 1888, Boston University.

The physicians have been: Mary Whitcomb; Daniel Greenleaf, died 1785, aged 82; John Dunsmoor, died 1747, aged 45; Stanton Prentice, died 1769, aged 58; Phinehas Phelps, died 1770, aged 37; Enoch Dole, killed 1776, aged 27; William Dunsmoor, died 1784, aged 50; Josiah Wilder, died 1788, aged 45; Josiah Leavitt, ——; Israel Atherton, M.M.S.S., died 1822, aged 82; Cephas Prentice, died 1798; James Carter, died 1817, aged 63; Samuel Manning, M.M.S.S., died 1822, aged 42; Nathaniel Peabody, M.M.S.S.; Calvin Carter, died 1859, aged 75; George Baker, M.M.S.S.; Right Cummings, died 1881, aged 94; Edward T. Tremaine, M.M.S.S.; Henry Lincoln, M.M.S.S., died 1860, aged 55; J. L. S. Thompson, M.M.S.S., died 1885, aged 75; George W. Symonds, M.M.S.S., died 1873, aged 62; George W. Burdett, M.M.S.S.; George M. Morse, M.M.S.S.; S. S. Lyon; Reuben Barron; Henry H. Fuller, M.M.S.S.; Joseph C. Stevens, died 1871, aged 39; Frederick H. Thompson, M.M.S.S.; A. D. Edgecomb, died 1883; Horace M. Nash; Walter P. Bowers, M.M.S.S.; George L. Tobey, M.M.S.S.

The lawyers have been: Abel Willard, John Sprague, Levi Willard, Peleg Sprague, William Stedman, Merrick Rice, Solomon Strong, Moses Smith, Samuel J. Sprague, John Stuart, John Davis, Jr., Joseph Willard, Solon Whiting, George R. M. Withington, Joseph W. Huntington, Charles Mason, John T. Dame, Charles G. Stevens, Daniel H. Bemis, Herbert Parker.

The following have served as representatives for the town:—Thomas Brattle, 1671–72; Ralph Houghton, 1673–89; John Moore, Jr., 1689; John Moore, Sr., 1690–92; John Houghton, 1690, '92, '93, '97, 1705–06, '08, '11, '12, '15–17, '21, '24; Thomas Sawyer, 1707; Josiah Whetcomb, 1710; Jabez Fairbank, 1714, '21–23, 37–38; John Houghton, Jr., 1718–19; Joseph Wilder, 1720, '25–26; Col. Samuel Willard, 1727, '40, '42–43, '49; Dea. Josiah White, 1728–30; James Wilder, 1731; Jonathan Houghton, 1732; James Keyes, 1733; Capt. Ephraim Wilder, 1734–36, '44; Ebenezer Wilder, 1739; Capt. William Richardson, 1741, '45, '50, '54, '56, '58–61; Joseph Wilder, Jr., 1746–47, '51–53; David Wilder, 1755, '57, '62–65, '67; Col. Asa Whitcomb, 1766, '68–74; Ebenezer Allen, 1775; Hezekiah Gates, 1775; Dr. William Dunsmoor, 1776–78, '81; Samuel Thurston, 1778; Joseph Reed, 1779; Capt. William Putnam, 1780; John Sprague, 1782–85, '94–99; Capt. Ephraim Carter, Jr., 1786, '90–92; Michael Newhall, 1787–89; John Whiting, 1793; Samuel Ward, 1800–01; William Stedman, 1802; Jonathan Wilder, 1803–06; Eli Stearns, 1806–10; Col. Jonas Lane, 1808–12; Major Jacob Fisher, 1811–13, '21, '23; Capt. William Cleveland, 1813–15; Capt. John Thurston, 1814–17, '26; Capt. Edward Goodwin, 1816; Capt. Benjamin Wyman, 1817–19; Maj. Solomon Carter, 1818; Joseph Willard, 1827–28; Davis Whitman, 1827, '31; Solon Whiting, 1829–30; John G. Thurston, 1832, '38, '52–53, '55; Ferdinand Andrews, 1832; Dr. George Baker, 1833; Levi Lewis, 1833; James G. Carter, 1834–36; Dea. Joel Wilder, 1834–35; Silas Thurston, Jr., 1837–39; John Thurston, 1839–40; Jacob Fisher, Jr., 1841, '44, '68; John M. Washburn, 1842–43, '58; Joel Wilder (2d), 1845–46; Ezra Sawyer, 1847–48; Anthony Lane, 1850–51; Francis F. Hussey, 1854; James Childs, 1856; Dr. J. L. S. Thompson, 1860, '62; George A. Parker, 1869–71; Sam'l R. Damon, 1878; Henry S. Nourse, 1882.

The following have been State Senators:—John Sprague, 1785–86; Moses Smith, 1814–15; James G. Carter, 1837–38; John G. Thurston, 1844–45; Francis B. Fay, 1868; Henry S. Nourse, 1885–86.

The following have been executive councilors:—Maj. Simon Willard, 1654–76; Joseph Wilder, 1735–52; Abijah Willard, 1775.

William Stedman was Representative to Congress, 1803–10, and Prentiss Mellen, a native of Lancaster, was United States Senator, 1818–20.

The population of Lancaster, at various periods, has been as follows:—1652, 9 families; 1675, 50 or 60 families; 1692, 50 families; 1704, 76 families; 1711, 83 families, 458 souls; 1715, 100 families; 1751, 285 families, 355 polls; 1764, 1999; 1776, 2746; 1790, 1460; 1800, 1584; 1810, 1694; 1820, 1862; 1830, 2014; 1840, 2019; 1850, 1688; 1855, 1728; 1860, 1732; 1865, 1752; 1870, 1845; 1875, 1957; 1880, 2008; 1885, 2050.

The population of the whole territory once belonging to Lancaster is about twenty-two thousand.

The United States Coast Survey locates "Lancaster Church" in 42° 27′ 19.98″ north latitude, and 71° 40′ 24.27″ longitude west of Greenwich. The elevation above the sea level of the grounds about this church is about three hundred and eight feet.

CHAPTER VII.

CLINTON.

BY HON. HENRY S. NOURSE.

Prescott's Mills—Destruction of the Settlement by Indians—The First Highways—The Garrison Census—The First Families.

ALTHOUGH Clinton received its name and began its corporate existence so recently as March, 1850, it being the youngest town save one in Worcester County, nearly two hundred years before that date white men were tilling its soil, and had impressed into their service some part of its valuable water-power. Its territory, in area only four thousand nine hundred and seven acres, was included in the eighty square miles purchased from Sagamore Sholan by Thomas King, of Watertown, in 1642, and confirmed to the Nashaway Company as a township, under the name of Lancaster, in 1653.

The earliest settlers in this river valley were at first clustered along the eastern slope of George Hill and upon the Neck north of the meeting of the two streams which form the Nashua. But for the existence of the falls on the South Meadow Brook, probably neither the pioneers nor their successors would, for many years, have sought homes in that more southerly portion of the town's grant, which now is traversed by numerous streets thickly lined with the residences and marts of ten thousand busy people; for most of this region, now Clinton, was clad with pine forest; its numerous hills, from their steepness or the shallowness of the soil, were not well adapted for tillage; and along the river were no extensive intervales, no broad meadows of natural grass, such as existed on the North Branch and main river, to invite the husbandmen. But the sagacious and enterprising leader of the Nashaway planters, John Prescott, had noted the little cascade where the brook leaped down over the ledge, and recognized it as the most easily available site in the township for a mill.

There was no English settlement nearer than those east of the Sudbury River, and even the carrying of a grist to be ground involved a tedious horseback ride of about twenty miles and back over the devious Indian trail and the crossing of the always treacherous Sudbury marsh. The rude processes of the savages or the laborious use of a hand-quern were often resorted to in preparing grain for bread in preference to so dreary a day's journey. A mill was a prime necessity to the settlers, and scarcely had the Colonial Government given formal recognition to the town which Prescott had founded, than, with his usual restless energy, he entered upon the task of compelling the wild South Meadow Brook to aid in the work of civilization. Mills run by water-power were yet rare in New England. The first built was hardly twenty years old, and the skilled mill-wright of Charlestown had scarcely a competitor in his art. Prescott's mill-dam was the prophecy of the prosperous manufacturing town whose special products have in recent years won a world-wide repute, and with his plucky enterprise the history of Clinton appropriately begins.

By November 20, 1653, Prescott's plans for the mill were so far perfected that he was ready to enter into an agreement with his fellow-townsmen for its erection. This agreement is found duly recorded in the third volume of the Middlesex County registry as follows:

Know all men by these presents that I John Prescott blackesmith, hath Covenanted and bargained with Jno. ffounell of Charlestowne for the building of a Corne mill, within the said Towne of Lanchaster. This witnesseth that wee the Inhabitants of Lanchaster for his encouragement in so good a worke for the behoofe of our Towne, vpon condition that the said intended worke by him or his assignes be finished, do freely and fully giue grant, enfeoffe, & confirme vnto the said John Prescott, thirty acres of intervale Land lying on the north riuer, lying north west of Henry Kerly and ten acres of Land adjoyneing to the mill: and forty acres of Land on the South east of the mill brooke, lying between the mill brooke and Nashaway Riuer in such place as the said John Prescott shall choose with all the priuiledges and appurtenances thereto apperteyning. To haue and to hold the said land and eurie parcell thereof to the said John Prescott his heyeres and assignes for euer, to his and their only propper vse and behoofe. Also wee do couenant & promise to lend the said John Prescott fiue pound, in current money one yeare for the buying of Irons for the mill. And also wee do couenant and grant to and with the said John Prescott his heyres and assignes that the said mill, with all the aboue named Land thereto apperteyneing shall be freed from all common charges for seauen yeares next ensueing, after the first finishing and setting the said mill to worke. In witnes whereof wee haue herevnto put our hands this 20th day of the 9mo In the yeare of our Lord God one thousand six hundred fifty and three.

Subscribed names

WILLM KERLY SENR., JNO. PRESCOTT, JNO WHITE, RALPH HOUGHTON, LAWRENCE WATERS, EDMUND PARKER, RICHARD LINTON, RICHARD SMITH, WILLM KERLY JUNR. THOMAS JAMES, JNO LEWIS, JAMES ATHERTON, JACOB FFARRER.

Joseph Willard, Esq., upon the authority of a direct descendant of John Prescott, states that the first mill-stone was brought from England. Some doubt is thrown upon this assertion by the fact that the alleged pieces of it, which have lain not far from the dam until modern times, are of a sienitic rock not found in England, but abundant enough in Massachusetts. The first grist was ground in the mill May 23, 1654.

Prescott probably at once removed from his home upon George Hill to a new house built on the slope overlooking the mill. This was the first dwelling above the grade of an Indian wigwam within the present bounds of Clinton. Its exact location was plainly marked less than fifty years ago by a considerable depression, showing where the cellar had been, and by a flowing spring near, water from which was conveyed in a conduit of bored logs to the residence of a later generation of the Prescotts, standing lower upon the hillside. The Lancaster historian, before named, in 1826 noted the site as "about thirty rods southeast from Poignand and Plant's factory." It is better defined now as south from the intersection of High and Water Streets, upon the northerly half of the Otterson lot, Number 71 High Street, and about one hundred and fifty feet from the front line of the lot.

The original building must have been of logs or squared timber, and was fortified doubtless with flankers and palisades; for it appears in early records as "Prescott's garrison" and, although having never more than five or six adult defenders, it successfully resisted fierce assaults made upon it by a large body of Indians. Prescott's will, written in 1673, proves that it was then commodious enough to accommodate two families, and had adjacent out-housing for cattle and an apple orchard. The dam probably occupied precisely the same position as that of Frost & Howard's, and the little grist mill stood somewhat lower on the brook than the extensive manufactory now utilizing its water-power.

Four years went by, years in which Prescott was busied not only at mill and anvil, but in various offices for the town. His skill and judgment, moreover, had gained such repute that he was chosen by the colonial authorities to serve on committees to lay out county roads and build important bridges, and even to survey special land grants. Emboldened by the success of his corn-mill and by growing prosperity, he determined upon another enterprise of the greatest interest to the community—the building of a saw-mill. His neighbors were again called upon to further the accomplishment of his purpose by substantial gift of land and temporary exemption from taxation.

Know all men by these presents that for as much as the Inhabitants of Lanchaster, or the most part of them being gathered together on a trayneing day, the 15th of the 9th mo, 1658, a motion was made by Jno. Prescott blackesmith of the same towne, about the setting vp of a saw mill for the good of the Towne, and y^t he the said Jno. Prescott, would by the help of God set vp the saw mill, and to supply the said Inhabitants with boords and other sawne worke, as is afforded at other saw mills in the contrey. In case the Towne would giue, grant and confirme vnto the said John Prescott a certeine tract of Land, lying Eastward of his water mill, be it more or less, bounded by the riuer east, the mill west, the stake of the mill land and the east end of a ledge of Iron Stone Rocks southards, and forty acres of his owne land north, the said land to be to him his heyres and assignes for euer, and all the said land and eurie part thereof to be rate free vntill it be improued, or any p^t of it, and that his saws and saw mill should be free from any rates by the Towne, therefore know ye that the ptyes abouesaid did mutually agree and consent each with the other concerning the aforementioned propositions as followeth :

The Towne on their part did giue, grant and confirme vnto the said John Prescott his heyres and assignes for euer, all the aforementioned tract of land butted and bounded as aforesaid, to be to him his heyres and assignes for euer with all the priuiledges and appurtenances thereon, and thereunto belonging to be to his and their owne propper vse and behoofe as aforesaid, and the land and eurie part of it to be free from all rates vntil it or any part of it be improued, and also his saw, sawes and saw-mill to be free from all towne rates, or minister's rates, prouided the aforementioned worke be finished and compleated as abouesaid for the good of the towne in some convenient time after this present contract, covenant and agreement.

And the said John Prescott did and doth by these presents bynd himself, his heyres and assignes to set vp a saw-mill as aforesaid within the bounds of the aforesaid Towne, and to supply the Towne with boords and other sawne worke as aforesaid and truly and faithfully to performe, fufill, and accomplish, all the aforementioned premisses for the good of the Towne as aforesaid.

Therefore the Selectmen concieving this saw-mill to be of great vse to the Towne, and the after good of the place, Haue and do hereby act to rattifie and confirme all the aforementioned acts, covenants, gifts, grants and immunityes, in respect of rates, and what euer is aforementioned, on their owne part, and in behalfe of the Towne, and to the true performance hereof, both partyes haue and do bynd themselves by subscribing their hands, this twenty-fifth day of February, one thousand six hundred and fifty-nine.

JOHN PRESCOTT.

The worke aboue mencconed was finished according to this covenant as witnesseth

RALPH HOUGHTON.

Signed and Delivred In presence of,

THOMAS WILDER,
THOMAS SAWYER,
RALPH HOUGHTON.

The township proprietors also granted Prescott leave to cut pines upon any common land to supply his saw-mill. In his will the corn-mill is described as "the lower mill," and a second house and barn are bequeathed to his son John as appertaining to the saw-mill. It seems certain, therefore, that the first saw-mill had a dam of its own, and that it was probably situated near where a dam existed early in the present century, a short distance below that of the Bigelow Carpet Company. Somewhere near stood the second house built in this region.

It is possible that about this time Prescott also made some attempt to manufacture iron from bog ore. In 1657 certain inhabitants of Lancaster and Concord, John Prescott being one, upon petition, obtained colonial license to erect iron works in those towns. The forge at Concord was soon after established and for many years had a meagre success. No mention is found in any records of similar works at Lancaster earlier than 1748, when John Prescott, third of the name, in deeds to his son John, speaks of the "forge" and an "iron mine." The former was upon South Meadow Brook, just below the dam of the Bigelow

Carpet Company. Mine Swamp Brook was so named because of the ore dug in its neighborhood for use at this forge. Whether this experimental bloomery was an adventure of the first, second or third John Prescott, the supply of ore was neither sufficient in quantity, rich enough in metal, nor free enough from sulphur to give encouragement for iron manufacture.

Although Indian names remain attached to numerous localities in all the adjacent towns, not one survives in Clinton. Her three great ponds were very early given their present names,—"Clamshell" appearing in records of 1697, "Moss," or "Mossy," in 1702, and "Sandy" not much later. Not a word is found in the annals of the first proprietors that suggests the existence of Indian dwelling-places or planting-fields anywhere near Prescott's Mills. Perhaps there were none permanently occupied after the coming thither of white men, nearer than Washacum, where the once powerful Nashaway tribe had then gathered its feeble remnant spared by small-pox and the relentless Mohawk warriors. In accordance with their nomadic habits, doubtless, families continued to pitch their wigwams at the falls in the Nashua during the season when the salmon and other migratory fish were making their annual journey up that stream; and to camp on the shores of the ponds at other seasons for the abundant food supply therein. The considerable quantity and variety of stone implements found from time to time on the east side of Clamshell Pond indicates the location of an Indian settlement there at some remote period of the past, or of a much frequented camping-ground.

Soon after his coming into the hunting-grounds of the Nashaway tribe, in 1643, we find that Prescott had won the respect of the Indians. This was doubtless largely owing to their need of his valuable craft as a maker of knives, arrow-heads, tomahawks and steel traps. But tradition ascribes it to his stature, giant strength, contempt of danger, skill with the gun, and other heroic attributes; and especially to his possession of a corselet and helmet, supposed to render its owner invulnerable. Various stories of his prowess and adventure are extant, wherein probably there lie germs of truth, but wrapped about with anachronistic or imaginative details supplied by the successive narrators. That he was upon terms of familiar intimacy with the Sachem Sholan is told by the records, and that his relations with Sachem Matthew and his warriors were also friendly is evinced by his possession of a house and farm at Washacum and his purchase of land adjoining the Indian fort there. When the machinations of Philip aroused a pitiless war of races throughout New England, however, Prescott's property was not spared.

On February 10, 1676, a picked force of warriors, at least four hundred in number,—Nashaways, Quabaugs, Nipnets and Narragansets,—under the leadership of Shoshanim, Muttaump, Monoco and Quanipun, fell upon Lancaster. Prescott's garrison was one of the five resolutely assaulted at daylight. It was heroically defended by the stalwart owner and his sons, aided, perhaps, by two or three soldiers, and the savages were finally repelled. Ephraim Sawyer, one of Prescott's grandsons, aged twenty-five years, was slain here in the fight. A young soldier, from Watertown, of Captain Wadsworth's company, named George Harrington, was killed by the enemy a few days later in the same locality. Seventy-five years ago two graves were discernible in the grounds belonging to, and a little to the east of, the mill. These, perhaps, held the ashes of Sawyer and Harrington, though then called Indian graves. With the protection of the troops sent to the rescue, Prescott and his little band withdrew from their perilous situation to join the larger garrison of his son-in-law, Thomas Sawyer. The carnage at the Rowlandson garrison, and the destruction by fire of all the barns and unfortified houses in town, left the survivors so weak in numbers, so disheartened, and so effectually stripped of all means of subsistence, that, even if there had been no reason to fear a renewal of attack by the bloodthirsty foe, the temporary abandonment of the place was unavoidable. Major Simon Willard, on March 26th, sent a troop of horsemen with carts to remove the inhabitants who had not already fled to the Bay towns, and for about three years only the millstone and the rusting irons by the dams on South Meadow Brook marked the site of Prescott's Mills.

In 1679, after the red warriors had perished in the flame of the wrath they had kindled, among the first to move to the re-settlement of the town were the Prescotts. The mills were rebuilt on the spot where the corn-mill had stood, and the eldest son, John, assumed their management, Jonas having a mill at Nonacoicus, and Jonathan becoming a resident of Concord. In December, 1681, John Prescott, Sr., died, being about seventy-eight years of age. His eldest son became possessor of all the estate connected with the mills.

The lands granted by the Lancaster proprietors to the founder of the town for his public benefactions embraced much of the now densely inhabited part of Clinton, extending from a bound forty rods above the first dam down both sides of the brook to the river, while the eastern boundary of the tract was formed by the Nashua, from the brook's mouth to the ledge near the Lancaster Mills, formerly known as Rattlesnake Hill. This domain was largely extended westward by the second John Prescott. A third and fourth John succeeded him in its ownership, and a fifth held the homestead, dying childless.

The first town way to Prescott's Mills was commonly known as the "mill-path," and was recorded in 1658 as "five rods wide from the Cuntrie highway to the mill." This is the main thoroughfare of the present day, between South Lancaster and Water Street. The original record of its location being lost, it was laid out anew in 1811, together with its exten-

sion to Sandy Pond, varying in width from two and one-half to three rods wide. The people of Stow, Marlborough, and even Sudbury, for many years had no mills more conveniently accessible than Prescott's, and the population of Lancaster, after the resettlement, grew most rapidly to the eastward of the Nashua. For all these patrons, the old mill-path was a round-about road, and at a town-meeting in Lancaster, August 26, 1686, a proposition was entertained for another, the second town road laid out within Clinton lines. The petition was "for a way to Goodman Prescott's Corne-mill, to ly over the River at the Scar." Goodman Prescott "told the Town that if they would grant him about twenty acres of Land upon the Mill Brook lying above his own Land, for his convaniancy of preserveing water against a time of drought, he was willing the town should have a way to the mill threw his Land." A committee was appointed "to lay out a highway from the Scar to the mill, threw John Prescott's land," and he was recompensed by the grant desired, which is recorded as lying "on the Mill Brook, near to the South Meadow, bounded north and east by his own land, and south and southeast by common land."

In April, 1717, a town-meeting, upon petition of John Goss and the report of a viewing committee, voted to change the location of the westerly end of this highway, so that it should "lye by the River,—Provided said way be kept four Rods wide from y^e^ Scar bridge till it com to y^e^ Hill from y^e^ top of y^e^ River bank, and after it amount said Hill to lye where it shall be most conveniant to y^e^ Town, till it com to said Mill, said Goss to cleer said Rode when that Committy shall stake it out." April 24, 1733, John Goss conveyed to John Prescott eighty acres east of the Mill Brook, "a highway lying through said Land from the bridge that is over the River, a little above the place called the Scarr." The mills had now many rivals, and the current of travel flowed in other directions. In May, 1742, the town voted to move the Scar bridge down the river "to the road that leads from Lieut. Sawyer's to Doctor Dunsmoor's"—that is, to the crossing of the Nashua, now known as Carter's Mills bridge, where before this there was a fording-place only.

Few traces of the Scar road, though a noted public convenience for more than fifty years, can now be discerned. Close scrutiny reveals signs of the bridge abutments a few rods below the northern end of High Street, and of the raised roadway on the eastern bank of the river. Some time in the eighteenth century there were five or more dwellings located along this highway, of which two or three cellars on the part east of the Nashua are not yet obliterated; and other similar relics of human habitation upon the west side have disappeared within the memory of the living.

But many years before the abandonment of this route by the Scar, another had probably come into use from the eastward. This, now known as Water Street, was wholly in the land of the Prescotts and remained their private way until 1782, on April 1st of which year Lancaster accepted it as laid out two rods wide, "on condition that sd Town is not Burdened with the cost of a Bridge." No record is found to prove how long the bridge had then stood at this crossing of the Nashua, but mention is made of a "slab-bridge" in this vicinity about 1718, belonging to the second John Prescott. It was then, doubtless, like many of the bridges of that era, a narrow structure made of puncheons resting upon log abutments and trestles, and perhaps only passable for foot and horsemen. By the surveyors of Lancaster in 1795 the bridge is called "Prescott's," and noted as ninety-nine feet in length. It was not until December 4, 1815, that the town assumed the ownership of it and of the approaches to it from the county road to Boylston, although eight years earlier assistance was voted for its reconstruction. A few years later it appears in the town records as the Harris bridge.

A by-path very early connected Prescott's Mills with the county highway leading to Washacum and westward. Widened and otherwise altered at various dates, this is yet in use and known as the Rigby road. This name does not appear attached to it in old records, but the brooklet which it crosses in Clinton was called Rigby's Brook before 1718. What connection the cross-road or the stream had with John Rigby, who was one of the pioneer settlers of Lancaster, or with his heirs, has not been discovered. No family of the name is mentioned in the town lists since 1700, but a very old house which stood upon this road in the early years of this century was commonly known as the Rigby place.

In the surprise and massacre by the Indians, September 22, 1697, and in the attack by the French and Indians of July 31, 1704, no loss of life or property at Prescott's Mills was reported, though this, it would seem, must have been one of the six fortified posts said to have been assailed. The men belonging to this garrison in 1704 were John Prescott, his two sons, John and Ebenezer, and John Keyes, the weaver, three of whom were married men with little families. By a report of an inspection of garrisons ordered by Governor Dudley, in November, 1711, we learn that there were at that time but three families at the Mills, including four males of military age, besides two soldiers billeted there—fifteen souls in all. This may be called the earliest census of Clinton. For half a century the householders in this neighborhood had numbered no more, and no less; for half a century more the accessions hardly trebled this population. Along the roads leading westward, to Leominster, to Woonksechocksett, (now Sterling,) to Boylston, and to "Shrewsbury Leg," farms were cleared, humble dwellings arose, children were born, grew to manhood, migrated, and themselves set up roof-trees farther west; but at Prescott's Mills all remained apparently as when the fathers fell asleep.

Daniel and Benjamin Allen, of Watertown, were among the very early settlers in Lancaster, but abandoned their lands when the Indian raids of 1675 and 1676 desolated the frontier towns, and never re-occupied them. About 1746, however, Ebenezer Allen, of Weston, a son of Daniel, came to Lancaster, accompanied by his son Ebenezer, and the two made their homes upon a tract of land containing one hundred and eighty acres, the northerly portion of which is now in possession of Ethan Allen Currier. This had been the homestead of John Goss, who bought the property of John Prescott and John Keyes in 1717. Upon the brook which runs through the farm Goss built a mill at the site of the existing dam, and his dwelling and farm buildings stood on the uplands near.

The deed to John Allen, dated February, 1746, and that of John to Ebenezer, in 1751, speak of the roadway in use through the farm "from Prescott's Mills to a Fordway, where there was a Bridge called the Scar Bridge." The elder Allen sold his whole estate to Ebenezer, Jr., in 1756, including some lands bought on the west side of the mill-path where probably about that date the mansion was built, which was torn down in 1879, to make room for Mr. Currier's present residence. Ebenezer Allen, Sr., died in 1770, at the age of ninety-four, and Ebenezer, Jr., in 1812, aged eighty-eight years. The farm passed out of the Allens' hands in 1811, and Moses Emerson became its owner shortly after. The bluff upon the east bank of the Nashua, so often mentioned in town records as the Scar, from the time of his purchase began to be called Emerson's Bank. Mr. Emerson dying in 1822, the estate was sold at auction by the guardian of his children, and in 1825, George Howard, from Pembroke, bought it. At that time no trace of the Goss Mill or the other buildings once standing in the vicinity of the brook remained, but a cart-path led up over the plain to Harris Hill, perhaps the last trace of the long-disused Scar Road.

Along the old county highway which leads from Bolton to Boylston, where it winds about among the rocky hills east of the Nashua in Clinton, a few farms were tilled many years before the Revolution. Here lived Lieutenant Thomas Tucker; Thomas Wilder, the son of John, and his son Jonathan; Simon Butler, and the late John Pollard. Philip Larkin and his soldier sons had homes to the southeast from Clamshell Pond. Thomas Tucker acquired his lands through Capt. Thomas Wilder in 1716, and probably built his house here about the date of his marriage, in 1719. He transferred his farm to his son William in 1757. In 1788 James Fuller bought the southerly portion of the tract, and in 1798 the homestead came into possession of Charles Chace, from Bellingham, whose descendants have prominent place in the annals of Clinton. The Tucker family had then wholly disappeared from Lancaster. Upon the other farms named, sons built near the fathers, and family names clung to the estates far into the present century. Now, however, but one lineal descendant of any of these old families—the venerable Frederick Wilder—dwells in this section of the town.

CHAPTER VIII.

CLINTON—(*Continued*).

The Revolution—The "Six Nations"—Immigration—The Comb-makers—Poignand & Plant—Coming of the Bigelows—The Clinton Company—The Lancaster Quilt Company—The Bigelow Carpet Company—The Lancaster Mills—Clintonville, its Builders and its Enterprises.

WHEN the rallying cry, "taxation without representation is tyranny," rang through the land, and patriots began the organization of rebellion, John Prescott, fourth of the name, was chosen one of the town's Committee of Correspondence and Safety. Like his grandfather, he seems to have been a radical republican in politics, and was especially active in the prosecution of those who sold tea, and all suspected of a leaning towards Toryism.

When the Lexington alarm-courier summoned the yeomanry to arms on the morning of April 19, 1775, John Prescott, fifth of the name, led as captain one of the six companies from Lancaster which made a forced march to Cambridge. As his command of thirty-two men was mustered neither with Colonel Asa Whitcomb's regiment of militia nor Colonel John Whitcomb's regiment of minute-men, they were probably a mounted troop of volunteers. They served twelve days. Two of his sergeants, Elisha Allen and James Fuller, were residents within the bounds of Clinton; Moses Sawyer was second-lieutenant in Captain Joseph White's militia company; Ebenezer Allen, Jr., and Jotham Wilder were in Captain Andrew Haskell's company, which fought in the battle of Bunker Hill; James Fuller and Jotham, Stephen, Titus and Reuben Wilder served for short terms later in the contest, most of them being at Saratoga. Several of the Prescott family did patriotic service for national independence, but at that date the Prescotts mostly lived upon ancestral lands in Chocksett or elsewhere than in the south part of Lancaster.

The region round about the boundary stone where the lines of Berlin, Boylston and Clinton meet, including sundry farms of each town, was, in the years following the Revolution, known as the "Six Nations," that name attaching to it because families representing half a dozen or more different nationalities were therein resident. The Wilders, Carters and others were English by descent; Andrew McWain, Scotch; the sons and grandsons of Philip Larkin, Irish; the families of Louis Conqueret and —— Hitty, French; Daniel and Frederick Albert, Dutch; and John Canouse was a Hessian, a deserter from the captive army of Burgoyne. Other names and nationalities are sometimes added to the list.

Beyond the mills to the southward, towards Sandy Pond, for a long distance all the lands desirable for tillage or timber had fallen, by original proprietary division of commons or by inheritance, to the Prescotts and their kinsfolk, the Sawyers. The third John Prescott, in 1748, the year before his death, "for love and good-will," gave his grandchildren, Aaron, Moses, Joseph, Sarah and Tabitha Sawyer, about ninety-seven acres of land lying on both sides of a stated highway and of the brook "aboue the forge." These grantees were the children of John Prescott's only daughter Tabitha, wife of Joseph Sawyer. It has often been asserted that Aaron was the founder of Sawyer's mills in Boylston, but the credit of building the first saw and grist-mills in that locality probably belongs to his father, Joseph. Moses Sawyer was the first to reside upon the lands thus deeded to him and his brethren by their grandfather, and his son Moses was the second. Their houses yet remain upon what is now called Burditt Hill, and the latest has long outlived its hundredth year.

From the death of the fourth John Prescott, in 1791, began a subdivision of his landed estate into many lots, and its rapid alienation from the family. He had five sons and four daughters. To the two youngest, Joseph and Jabez, he deeded in 1786 the two mills, upon condition that each should deliver to him or his wife, annually so long as either should live, "five bushels of Indian corn, three of rye, three of wheat, and one thousand feet of boards." Within two years after the death of their father, the sons, with the exception of John, had parted with their patrimony and removed from Lancaster. Captain John, the fifth and last of his name in the town, clung to thirty or forty acres of land and the old homestead, where he died, childless, August 18, 1811, aged sixty-two, his wife, Mary (Ballard), surviving him.

In the closing years of the eighteenth century the people were weighed down by debt and taxation—legacies of the long years of the war for independence. Shays' Insurrection had been summarily quelled, for New England common sense recognized the fact that anarchy could afford no relief from the general distress. The yeomanry, however full their barns, held mortgaged lands and empty purses. Everywhere the sheriff was busy with executions, foreclosures and forced sales. The merchants and lawyers mercilessly devoured the debtors; large estates were broken up and homes changed owners on every hand. Thus Prescott's Mills and some of the lands around them in 1793 fell into the possession of John Sprague, the Lancaster lawyer and sheriff, and until his death, in 1800, they are sometimes mentioned in records as Sprague's Mills. Several heads of families during this decade fixed their habitations upon land in the vicinity bought for prices that now seem ludicrously small. They were: Jacob Stone, a noted framer of bridges and buildings, whose house, burnt many years ago, was west of Sandy Pond, a mile from any other dwelling, save one at a saw-mill on Mine Swamp Brook, owned by Jonathan Sampson, of Boylston; Joseph Rice, a basket-maker from Boylston, who married a daughter of Moses Sawyer and lived near him; Nathaniel Lowe, Jr., from Leominster, who in 1795 bought of Moses Sawyer a farm lying between the mills and the river, which North High Street now bisects; Lieut. Amos Allen, who bought lands of Jonathan Prescott in 1792 and built the first house on the west side of the highway between the mills and Ebenezer Allen's; Benjamin Gould, father of the poetess, Hannah Flagg Gould and the scholar, Benjamin Apthorp Gould, who began a dwelling probably about the same date, which he never found means to finish, on the spot where Deputy Sheriff Enoch K. Gibbs lives; Coffin Chapin, Richard Sargent and his sons, and John Hunt, who lived at the summit of the hill on Water Street, about half-way between the mills and the bridge over the Nashua; John Goss, who bought a farm upon the east of the river, near the Bolton and Berlin corner; Elias Sawyer, who built on the river bank near his dam already mentioned. James Elder lived just outside Clinton bounds.

During the first ten years of this century accessions became more numerous, and among them were some whose descendants have been honorably identified with every phase of Clinton's material progress. Ezekiel Rice purchased the house and farm of Moses Sawyer, Jr., in 1802. John Lowe, a comb-maker of Leominster, in 1800 bought of John Fry fifty acres of land, and in 1804 another lot adjoining, which included the cellar of Benjamin Gould's house and a shop of Asahel Tower's on the brook. Here he built a few years later, and deeded a moiety of land and house to his father, Nathaniel. Nathan Burditt came from Leominster in 1808 and succeeded Mr. Rice in possession of the house built by Moses Sawyer, Jr. John Severy, a Revolutionary pensioner, came to reside on Mine Swamp Brook the same year, buying of Sampson his house, brick-yard and saw-mill. John Goldthwaite, the splint-broom maker, occupied a dilapidated building, the only one on the Rigby Road. Daniel Harris, a Revolutionary pensioner from Boylston, in 1804 and 1805 bought of John Hunt's numerous creditors his substantial house and large farm, which he in later times shared with his sons—Emory, Asahel and Sidney—who, by their industry, thrift and business ability, became leading men in the community.

Next to the saw and grist-mills, the first manufacturing industry to employ any considerable number of workmen was the making of horn-combs, introduced about the beginning of the present century from Leominster, where it had been a profitable employment from the days of the Revolution. John Lowe and Nathan Burditt were the earliest to ply this trade in the town, but they soon taught it to many

others, who gradually brought improved tools and machinery into service to increase the quantity and improve the quality of their products.

At first the comb-makers exercised their handicraft in diminutive shops or rooms in their own dwellings, and the women and children helped in the lighter parts of the work. The horns were sawn into proper lengths by hand, split, soaked, heated over charcoal, dipped into hot grease, pressed into required form between iron clamps by driven wedges, stiffened by cold water, marked by a pattern for the teeth, which were sawn one by one. The combs were then smoothed, polished and tied in packages for sale. The earliest makers carried their own goods to market, and it is told of John Lowe that he often journeyed as far as Albany on horseback, with his whole stock in trade in his saddle-bags.

The use of water-power in the manufacture was not adopted until 1823. Through Lowe's land ran a little brook, which was finally utilized for comb-making by his son Henry, with whom was associated his cousin, Thomas Lowe. The stream had been dammed at least twenty years earlier, and a small shop thereon had been occupied by Asahel Tower for nail-cutting, and Arnold Rugg for wire-drawing. The Lowes were succeeded several years later by Henry Lewis, and he, in 1836, by Haskell McCollum, who built a second shop and greatly increased the business, having as a partner his brother-in-law, Anson Lowe. E. K. Gibbs built a third shop about 1840.

The age was one when a man was fortunate whose personal peculiarity of form, feature, dress or habit, were not salient enough whereupon to hang some nickname — when many a worthy citizen walked among his fellow-men almost unknown by his baptismal name. The same fashion obtained respecting neighborhoods, every little section of the town gaining some quaint designation fancied to be descriptive of the district or its people. The region about these comb-shops on Rigby Brook became in popular parlance, Scrabble Hollow.

The water privilege on South Meadow Brook in the possession of George Howard was soon turned to use in the horn industry; at first by lessees Lewis Pollard and Joel Sawtell, later by the owner, who was enterprising and prosperous. But the most extensive makers of horn goods were the sons of Daniel Harris, who learned the trade of Nathan Burditt. Asahel Harris at first conducted the business at his house east of the river, still standing. This dwelling he had bought from Samuel Dorrison, who built it upon a lot severed from the Pollard farm. Mr. Harris built later the brick house upon the height of the hill west of the Nashua, where he introduced horse-power and improved machinery in his work-shop. In 1831 Asahel and Sidney Harris built a dam and shop upon the river just above the bridge, securing a fall of about six feet. Sidney Harris, in 1835, bought his brother's interest in the water-power and the house above, and here began a career of great prosperity. Upon the sale of the Pitts mills, in 1843, the grist-mill machinery was brought thither.

In 1805 Samuel John Sprague sold the Prescott saw and grist-mill, with a house and land, to Benaiah Brigham, of Boston. Thomas W. Lyon soon after bought them of Brigham and acquired other estate in the neighborhood. In August, 1809, Lancaster was stirred with the news that two wealthy foreigners, residents of Boston, had bought the Prescott Mills and were about to erect a factory for the weaving of cotton cloth by power looms. Soon workmen began laying the foundation of the new structure, and the enterprising owners for twenty-five years thereafter were notable citizens of the town. The elder of the two, the capitalist of the firm and president of the corporation afterwards organized, was David Poignand, a dapper, urbane gentleman of French Huguenot descent, born in the island of Jersey. He wore a queue, and carried a gold-headed cane, was both a jeweller and a cabinet-maker by trade, and an exceptionally good workman. He also had made and lost a fortune in the hardware trade in Tremont Street, Boston. His partner was his son-in-law, Samuel Plant, an Englishman who had been in America about twenty years as factor for a great cloth manufacturer of Leeds. Mr. Plant had made himself thoroughly acquainted with the manufacture of cotton in England, and secretly brought thence drawings of the machinery necessary for a mill, and perhaps some of the more important parts of certain machines. From these, with the aid of the ingenious machinist, Capt. Thomas W. Lyon, he was able to completely equip the factory and put it into running order. Under the methodical management of Mr. Plant, aided by the skill of the machinist, the difficulties which always attend a novel undertaking of such magnitude were soon overcome, and the success of the enterprise was assured. This factory was one of the earliest of its kind successfully run in America. The town granted the firm partial exemption from taxation temporarily. The embargo and war with England served all the purposes of a high protective tariff for the infant industry. Common cotton cloth which at the building of the factory cost about thirty cents a yard, before the close of hostilities commanded double that price.

A little above the factory, upon the same stream, stood a saw-mill built, probably before 1800, by Moses Sawyer, or his son Peter, but at that time owned by Joseph Rice. It commanded a fall of ten to twelve feet, but had a very limited reservoir. This mill was often, and necessarily, a grave source of inconvenience to Poignand & Plant by causing an intermittent flow of water to their wheel. Mr. Rice's land and water-rights were purchased in 1814, his log dam was replaced by one of stone somewhat higher, and a second factory was built a little below the saw-mill site, to which the looms were moved from the old mill.

The business had grown until it called for more capital than the firm possessed. February 12, 1821, David Poignand, Samuel Plant, Benjamin Rich, Isaac Bangs and Seth Knowles were incorporated with the title of the Lancaster Cotton Company, representing a capital of $100,000. Benjamin Pickman, Benjamin T. Pickman and Lewis Tappan also became stockholders in the company, and the two last named were in succession made treasurers. The old Prescott dam having been broken through by a freshet in 1826, was rebuilt and made one or two feet higher, giving a fall of twenty-nine feet. The square, brick mansion near the lower mill upon Main Street was also built by the company as a residence for the superintendent, Mr. Plant, twenty-five hundred dollars being appropriated for the purpose.

The treasurer was accustomed to drive up from Boston in his own chaise once a month to attend to his special duties, and it was usual for a four-horse team to be sent to the city once a fortnight with the sheetings manufactured. The wagon for its return trip was loaded with cotton bales and goods for the store which Mr. Plant established a short distance from the factory. For several years most of the teaming for the company was done by Nathan Burditt, Sr. In case of any repairs which required a new casting to be obtained, there was no foundry suitably equipped to furnish it nearer than South Boston.

August 28, 1830, while casually at the house of his friend, John G. Thurston, in South Lancaster, David Poignand died suddenly. In 1835 the company, finding their business unprofitable because of changes in the tariff and the superannuated machinery, advertised their property for sale, described as follows: "one hundred and seventy-seven acres of land, one brick factory with nine hundred spindles, one wooden factory with thirty-two looms and other machinery; blacksmith shop, machine shop, eleven dwelling houses and other buildings." The mills with such land and structures as were essential to their operation were finally sold at auction July 26, 1836, and bought by Nathaniel Rand, Samuel C. Damon, John Hews and Edward A. Raymond, for $13,974. Their successors in 1837 leased the mills to the brothers Horatio N. and Erastus B. Bigelow, who came from Shirley, where the elder had been manager of a cotton-mill. Mr. Plant removed to Northhampton, and there died in 1847.

The Bigelows had selected this location preparatory to the organization of capital for the developing of some inventions of the younger brother. H. N. Bigelow occupied the Plant mansion, and from this time became a resident of the village and an indefatigable and wise promoter of its best interests, moral, social and material. March 8, 1838, the Clinton Company was duly incorporated with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, and the right to hold real estate to the amount of thirty thousand dollars. The incorporators whose names appeared in the legislative act were: John Wright, H. N. Bigelow and Israel Longley. The most notable inventions of Erastus B. Bigelow, at that date perfected, were two power looms: one for weaving figured quilts, the other for the weaving of coach-lace. The upper, then styled the yellow factory, was leased by the Clinton Company for the latter manufacture, and the brick factory was devoted to the making of quilts.

Before this time coach-lace had always been woven by hand looms, and any attempt to supplant human fingers in the complicated manipulation required was scouted at by the weavers as presumptuous. But the lace made by the ingenious mechanism invented by Mr. Bigelow in 1836 and patented in 1837 proved of a very superior quality, while the cost of weaving was reduced from twenty-two to three cents a yard. The manufacturers were rewarded with immediate and ample financial success, which continued for about ten years, when stage-coaches began everywhere to be superseded by the railway train, and coach-lace found no place in the new fashion of vehicles.

The company was fortunate in the time of entering upon its work as well as in the genius of its inventor and the ability of its management. The period was one of great and general prosperity. August 17, 1842, the real estate, hitherto leased, was bought of Samuel Damon, and extensive improvements were begun. In 1845 the capital of the company was increased to three hundred thousand, and in 1848 to half a million dollars. Meanwhile the working plant was re-enforced by the purchase of Sawyer's Mills, in Boylston, where the water-power was utilized for the making of yarn. Additions were annually made to the original buildings, and new ones were erected. When the demand for their special product began rapidly to decrease, machinery for the making of pantaloon checks, tweeds and cassimeres was gradually introduced.

A large machine shop was connected with the works which, under charge of Joseph B. Parker, turned out nearly all the machinery required in the factory. Horatio N. Bigelow was general manager from the outset, being, however, relieved for three years, 1849 to 1851, by C. W. Blanchard. About four hundred hands were engaged when all the looms were running; twelve hundred yards of coach-lace and four thousand yards of pantaloon stuffs were finished per day.

Although the brick factory was bought in 1838 for the introduction of the Bigelow quilt looms, owing to financial difficulties the weaving of counterpanes did not begin until 1841. The successive transfers of the property are of interest, as giving the names of those who began the quilt manufacture and as showing the sudden rise in real estate values at that date. Rand & Damon, by purchase of their associates' shares, became sole owners of the cotton-mills in 1837, and in 1838, Rand, having acquired his partner's rights in the brick factory, sold it to E. G. Roberts, who the same day transferred it to W. R. Kelley for six thou-

sand dollars consideration. In September, 1839, it was deeded to Thomas Kendall, the price named being twenty-five thousand dollars. The property, with, of course, additions and improvements, next passed into possession of Hugh R. Kendall in 1842, the alleged consideration being thirty thousand dollars, and in 1845 it was sold to John Lamson for forty thousand dollars. October 1, 1851, Lamson disposed of the property to the Lancaster Quilt Company for one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars.

The quilts that came from the new looms were from ten to thirteen quarters in width and of a high grade in quality, equal to those of foreign make for which the importers demanded six to ten dollars each. The Bigelow quilts were soon in the market at less than half those prices. In the quilt loom, as in all his inventions and improvements in weaving machinery, the design and mechanical construction of each machine were carefully perfected under Mr. Bigelow's own oversight, and not more with a view to the saving in cost of production than to attaining the highest standard of excellence in the fabric produced.

February 11, 1848, John Lamson, William P. Barnard, George Seaver and associates were incorporated by the name of the Lancaster Quilt Company, for the purpose of manufacturing petticoat robes, toilet covers, and the various descriptions of counterpanes, quilts and bed-covers, with an authorized capital of two hundred thousand dollars. Thirty-six looms and about one hundred hands were employed and the annual output was over seventy-five thousand quilts. Charles W. Worcester was the managing agent of the works.

The devices harmoniously combined in the coach-lace loom were seen by the inventor to be equally applicable to the weaving of any pile fabric. With suitable enlargement and modification of parts the product would become Brussels carpet, or, by the addition of a cutting edge to the end of the pile wire, be given a velvet pile. The adaptation to the carpet loom of the chief novel feature of the lace loom—the automatic attachments to draw out, carry forward and re insert the wires—was an easy problem for one who "thought in wheels and pinions." The carpet loom, as a conception in the inventor's brain, was soon complete in all its details. The machinists under Mr. Bigelow's eye shaped the conception in wood and metal, and at Lowell in 1845 Jacquard Brussels carpeting was woven upon the power loom. The invention was patented in England March 11, 1846, and in the great London Industrial Exhibition of 1851 specimens of Bigelow's carpeting were exhibited which won from a jury of experts the highest encomium. It was declared in their official report that the Bigelow fabrics were "better and more perfectly woven than any hand-woven goods that have come under notice of the jury."

The Bigelow brothers, the success of the new carpet loom thus made certain, bought a building at the south end of High Street, in which Gilman B. Parker's foundry and other mechanical industries had been carried on, raised it and built a brick basement beneath, thereby obtaining a room two hundred feet long by forty-two in width. In this they set up twenty-eight looms run by a thirty horse-power steam-engine, and in the autumn of 1849 began the making of Brussels carpet by power. The requisite spinning was done at other mills. About one hundred hands were employed and five hundred yards of carpeting made daily. The day's labor of a skilled weaver on the hand loom rarely brought five yards, while the power loom, managed by a girl, readily produced four or five times as much and ensured superior finish. The works were under the management of H. N. Bigelow. H. P. Fairbanks became a partner with the Bigelow Brothers in 1850, and with added capital, larger and more substantial buildings, year by year crowded the little valley site.

A map of Lancaster, dated 1795, notes the existence of a "falls of about seven feet" in the river at the place where now stands the dam of the Lancaster Mills Company. At that time this great water-power was owned by Elias Sawyer, who built a dam across the stream and began a saw-mill, which, from lack of means, he was never able to complete, although he sawed considerable lumber here. For a time he lived near by, but the property passed from his hands, and in 1810 was acquired by James Pitts, a millwright of Taunton, who came to reside upon and improve his purchase in December, 1815. The narrow, rock-walled valley, and the hills that hem it in, were densely covered with forest, and no public road led thither. A few acres of the bottom lands were soon cleared, and during 1816 Mr. Pitts erected upon the mud-sill of the old Sawyer Dam a new one, thirteen feet in height, and the same year completed a saw and grist-mill. Possessing some spinning machinery at a factory in West Bridgewater, he brought it to Lancaster, and began the manufacture of cotton yarn in 1820, gradually enlarging his buildings and increasing his production as success warranted. A small part of his power was leased in 1818 and for a few years later to Charles Chace & Sons, who built a small tannery near the mills. Comb-making was also carried on here at a later day, with power leased of Mr. Pitts.

James Pitts, Sr., died in January, 1835, and his sons, James, Hiram W. and Seth G., continued the manufacture of satinet warps. The saw and grist-mill was burned in 1836, but immediately rebuilt. November 12, 1838, the town accepted a highway laid out from the "red factory" of Poignand & Plant—which stood where the Bigelow Carpet Company's spinning department now is—to Pitts' Mills. This was the first public road to that locality, and marks the origin of Mechanic Street. In 1842 the Pitts Brothers sold their entire estate, including about eighty acres of land, to Erastus B. Bigelow, for ten thousand dollars.

February 5, 1844, E. B. Bigelow, Stephen Fairbanks, Henry Timmins and associates were incorporated as the Lancaster Mills Company, with a capital of five hundred thousand dollars, and at once laid the foundations of the manufactory now famous as one of the largest gingham-mills in the world. It was at first proposed to begin with the manufacture of blue and white cotton checks only, but in view of the liberal pecuniary returns at that time rewarding manufacturing enterprise, and the deserved confidence of the capitalists in the inventive genius of the younger Bigelow, and the rare organizing ability of the elder, it was determined to build a gingham-mill of twenty thousand spindles. Up to this time ginghams had been chiefly made upon hand looms. The processes which this fabric passes through before it is ready for market are in number more than double those required in the making of plain cloth, and hence the design of the machinery and buildings was correspondingly complex in character. To this novel problem E. B. Bigelow devoted his energy and marvellous constructive skill for more than two years, when his health gave way, under the intense strain of the mental toil and anxiety he had undergone, and he sought rest and found cure in foreign travel. He had, however, perfected all plans and contracts for the essentially new elements of the plant, and his brother, being thoroughly familiar with them, carried the works onward to completion, and put them into successful operation.

H. N. Bigelow continued in management of manufacture until 1849, when he was succeeded as agent by Franklin Forbes, under whose long and very able control the company attained great financial success and an honorable name for the unvarying superiority of its products. The various purchases of real estate, —two hundred and thirteen acres in all,—and the construction of dam, mills and machinery ready for operation, cost about eight hundred thousand dollars, and the stock was divided into two thousand shares. Both buildings and machinery were of the highest excellence in design and workmanship. The dam was built chiefly of stone quarried in the immediate neighborhood, and the town of Lancaster at the time of its construction joined the banks of the river just above with a wooden trestle bridge, and laid out a roadway from it to the county highway. The water-power was at first developed by three breast-wheels upon a single line of shafting, each twenty-six feet in diameter with fourteen buckets. These were supplemented by a Tufts' engine of two hundred and fifty horse-power. The mills were admirably lighted and ventilated, and neat, convenient tenements of wood were built near them, accommodating seventy families. About eight hundred operatives were required when the works were in complete running order, two-thirds of whom were females. Girls earned about three dollars per week above their board. The head dyer, Angus Cameron, was reputed the most skilful of his craft in America. The weaving-room, containing six hundred looms, was the largest in the United States, having a floor-area of one and one-third acres. Thirteen thousand yards of gingham were finished in a single day—the estimated annual product being four million yards—and the price, which had been sixteen or eighteen cents per yard, dropped at once to less than twelve. In 1849 the capital of the company was increased to one million two hundred thousand dollars.

The prosperity of the Clinton Company and the starting of the Lancaster Mills speedily worked great changes in their vicinity by the constantly-increasing demand for intelligent labor, and the consequent encouragement offered to skill and traffic. The growth of the village was very rapid, yet systematic and substantial. Streets were laid out according to a well-digested plan, reserving prominent sites for public buildings. In this and other work calling for the art of an engineer, the judgment and foresight of H. N. Bigelow were ably seconded by the taste and scientific attainments of the famous civil engineer John C. Hoadley, then resident in the Prescott house, at the corner of High and Water Streets. The town of Lancaster in 1848 accepted Church, Union, Chestnut, Walnut, High, Nelson and Prospect Streets as town roads, the expenditure for land and construction having been wholly defrayed by the villagers. Hundreds of shade-trees were planted, of which the town is now justly proud. Stores and dwellings soon rose in every direction, and owners or lessees hastened to occupy them before the hammer and saw of the builders had ceased work upon them.

The final location of the Worcester and Nashua Railroad through the town in 1846 gave new energy to enterprise, again to receive fresh impetus when the road was formally opened to Groton on July 24, 1848, and on November 5th of the same year to Worcester. Before this the travelling public were dependent upon Stiles' stage-coaches for conveyance to Worcester, and reached Boston by patronizing McIntire and Day's coaches, which at 5.30 and 10 A.M. and 3.45 P.M. started for Shirley Village, there connecting with the Fitchburg Railway trains. A. J. Gibson's rival line also carried passengers to South Acton, where the same trains were met.

The *Lancaster Courant*, a weekly newspaper, was established by Eliphas Ballard, Jr., and F. C. Messenger, in connection with a job printing-office located on the east side of High Street, in the building of C. W Field. Mr. Messenger was editor of the paper, the first number of which was published Saturday, July 4, 1846. In July, 1850, it was enlarged by the addition of one column to each page and its name changed to *Saturday Courant*.

The professions of medicine, law and engineering soon had gifted and public-spirited representatives here, whose honorable careers adorn the town's an-

nals and whose wisely-directed influence made its mark upon the town's institutions. Other wide-awake young men coming hither to seek fortune and build themselves permanent homes, engaged in trade or plied various handicrafts, and by their worthy ambitions and energy gave a tone to the community notably superior to that which generally characterizes a new manufacturing town.

Postmaster Rand authorized the establishment of a branch of the Lancaster post-office at the store of Lorey F. Bancroft, which stood on the corner of High and Union Streets until removed for the building of Greeley's block in 1875. Regular postal privileges were petitioned for and obtained in July, 1846. H. N. Bigelow was the first postmaster commissioned, and located the office in the north end of the Kendall building, placing it in charge of George H. Kendall.

By popular usage the title of the corporation which had been most influential in creating this thriving village gradually became attached to it. It was called Clintonville; and therefore the reason for the selection of its name by the company in 1838 obtains some historic interest. It must be said that the name *Clinton* was not adopted for any specially apt significance or with intent to honor any person or family, but simply because it satisfied the eye and ear better than other names that may have been proposed. It was doubtless chosen by Erastus B. Bigelow's desire, and was suggested to him by the Clinton Hotel of New York, which he had found a very comfortable resting-place in his business journeys to Washington.

The Bigelow Mechanics' Institute was founded in 1846. It was an association formed by several of the more intelligent citizens, who proposed to benefit themselves and the community by the support of courses of lectures upon scientific and literary subjects, the collection of a library, the establishing a reading-room and perhaps an industrial school. A reading-room was opened to members and subscribers June 5, 1847, in the second story of the Kendall building, then on High Street, where the Clinton Bank block now stands. A fee of three dollars annually entitled any resident to its privileges. The book fund and expenses of lectures exceeding membership fees and sale of tickets were met by subscription. The introductory lecture was delivered in October, 1846, by Hon. James G. Carter. He was followed by John C. Hoadley, Dr. George M. Morse, Charles G. Stevens, Esq., Rev. Hubbard Winslow, and other educated gentlemen of the vicinity. In later years, through the instrumentality of the Institute, noted lecturers like Horace Greeley, Henry D. Thoreau, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Josiah Quincy, Jr., etc., were brought to delight and instruct Clinton audiences. Regular monthly meetings of the members were held for conference and the discussion of questions relating to the mechanic arts and manufactures. The finances of the society were never quite commensurate with its ambitious aims, but in its six years' life it was an efficient public teacher and accumulated a valuable library of nearly seven hundred volumes.

The first tavern in Clintonville was kept by Horace Faulkner in the old Plant farm-house, which in later years served as a boarding-house for the Lancaster Quilt Company. In 1847 H. N. Bigelow built the hotel known as the Clinton House, Oliver Stone being the contractor for its construction. Horace Faulkner and his son-in-law, Jerome S. Burditt, opened it to the public in Christmas week of that year, and the "house-warming" was a notable occasion in the village. The hall was added in 1850, its completion being celebrated by an "opening ball" October 2d.

In the autumn of 1839 Ephraim Fuller's cloth-dressing and wool-carding works at Carter's Mills having been destroyed by fire, he purchased of George Howard his water-power on South Meadow Brook, and lands adjacent, where he erected a fulling-mill and carried on a thriving business for many years. His son, Andrew L. Fuller, soon became associated with him, and, as the times favored, machinery for the manufacture of every variety of woolen knitting-yarn, satinets and fancy cassimeres was introduced. For a time the business employed thirty hands, and sixty thousand yards of cloth were put upon the market yearly, the mill sometimes being operated by night as well as day.

In the winter of 1846 Ephraim Fuller dammed Goodridge Brook where it crosses the highway in Clinton and built a shop with a trip-hammer and forge conveniences in the basement. Here Luther Gaylord—who for several years had been engaged in the manufacture by hand of cast-steel tools for farm use—made all kinds of hay and manure forks, garden rakes, hoes and agricultural implements of similar character, employing from six to ten men. His work was unrivaled in excellence. There being more than sufficient power for his limited needs, the upper story of the building was fitted with a line of shafting and leased to W. F. Conant, a builder of water-wheels, Isaac Taylor, sash and blind manufacturer, and others.

Shortly after the starting of the Bigelow carpet-mill, Albert S. Carleton began the making of carpet-bags of a superior quality, using Bigelow carpeting made in patterns expressly for his purpose. His work-rooms were in the brick building now the residence of Dr. Charles A. Brooks. The business later came into the hands of James S. Caldwell.

October 16, 1847, Gilman M. Palmer started an iron foundry on land now covered by the weaving department of the Bigelow Carpet Company, at the southerly end of High Street. In 1849 he transferred this property to the Bigelows, and built upon the site of the present foundry, near the railway station.

Deacon James Patterson introduced in 1848 the manufacture of belting and loom harnesses and the covering of rolls, over the carpenter-shop of Samuel

Belyea, the two occupying one end of Mr. Palmer's foundry. When the building was taken by the carpet company, Mr. Patterson built a shop in rear of his own residence, but sold his business in July, 1853, to George H. Foster, who was located near the railway.

Of any Massachusetts community it needs not to be told that the foundations of school and meeting-house were among those earliest laid and most promptly built upon; and that generous provision was always made for the intellectual, moral and religious culture of young and old, rich and poor alike. In 1849 there were already three churches in Clintonville, each with its settled clergyman and commodious house of worship. Though forming two districts in the Lancaster school system, the village, under laws of that day, was permitted to manage its schools according to special by-laws of its own, and its prudential committee printed elaborate annual reports. A more complete autonomy was soon acquired.

CHAPTER IX.

CLINTON—(*Continued.*)

The Incorporation—Favoring Auspices—New Enterprises and Changes in the Old.

THE fourth article of a warrant calling a town-meeting in Lancaster, Nov. 7, 1848, was, "To see if the Town will consent to a division thereof and allow that part called Clintonville to form a separate township, or act in any manner relating thereto." The subject was referred to a committee, with instructions to report at a future meeting. This committee included Elias M. Stilwell, James G. Carter, John H. Shaw and Jacob Fisher, of the old town; Horatio N. Bigelow, Ezra Sawyer, Sidney Harris, Chas. G. Stevens and Jotham T. Otterson, of Clintonville. A citizens' meeting was called in the latter village, Monday, October 29, 1849, to discuss the question of separation, at which H. N. Bigelow was chairman and Dr. George M. Morse, secretary. Those present, with almost entire unanimity, declared in favor of petitioning for township rights, and a committee was chosen, consisting of Charles G. Stevens, Sidney Harris, Joseph B. Parker, Horatio N. Bigelow and Alanson Chace, "to carry forward to accomplishment the views of the meeting, leaving the terms and the line of division to the judgment and discretion of the committee."

November 12, 1849, at a town-meeting, majority and minority reports were presented by the committee chosen the year before. They contained such obvious arguments, pro and con, as are usual in the debates preceding town division, and both were tabled, the tone of a brief discussion indicating that no compromise could be readily effected at that time. The citizens' committee of Clintonville, in obedience to their instructions, proceeded to prepare a petition to the Legislature.

The majority report, favoring the division, had gone so far as to propose a straight line of separation, to begin "at the town bound between Lancaster and Sterling on the Redstone Road . . . and run thence S. 75° 42′ East to the easterly line of the town, striking the Bolton line at a point 289.56 rods from the town bound which is a corner of Bolton, Berlin and Lancaster." This severed from the old town nearly the whole of the Deershorns School District, and vigorous remonstrance was made by almost every resident therein. Therefore, on February 9, 1850, a meeting was called at the vestry of the Congregational Society's meeting-house, to consider a proposed line of division, so run as to include little more than the old Districts Ten and Eleven in the new town.

February 15th, at a special town-meeting, the chief article in the warrant was, "To see what action the Town will take in reference to the petition of Charles G. Stevens and others to the legislature of the Commonwealth, for a division of the town of Lancaster." After some friendly discussion of the matter the assemblage voted that the citizens of the old town should select a committee to confer with a like committee representing the petitioners, and that they should "report as soon as may be what terms, in their opinion, ought to satisfy the town of Lancaster, to consent not to oppose a division of the town." The meeting adjourned for forty minutes, having chosen John G. Thurston, Jacob Fisher, Silas Thurston, Dr. Henry Lincoln and Nathaniel Warner to consult with the Clintonville committee already named. Upon re-assembling the unanimous report of the joint committee was adopted, as follows:

1. That all the property, both real and personal, owned by the town of Lancaster at the present time, shall belong to and be owned by the town of Lancaster after the division shall take place.

2. That the inhabitants of Clintonville shall support and forever maintain those persons who now receive relief and support from the town of Lancaster as paupers, who originated from the territory proposed to be set off; and also forever support all persons who may hereafter become paupers who derive their settlement from this territory.

3. That Clintonville, or the town of Clinton, if so incorporated, shall pay to the town of Lancaster the sum of ten thousand dollars in consideration of the large number of river bridges and paupers that will remain within the limits of the old town; the same to be paid in ten equal payments of one thousand dollars, with interest semi-annually on the sum due, the first payment of one thousand dollars to be made in one year after the separation shall take place. And the amount shall be in full for all the town debt which Lancaster owes.

4. That the line of division shall be the same as this day proposed by Charles G. Stevens, Esq., as follows: Beginning at a monument on the east line of the Town, 289.50 rods northerly from a town bound, a corner of Bolton, Berlin and Lancaster; thence north 65° 30′ west 488.11 rods to a monument near the railroad bridge at Goodridge Hill; thence south 48° 30′ west 783 rods to a town bound near the Elder farm, so called; thence by the old lines of the Town to the place of beginning.

5. If a division of the Town is effected, the substance of the foregoing articles having been put in legal form, shall be inserted in the act of incorporation.

J. G. THURSTON, C. G. STEVENS, } *Chairman of Town Committee.*

The act incorporating the town of Clinton in accordance with this agreement was signed by Governor Briggs, March 14, 1850. The main eastern boundary of the new town had been fixed by the formation of Bolton out of Lancaster territory by an act passed June 27, 1738. The southern boundary had been determined by the act of February 1, 1781, which annexed about six square miles of the southerly part of Lancaster's original grant to Shrewsbury. The western boundary was defined in the act of April 25, 1781, incorporating the Second Precinct of Lancaster as the town of Sterling. The irregular intrusion of Berlin at the southeast corner was created by an act of February 8, 1791, setting off Peter Larkin with his family and estate from Lancaster to Berlin, then a district of Bolton.

The new town took from the old very nearly two-thirds of her population, although but one-fifth of her acreage, and a similarly small proportion of the public roads and pauper liabilities. Of the ten bridges crossing the Nashua, eight were left to Lancaster, all being of wood and mostly old, demanding large annual expenditures for repairs, even when spared serious damage by the spring freshets, and sure to require rebuilding within twenty years. The debt of the town was about three thousand dollars. It was in view of these facts that the pecuniary consideration paid the mother town was by the fair-minded men of both sections held to be, perhaps, no more than justice demanded. The liberal concession at least silenced the loud-voiced opposition which at first met the proposal for division, and so confirmed the bond of friendly feeling between the two communities that nothing has since been able seriously to weaken it.

Clinton began its corporate life with a population of thirty-one hundred and eighteen, according to the United States census of that year; although but twenty-seven hundred and seventy-eight by an enumeration made for the assessors in June, 1850. It had a debt of about four and a half dollars and a valuation of over four hundred dollars per head of its inhabitants. It could, with good reason, boast itself in many respects a model manufacturing town. Its territory and population were compact, nine-tenths of the citizens dwelling within a single square mile. It was burdened with few and short roads and bridges. Though not blessed with a productive soil, it was surrounded by towns possessing rich farming lands and chiefly devoted to agriculture. Its industries were widely diversified, there being already well established manufactories of ginghams, Brussels carpets, coach-lace, counterpanes, tweeds, cassimeres, combs, carpet-bags, agricultural tools, sash and blinds, castings, machinery.

At the head of its chief corporations stood managers who were not only generous and public-spirited, but gifted with qualities more rare and valuable—taste and foresight. While studying the true economy of machinery and manufactures, they looked less to penny-wise saving than to enduring reputation. They and their successors built comfortable, detached homes for their employés, instead of huddling them in cheap blocks, and thoughtfully planned for ample light, fresh air, convenience and safety in the workrooms, believing that health and contentment in the workmen largely conduce to the employer's profit. Without undue expense they made the architecture and surroundings of their works attractive. The influence of this policy, which has been permanent and followed very generally by private enterprise of the townspeople, is not only to be seen in its external and æsthetic results, but felt in the social life, the atmosphere of content that pervades the place.

The first town-meeting was held in the vestry of the Congregational meeting-house on Monday, the 1st day of April, 1850, at 9 o'clock A.M. A citizens' caucus had previously nominated a list of town officers, which the voters did not fully endorse. Albert S. Carleton was chosen town clerk, and Sidney Harris, treasurer and collector. The selectmen elected were Ezra Sawyer, Samuel Belyea and Edmund Harris; the assessors, Alfred Knight, Joseph B. Parker and Ira Coolidge; the overseers of the poor, James Ingalls, Alanson Chace and Nathan Burditt. The school committee, who were elected at an adjourned meeting April 15th, were Rev. William H. Corning, Rev. Charles M. Bowers, C. W. Blanchard, Dr. George W. Burditt, Dr. George M. Morse, F. C. Messenger and James Patterson. The three last named declining to serve, Augustus J. Sawyer, William W. Parker and Charles L. Swan were chosen in their places. The sum of eight thousand two hundred dollars was voted for the year's expenses, including two thousand dollars for schools, and five hundred for a Fire Department.

Certain pressing wants called for early public action. There was no place for the burial of the dead within the town limits, although a cemetery association had been organized October 3, 1849. About ten acres of land, admirably suited in position and character for a public cemetery, were soon purchased, laid out with taste and judgment, and named Woodlawn. Near by a small farm was bought of Sumner Thompson for an almshouse. Upon it were a small house and barn; to this were added three acres obtained of Joseph Rice, and a dwelling of eleven rooms was at once built. The twelve acres and improvements cost $3859.71.

A volunteer fire company, called Torrent, No. 1, was organized September 18, 1850, its members being the chief business men of the town. A Hunneman fire-engine was procured, for which one thousand dollars had been appropriated, and on March 10, 1851, a Fire Department was established by legislative enactment. Franklin Forbes was chosen chief engineer. A second company, the Cataract, No. 2, was formed June 17, 1853, and a third, the Franklin Hook-and-Ladder Company, July 7, 1858. Organizations bearing the

same titles yet exist, but the engine companies were disbanded and re-organized as hose companies after the introduction of water for fire purposes, each having in charge six hundred feet of hose. A fourth company, formed in 1870, has care of a steam fire-engine, one of Cole Brothers' manufacture, and twelve hundred feet of hose. The firemen have always received liberal support from the town, are supplied with every modern appliance for use in the extinguishment of fires, and provided with comfortable and attractively furnished halls, in the upper stories of the neat structures in which the apparatus is stored. The Gamewell electric fire-alarm system was adopted in July, 1885.

May 15, 1851, Franklin Forbes, Albert S. Carleton, Charles G. Stevens and associates obtained incorporation as the Clinton Savings Bank, and were authorized to hold real estate not to exceed ten thousand dollars in value. H. N. Bigelow was elected the first president of the bank. In this office he was succeeded by Franklin Forbes. The first treasurer, Charles L. Swan, is now president, and C. L. S. Hammond has been treasurer since 1864. For several years deposits were received by the treasurer at the office of the Lancaster Mills and by the president at his office in the Bigelow Library building; later, by the treasurer at the office of the Bigelow Carpet Company. Since 1864 the business of the bank had been conducted in the rooms of the First National Bank. Its deposits now amount to $1,123,109, the number of depositors being about four thousand. The total deposits since organization have been over five million dollars, and the total number of accounts over fourteen thousand.

At the woolen-mill upon South Meadow Brook, Andrew L. Fuller succeeded his father, who retired from the business in 1850, just as their special manufactures of yarns and cloths began to be unremunerative. Mr. Fuller was a man of great business capacity and energy, shrewdly watchful of the market, and he gradually introduced new machinery for the production of goods for which there was a better demand. When fashion decreed that hoop-skirts should be an essential article of female apparel, he filled his work-rooms with tape-looms and braiders for covering hoop-skirt wire, and soon developed a very successful business. In 1865 he more than doubled the capacity of his main building, added two hundred braiders to the two hundred and fifty he had previously run, and increased the number of his tape-looms to forty. Nearly one hundred hands were given employment. September 10, 1867, Mr. Fuller died, but the manufacture was continued by his partner, Everett W. Bigelow, until change in fickle fashion destroyed the sale for such goods, and bankruptcy followed in 1870. N. C. Munson, of Shirley, under mortgagee rights, took possession of and sold the property to Boyce Brothers, of Boston, in whose ownership the mills were when destroyed in 1876, as narrated hereafter. The industry has never been resumed. The water-power is now in possession of George P. Taylor, who, in 1885, built a neat, one-story brick mill here, which was for a time leased to the Ridgway Stove and Furnace Company, but is now unoccupied.

In 1852 the Bigelow Library Association, a joint stock company, assumed the functions and received the assets of the Bigelow Mechanics' Institute. It began its career under far more favoring auspices than its predecessor, having, beside the capital rerived from its stock subscription, generous donations from various citizens, including the sum of one thousand dollars given by Erastus B. Bigelow. A substantial brick building was erected upon Union Street, giving ample accommodations for the use of the society and several rooms for rent. Here a choice library was gradually gathered, and the association became a prominent factor in the literary life of the town. When, in 1873, the town resolved to maintain a free public library, the association placed in its charge the four thousand four hundred volumes which it had accumulated. It then sold its remaining effects and real estate, and its twenty years' career of usefulness and beneficence closed.

A lot of about four acres in the heart of the village, bounded by Walnut, Chestnut, Church and Union Streets, was, in 1852, given to Clinton by H. N. Bigelow, with the stipulation that it should be laid out according to plans of J. C. Hoadley, that no permanent structure of any kind should ever be built upon it, and that it should be suitably embellished and cared for forever as a public square. The town accepted the gift April 5, 1852, and at once appropriated one thousand dollars for its improvement. This has now become a tree-shaded park, and is the most useful of Mr. Bigelow's many and wise benefactions to the town which he did so much to found, and was ever striving to improve and adorn.

Joseph B. Parker, who for twelve years had been superintendent of the Clinton Company's machine-shop, built, in the summer of 1852, near the railway station, a shop fitted with steam-power and tools for the manufacture of machinery. Having associated with him Gilman M. Palmer, he began work here on the 1st of January, 1853. The firm of Parker & Palmer was dissolved October 31, 1857, and two years later A. C. Dakin was taken into partnership.

September 7, 1853, John T. Dame, Esq., received a commission as postmaster, and removed the office from the Kendall store to the Bigelow Library Association's building on Union Street. During the same year a new road from Clinton westward through Lancaster, now known as Sterling Street, was laid out by the county commissioners and constructed. October 19th of this year a noteworthy celebration of the surrender of Cornwallis, the last in this part of the State, brought to Clinton fifteen hundred regular and irregular militia and an immense crowd of people. The time-worn comedy of the sham fight was manœuvred to its historic issue on Burditt Hill, with more smoke

and noise than the town has ever experienced before or since, and the traditions of former days were outshone in the farcical evolutions and grotesque accoutrements of the "Continentals."

March 8, 1854, H. N. Bigelow, Franklin Forbes and Henry Kellogg were constituted a corporation, with the title of the Clinton Gas Light Company, and authorized to hold real estate to the value of thirty thousand dollars, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars. Buildings had been erected the year before in rear of the carpet-mill. Mr. Forbes was elected president, and C. L. Swan, treasurer, of the company. Milton Jewett became superintendent, and yet holds that position. The Schuyler Electric Light Company began building works in town, March, 1886, and in July were authorized to furnish a few street lights. Their plant and privileges were soon after sold to the Gas Light Co. April 17, 1887, legislation was obtained authorizing the corporation to increase its capital to two hundred thousand dollars, and to hold real estate to the value of seventy-five thousand dollars. By the same act its corporate privileges were extended to include the town of Lancaster.

The little steel forge upon Goodridge Brook was lost to Clinton in 1852. Mr. Gaylord, being unable to find a near market for his products in competition with goods of inferior grade, accepted inducements to remove to Naugatuck, Conn. The water privileges and buildings, owned by Ephraim Fuller, were for several years leased to various parties, chiefly for the manufacture of doors, sash and blinds. Christopher C. Stone then bought the mill and carried on that business here for three years. In 1859 Eben S. Fuller bought out Mr. Stone, and in 1867 supplemented the water-power with a steam-engine, when large additions were also made to the buildings. The establishment now embraces a saw-mill, which turns out about three hundred thousand feet of native lumber annually, planing and various other wood-working machines, a large shop for the manufacture of all kinds of wood-finish used by builders, and an extensive lumber and wood-yard. About twenty men are kept constantly employed in its various departments, and a small village has grown up about it.

In 1854 the electric telegraph wires appeared in Clinton, and on the 23d of September the first business message was sent over them.

The first loom to succe-sfully weave wire cloth was an invention of Erastus B. Bigelow's, and upon its success the Clinton Wire Cloth Company was founded in 1856. Charles H. Waters, of Groton, was chosen to assist H. N. Bigelow in superintending the erection of the original works, and in the summer of 1857 began manufacture. He was made general manager, and served as such with marked ability until March, 1879, when he became president of the company and Charles B. Bigelow manufacturing agent. Buildings of large area have from time to time been added to the first mill, located at the intersection of the railroads—notably in 1863, 1865, 1870, 1872, 1876, 1880 and 1887—and now the works cover about six acres. The looms and other machinery have been often improved by new inventions or adaptations, mostly those of Mr. Waters, whereby numerous difficulties attendant upon the weaving of so stubborn a material as wire have gradually been in large measure overcome. At the death of Mr. Waters, March 13, 1883, James H. Beal became the president of the company, and Charles Swinscoe was made manager in 1885, when Mr. Bigelow was called upon to assume the duties of manufacturing agent for the Bigelow Carpet Company.

The capital of the Wire Cloth Company is four hundred thousand dollars, and it is claimed to be the largest manufactory of woven wire goods in the world, turning out fifty million square feet in a year. The mills are of brick, very substantial in construction, and possess attractive architectural features. The most prominent structure in the town, one that earliest engages the attention of every one when approaching it from any direction, is the tower used for the drying of painted wire cloth. It is one hundred and eighty-five feet in height, eighty by thirty-six feet in horizontal section, having room for twenty-five tons of cloth suspended in webs of about one hundred feet in length. The chief products of the works are: hexagonal netting of every width and variety, painted window-screen cloth, wire lathing, locomotive sparker cloth, malt-kiln flooring, sieve and bolting cloths, etc. An extensive galvanizing plant has been erected a short distance from the main works beside the Worcester and Nashua Railway, where a special process, peculiar to this company, is used for the protection of iron goods; the zinc being chemically united with the iron, instead of simply forming a mechanical coating upon it.

Sidney Harris, who began the making of horn combs by hand in a small way in 1823, continued the business until his death, November 21, 1861, when his shops on the Nashua supported from twenty-five to thirty workmen. His sales sometimes amounted to twenty thousand dollars a year. Mr. Harris was the youngest son of Daniel, and born in West Boylston. He was one of the most enterprising and thrifty citizens of Clinton, prominent in church and municipal affairs, and every way worthy of the public esteem in which he was ever held. He was among the earliest and most outspoken advocates of the temperance cause. His sons, George S. and Edwin A., continued the fabrication of horn goods, retaining the partnership title of Sidney Harris & Sons, and greatly enlarged the shops in 1866. The elder did not long survive his father, and Edwin, by purchase of his brother's interest, became sole proprietor of the factory, and so remained until his death, in the spring of 1875. August 9th, of that year, a joint-stock company was organized to continue the business, with a capital of sixty thousand dollars, called the S. Harris' Sons Manufacturing Company. Elisha Brimhall,

Daniel B. Ingalls and Henry E. Starbird were by turns presidents of the company, which gave work to about eighty hands, and finished goods to the value of from eighty to one hundred thousand dollars per year, chiefly dressing and fancy-back combs. The enterprise won no financial success, and in November, 1881, the whole stock of the company, having much depreciated in value, was bought by Mrs. Edwin A. Harris, who has since managed the manufacture under the corporate title, giving work to fifty hands. The present production of the factory is about forty thousand dollars' worth of staple goods, chiefly toilet combs, yearly.

The original incorporators of the Lancaster Quilt Company were succeeded in May, 1859, by James Reed & Co., and the mill changed hands more than once thereafter, though the business was always conducted under the name of the first corporation. The firm of Jordan & Marsh finally controlled the property, and in 1869 started the Marseilles quilt manufacture as a specialty. A few months later the weaving of crochet counterpanes was begun, but the adventure not proving sufficiently profitable, the making of quilts was wholly abandoned in January, 1871, the looms were sold to the Bates Company, of Lewiston, Me., and machinery for weaving other styles of goods took their place. In the autumn of 1871 the works were closed.

William E. Frost and Sidney T. Howard, forming a partnership under the title of the Clinton Yarn Company, purchased the factory for twelve thousand five hundred dollars March 28, 1873. They fitted it anew for the spinning of cotton, and began manufacture in April. The houses and remaining lands of the Quilt Company were sold at auction the following June for forty-three thousand three hundred and fifty dollars. The Clinton Yarn Company has employed from seventy-five to one hundred and twenty-five hands, and used annually from seven hundred to one thousand bales of cotton; selling products annually to the value of about one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. Both partners have deceased, and the mill is now run by John R. Frost as agent. Bleach and dye works are connected with the factory, and seven thousand spinning and thirty-five hundred twisting spindles are run. The power from the twenty-nine feet fall in the South Meadow Brook has been used until recently, assisted by a Wheelock steam-engine of one hundred and fifty horse-power.

CHAPTER X.

CLINTON—(*Continued*).

Clinton in the Rebellion—Soldiers' Roster.

WHEN the political champions of slavery treasonably sought to break up the Federal Union, nowhere did the spirit of patriotism—so fervent everywhere in Massachusetts—flame forth sooner, or with more genuine fire, than in Clinton. In the Presidential election of 1860 four votes out of her every five were cast for Abraham Lincoln. As the plans of traitors gradually disclosed themselves and armed secession tore star after star from the flag, not four-fifths, but the whole community as one man declared for the maintenance of the Constitution at even the cost of civil war. In hall and street, mill, shop and home, the national peril was the dominant topic of thought and speech. To the military organizations of the Commonwealth the people naturally looked for the call to action.

The second and third officers of the Ninth Regiment of Massachusetts Militia were Clinton citizens—Lieutenant-Colonel Gilman M. Palmer and Major Christopher C. Stone; and of that regiment also was the Clinton Light Guard. This company, which dated its existence from May 12, 1853, was composed of some of the best manhood of Clinton and vicinity, and had been efficiently disciplined under the direction of its successive commanders: Captains Gilman M. Palmer, Andrew L. Fuller, Henry Butterfield and Christopher C. Stone. It was now led by Henry Bowman, who, in accordance with a vote of the company in February, 1861, signified to Governor Andrew its readiness for immediate service in defence of the national government. It was supposed that the Ninth Regiment might be sent to the front at once, and the stir of hurried preparation was seen on every hand.

In the annual town-meeting, March 4th, the sum of one thousand dollars was voted for the purpose of furnishing the Guards with a service uniform. Thus Clinton was the first town to anticipate by actual appropriation of money the expected call for State troops. Such expenditure of public funds being, however, beyond the authority delegated to towns, a special act of the Legislature was invoked and passed April 2d, sanctioning such action when ratified by two-thirds of the members present and voting at a meeting legally called for the purpose. The company soon after paraded in new suits of gray.

Sunday, April 21st, there came a dispatch from the Governor calling upon the Light Guard to be ready to move at twenty-four hours' warning. Notices were read from the pulpits in the morning, and in the afternoon the vestry of the Baptist Church was thronged with earnest women workers, busily making flannel underclothing for the volunteers. At a town-meeting, the next day, generous provision was voted for the care and protection of soldiers' families in the absence of their natural guardians. But the anxiously expected summons was long delayed, and it was not until June 28th that the volunteers, preceded by the cornet band and an escort of citizens, marched to the railway, and amid the tearful farewells of near friends and the cheers of the multitude assembled, were borne away for Camp Scott, Worcester, to join

the Fifteenth Massachusetts, to which regiment they were assigned as the color company, C. Just four months later they had passed through the terrible defeat of Ball's Bluff, and the captain, with thirteen other Clinton men, were prisoners at Richmond, five were wounded and two had lost their lives.

The Fifteenth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry was especially noted for its proficiency in drill, its staying qualities in fight, and its exceptionally sanguinary battle record. The men of Company C sustained its colors, and bore at least their full share of the regiment's glory and blood sacrifice. The Clinton men serving in the regiment were seventy-four, all told, of whom, before the Rebellion succumbed, fourteen were slain in battle or died of wounds, three died of disease, and over thirty had received wounds not fatal. Their loss was quite severe at Antietam, September 17, 1862, when five received mortal injuries and twenty others were more or less seriously wounded. At Gettysburg, of the twenty-four in the battle line belonging to Company C, sixteen were hit by rebel missiles, of whom Clinton lost Lieutenant Buss and three others killed and four wounded.

Next in numbers to those of the Fifteenth was the group of Clinton men in the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, thirty-seven in all, including a few recruits enlisted in 1862. These were nearly all German-born, workmen at the Lancaster Mills, and mostly mustered in Company G. Four of these were killed in battle, five died during the war, and at least sixteen others were wounded. The regiment won an honorable record, serving in North Carolina during 1862 and 1863, and in Heckman's brigade of the Eighteenth Army Corps, chiefly in Virginia, during 1864.

In the Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry were twenty men claimed for Clinton's credit, four of whom died of wounds received in battle. The regiment suffered severely at Chantilly, Antietam, and in the final advance upon Richmond. Its first experience was with General Burnside's expedition in North Carolina. Five of the Clinton volunteers re-enlisted after their first term had expired.

The three regiments above mentioned left for the front during 1861. Of those who enlisted for the town in 1862, the majority joined the Thirty-fourth, Thirty-sixth and Fifty-third regiments. In the first were sixteen soldiers accredited to Clinton. They performed garrison duty along the Potomac during 1862 and 1863, and had no serious engagement with the enemy. Their valor and endurance were, however, severely tested during 1864, in the nine battles and constant marching and countermarching of the Shenandoah campaign.

The Thirty-sixth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry contained thirty residents of Clinton, one of whom, Henry Bowman, was its colonel. It was attached to the Ninth Army Corps, narrowly escaped participation in the bloody work at Antietam, and though present met with no loss at Fredericksburg. In 1863 it was transferred to the West, became greatly reduced in numbers during the campaign against Vicksburg by climatic diseases, and passed through the siege of Knoxville with Burnside. Its eventful experience closed in Virginia, whither it returned in 1864 to join in the final grand struggle for the possession of Richmond. But one of its Clinton members fell in battle; three died in captivity and three of disease.

Twenty-eight Clinton men, with Lieutenant Josiah H. Vose, served in the Fifty-third Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry and he, with two others, laid down their lives in battle. Although but a nine-months organization, its stormy voyage by sea to New Orleans, its adventures along the Mississippi River, and its fiery ordeal of battle at Fort Bisland and in the assault and siege of Port Hudson, comprise a more notable experience than many three-years' regiments could boast.

The numerous other enlistments to the credit of the town, mostly of a later date, were distributed among many organizations, the record of which can receive no particular mention here.

The action of the town-meetings already noticed was but an earnest of a generous policy pursued through the four years of war, and ever since, towards those who volunteered in their country's service.

The selectmen were given large discretionary powers for the purpose of aiding families dependent for support upon bread-winners who had become soldiers of the Union; the maximum bounty was paid to citizens enlisting to fill the town's quota; all soldiers were relieved from the payment of a poll-tax; and after each successive call for troops Clinton was found registered as furnishing an excess above the number demanded. Private generosity never failed whenever exigencies arose. Large sums were obtained by voluntary subscription for the equipment of the enlisted; for forwarding material aid to the wounded and sick in hospitals; for sending agents to the field after the great battles, and for other and constantly-recurring calls upon patriotic sympathy where money could avail. For help to families, known as "State aid," during the five years ending with 1865, the town expended $36,171.28; for other war purposes, $14,043.19. Nine thousand dollars raised by various private subscriptions were also disbursed in bounties to recruits and for kindred objects.

The busy afternoon of that April Sabbath in the crowded vestry taught the people much concerning woman's mission in war-time, and was suggestive of what could be effected under wise organization. Within a week thereafter an association was formed by patriotic women which, in connection with the parish sewing circles, sent to hospital and field thousands of useful articles of their own handiwork. After a year's experience, the aims of the society

taking wider scope, a citizens' meeting was called at the Clinton House Hall, August 1, 1862, and the Soldiers' Aid Society then organized issued a general invitation calling upon all inhabitants of the town to join in the work for the welfare of the volunteers. The directors of the association were: Franklin Forbes, president; Gilbert Greene, treasurer; Henry C. Greeley, secretary; Mrs. J. F. Maynard, Mrs. Jared M. Heard, Mrs. Charles W. Field, Mrs. Charles G. Stevens. A room was furnished for the society's use in the Bigelow Library Association's building, and kept open during three hours each afternoon six days in the week, for work and the reception of articles contributed. The donations of material and labor made by the society to the patriot cause have been estimated at three thousand dollars in value. Its charitable ministrations did not end until long after the surrender at Appomattox.

The quota of Clinton under the various calls of the government amounted to three hundred and seventy-one men for three years' service. Adjutant-General William Schouler credits it with an enlistment of four hundred and nineteen, being a surplus of forty-eight above demands. The enrollment lists of the town fail to account for so many, lacking nearly one hundred of that number after making due allowance for over thirty nine-months' enlistments, and adding the eighteen who paid commutation and twenty for veteran re-enlistments. It may be therefore inferred, perhaps, that the unknown non-residents hired for the town or assigned to its quota by the State or national authorities, were very numerous.

The population of the town at the outbreak of hostilities was thirty-eight hundred and fifty-nine. Its valuation was $1,690,692, and its debt $14,500. At the end of the war it had four thousand and twenty-one inhabitants, a valuation of $1,860,763 and a debt of $34,190.

The following alphabetical roster of residents who did military service for Clinton during the Rebellion is doubtless not free from errors or omissions, but it is the result of many revisions, and is the best now attainable. Names are followed by the records of service in the following order: the number of regiment, Massachusetts Infantry being understood (unless otherwise stated), the letter of the company, the age of the soldier when enlisted, date of muster in, experience of soldier.

CLINTON SOLDIERS.

Amsden, Marcus E., 2d H. Artillery, B; 21; July 28, '63; transferred to Navy May 17, '64.

Ball, Henry F., 4th Cavalry. (See Lancaster.)

Ball, James, 3d H. Artillery, F; 26; Sept. 16, '63; discharged for disability May 8, '65.

Bannon, Patrick, 53d, I; 32; Oct. 18, '62; discharged for disability June 29, '63.

Barnes, James F., 3d Cavalry, B; 27; Jan. 5, '64; mustered out Sept. 28, '65.

Barnes, Warren P., 22d, in band; 31; Oct. 5, '61; discharged Aug. 11, '62; re-enlisted in band of Corps D'Afrique.

Bartlett, Anson B., 2d, D; 18; May 25, '61; corporal; transferred to U. S. A. April 2, '63.

Bartlett, Ezra K., 60th (one hundred days), F; 19; July 20, '64; died at Indianapolis Oct. 10, '64.

Batterson, Zadoc C., 15th, C; 26; Dec. 14, '61; killed at Antietam Sept. 17, '62.

Belcher, Thomas W., 53d, I; 36; Oct. 18, '62; wounded at Port Hudson; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Bell, John, 34th, A; 32; July 13, '62; wounded at Lynchburg June 18, '64; mustered out June 16, '65.

Bemis, Daniel H., 36th, G; 30; August 8, '62; discharged for disability Nov. 9, '63.

Benson, Edward W., 15th, C; 25; July 12, '61; corporal; sergeant; died in Clinton Aug. 3, '62.

Bonney, James A., 15th, C; 25; July 12, '61; prisoner at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; killed at Spottsylvania May 31, '64.

Bowers, Francis A., 25th, C; 18; Oct. 9, '61; lost right arm at Hill's Point, N. C., and discharged for wound Oct. 13, '63.

Bowers, Henry W., 60th (one hundred days), F; 19; July 20, '64, to Nov. 30, '64.

Bowman, Samuel M., 51st, A; 25; Sept. 25, '62; sergeant; mustered out July 27, '63; re-enlisted in 57th Dec. 26, '63; 1st lieut.; wounded by shell at Petersburg, and died July 26, '64; credited to Worcester.

Bowman, Henry, 15th, C; 26; Aug. 1, '61; captain; prisoner at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; major 34th Aug. 6, '62; declined; colonel 36th Aug. 22, '62; resigned July 27, '63; appointed a.-q.m. U. S. Vols. Feb. 29, '64; mustered out brevet-major Aug. 15, '66.

Boyce, James; record not found.

Boynton, Alonzo P., 36th, G; 40; Aug. 11, '62; corporal; discharged for disability Oct. 28, '63.

Brigham, John D., 15th, C; 27; July 12, '61; corp.; sergeant; wounded and prisoner at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; discharged for disability Dec. 10, '62.

Brigham, Samuel D., 15th, C; 40; July 12, '61; discharged for disability Jan. 24, '63.

Brockleman, Bernard, 25th, G; 38; July 29, '62; wounded at Petersburg, in leg, June 15, '64; mustered out Oct 20, '64.

Brockleman, Christopher, 53d, I; 36; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Brooks, Charles R., 7th N. H., K; Dec. 19, '61; died at New Boston, N. H., Jan. 25, '62.

Brothers, Hippolyte P., 1st, in band; 26; May 25, '61; discharged July 27, '62; re-enlisted in 47th, E, Nov. 6, '62; mustered out Sept. 1, '63; re-enlisted Jan. 4, '64.

Brown, Herbert J., 4th Cavalry, C; 19; Jan. 6, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Bryson, William, 34th, A; 35; July 31, '62; mustered out June 16, '65.

Bugle, George M., 2d H. Artillery, C; 21; Aug. 4, '63; discharged for disability May 29, '65.

Burdett, Thomas E., 20th, D; 22; Sept. 4, '61; mustered out Sept. 14, '64.

Burditt, Charles C., 53d, I; 18; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Burgess, James F., 15th, C; 26; July 12, '61; corporal; discharged for disability Jan. 7, '63.

Burgess, John R., 2d N. J., in band; 33; May 22, '61, to Aug. 9, '62; re-enlisted in 46th, B, Oct. 22, '62, to July 29, '63; re-enlisted in 27th, B, Oct. 29, '63; captured May 15, '64, at Drewry's Bluff; prisoner at Andersonville; died two days after exchanged at Annapolis, Md., April 21, '65; credited to Holyoke.

Burgess, Thomas H., 15th, C; 21; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62, and discharged for wound Nov. 15, '62.

Burke, Patrick, 21st, E; 22; Aug. 23, '61; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64; died of wounds May 4, '64.

Burns, Matthew, 10th Illinois Cavalry, D; Nov. 25, '61; sergeant; killed at Richmond, La., June 15, '62.

Burns, Martin F., 36th, G; 25; Aug. 20, '62.

Burns, Thomas J., 34th, B; 19; Aug. 1, '62; died June 10, '64, at Piedmont, Va., of wounds.

Burt, John, 99th Penna.; 41; July 26, '61; discharged May, '62.

Buss, Elisha G., 15th, C; 26; July 12, '61; 1st sergt.; 2d lieut., Nov. 14, '62; 1st lieut. March 15, '63; wounded at Gettysburg and died of wound, Clinton, July 23, '63.

Callaghan, Thomas, 3d Cavalry, H; 36; Jan. 5, '64; mustered out May 26, '65.

Cameron, Angus, 83d N. Y, F; May 27, '61; 2d lieut.; 1st lieut.; captain Jan. 27, '62; discharged for disability April 23, '63.

Carruth, John E., 15th, C; 19; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; discharged for disability March 11, '63; re-enlisted in 2d H. Artillery, M, Dec. 28, '63; mustered out Sept. 3, '65.

Carter, Alpheus H., 53d, I; 27; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Carter, Charles W., 53d, I; 19; Oct. 30, '62; drummer; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Caulfield, Thomas, 15th, C; 24; July 12, '61; prisoner at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; enlisted again, in artillery.

Chambers, Hiram A., 15th, C; 19; July 12, '61; killed at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; credited to Worcester.

Champney, Samuel G., 25th, D; 19; Aug. 7, '62; died in N. Y. of yellow fever Oct. 10, '64; credited to Grafton.

Cheney, Gilbert A., 2d, D; 23; May 25, '61; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, and died of wounds Oct. 18, '62; credited to Newton.

Chenery, Frank A., 36th, G; 23; Aug. 11, '62; killed at Cold Harbor June 3, '64.

Chenery, James P., 15th, I; 19; July 12, '61; corporal; prisoner at Ball's Bluff; killed at Gettysburg July 3, '63.

Childs, Abraham, 27th, I; 28; Sept. 20, '61, as from Palmer; re-enlisted Dec. 24, '63; promoted 2d lieut. May 15, '65, as of Clinton.

Chipman, Edward S., 4th Cavalry, C; 39; Jan. 6, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Clark, Thomas, 22d, G; 27; Sept. 12, '61; discharged for disability Nov. 16, '62.

Clifford, James, 15th, E; 20; March 21, '64; prisoner at Petersburg; transferred to 20th, E, July 27, '64; mustered out June 30, '65.

Cohen, William, 21st, B; 19; Aug. 23, 61; wounded in Wilderness; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64; transferred to 36th, I; Aug. 30, '64; to 56th, B, June 8, '65; mustered out, corporal, July 12, '65.

Cook, Willis A., 15th, C; 32; July 12, '61; sergeant; prisoner at Ball's Bluff; discharged for disability April 12, '62.

Coning, Isaac P., 15th, C; 24; Aug. 12, '62; wounded at Antietam; discharged for disability March 19, '63; credited to West Cambridge.

Conway, Francis, 4th Cavalry, C; 41; Jan. 6, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Converse, William W., 4th Cavalry, H; 27; Feb. 18, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Cooper, Rufus K., 15th, C; 23; July 12, '61; prisoner at Ball's Bluff; wounded at Gettysburg July 2, '63; mustered out July 28, '64.

Corcoran, William, 15th, F; 40; July 12, '61; discharged for disability Feb. 15, '62.

Coulter, John T., 25th, A; 19; May 9, '62; wounded at Drewry's Bluff May 16, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Coulter, William J., 15th, C; 20; July 12, '61; corporal; sergeant; 1st lieut. Nov. 21, '63; prisoner at Petersburg; transferred to 20th July 28, '64; mustered out March 12, '65.

Coyle, Patrick, 53d, I; 33; Oct. 18, '62; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Craig, John W., 25th, C; 19; Sept. 30, '61; discharged for disability March 12, '63.

Craig, William H., 7th U. S., I; 22.

Craig, Edward C., 2d N. H.; wounded at Antietam; discharged and enlisted in V. R. C.

Creelman, Matthew, 15th; 21; July 12, '61.

Cromett, Hiram A., 1st Cavalry, C; 35; Sept. 17, '61; corporal; re-enlisted Jan. 1, '64; mustered out June 29, '65.

Crossman, Willis A., 60th (one hundred days), F; 27; July 20, '64, to Nov. 30, '64.

Cushing, John E., 60th (one hundred days), F; 18; July 20, '64, to Nov. 30, '64.

Cushing, Charles C.; served in U. S. Navy.

Cutler, Charles B., 34th; 25; Aug. 11, '62; sergt.-major; 2d lieut. March 18, '64; 1st lieut. May 1, '65; mustered out June 16, '65; credited to Worcester.

Cutting, Orin L., 15th, C; 29; July 12, '61; discharged for disability Oct. 28, '62.

Daboll, Briggs M., 15th, C; 29; July 12, '61; corporal; wounded at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; discharged for disability May 1, '62.

Davidson, Alonzo S., 36th, G; 22; Aug. 11, '62; sergt.; sergt.-major Oct. 15, '63; 2d lieut. Aug. 2, '63; 1st. lieut. April 23, '64; capt. June 23, '64; mustered out June 8, '65.

Davidson, Henry L., 15th, C; 24; July 12, '61; re-enlisted Feb. 13, '64; transferred to 20th, E, July 27, '64; mustered out July 16, '65; credited to Sterling.

Davidson, Lucius D., 36th, G; 18; Dec. 26, '63; died March 28, '64, at Covington, Ky.; credited to Sterling.

Davidson, Charles M.; in q.m.'s department; died at Nashville Nov. 22, '64; name on soldiers' monument, but he was not enlisted.

Davenport, Benjamin, 3d Cavalry, B; 25; Jan. 5, '64; killed Sept. 19 '64, at Winchester.

Davis, Frank L., 24th N. Y. Cavalry? died March 11, '55; record not found.

Delany, John, 21st, B; 25; Aug. 23, '61, for Webster; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64, for Clinton.

Dexter, Trustam D., 15th, C; 27; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam; mustered out June 28, '64.

Dickson, Joseph S., 15th, C; 31; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam, and discharged for wound Dec. 16, '62.

Dickson, Patrick J., 21st, B; 22; Aug. 23, '61; wounded at Roanoke Island and at New Berne; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64; trans. to 36th, I, Aug. 30, '64; to 56th, A, June 8, '65; mustered out July 12, '65.

Diersch, William, 20th, C; 41; July 18, '61; killed July 4, '62, at Harrison's Landing by accident.

Dixon, Edward, 60th (one hundred days), F; 18; July 20, '64, to Nov. 30, '64.

Donovan, John, 30th, A; 21; Oct. 1, '61; died at Baton Rouge, La., Oct. 12, '63.

Dorrison, Oscar A., 36th, G; 20; Aug. 12, '62; discharged for disability Dec. 23, '64.

Duncan, Charles, 9th, C; 28; June 11, '61; killed at Malvern Hill July 1, '62.

Eaton, William O., 23d, H; 23; Dec. 4, '61; discharged for disability Aug. 14, '63.

Eccles, Roger, 36th, F; 39; Aug. 6, '62; prisoner Oct. 2, '64, near Petersburg; died Nov. 29, '64, at Salisbury, N. C.

Eccles, William, 15th, C; 22; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; died Jan. 4, '63.

Edgerly, Heman O., 15th, C; 22; July 12, '61; prisoner at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; re-enlisted in 4th N. H.? wounded at Petersburg and died '64.

Edeman, Bernard J., 53d, I; 18; Oct. 18, '62, to Sept. 2, '63; re-enlisted in 2d H. Artillery, M, Dec. 24, '63; mustered out Sept. 3, '65.

Ehlert, Ferdinand, 25th, G; 35; Oct. 2, '61; discharged for disability March 4, '63.

Ellam, John, 5th Maine, C; 40; April 9, '62, to Sept. 2, '62.

Fay, John, 36th, G; 22; Aug. 14, '62; mustered out June 8, '65.

Field, Lucius, 36th, G; 22; Aug. 18, '62; com.-sergt. Oct. 15, '62; q.m.-sergt. May 25, '63; 2d lieut. Nov. 1, '64; 1st lieut. Nov. 13, '64; a.-q.m.; mustered out June 8, '65, as 2d lieut.

Finnessy, James, 42d N. Y. (See Lancaster.)

Fisher, Abiel, 36th, G; 18; Aug. 18, '62; corporal; wounded near Petersburg June 22, '64; discharged for disability Dec. 23, '64.

Fitts, William E., 34th, C; 25; July 13, '62; corporal; died May 14, '65, at Sterling; credited to Sterling.

Flagg, Frederick E., 36th, G; 18; Aug. 8, '62; prisoner near Knoxville, Tenn., Dec. 15, '63; died at Belle Isle, Va., March, '64.

Flagg, Frederick, 36th, G; 40; Aug. 8, '62; corporal; sergeant; discharged for disability Dec. 23, '64.

Flagg, William E., 14th Conn., B; March 29, '64; transferred to 2d Conn. H. Art., May 31, '65; mustered out Aug. 18, '65.

Frazer, Charles, 15th, C; 23; July 12, '61; sergt.; 2d lieut. Aug. 6, '62; declined; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62.

Frazer, John, 15th, C; 31; July 12, '61; killed at Antietam Sept. 17, 1862.

Freeman, John W., navy; 38; Feb. 27, '63; seaman on ship "Mercidita;" wounded in leg off Wilmington, N. C., Nov. 7, '63, and discharged for wound Feb. 1, '64.

Freeman, Joshua, 15th, C; 40; July 12, '61; sergt.; 2d lieut. March 19, '63; 1st lieut. Sept. 20, '63; mustered out July 29, '64.

Freeman, William T., 53d, I; 33; Oct. 18, '62; 1st sergt.; 2d lieut. March 19, '63; resigned March 26, '63.

Fuller, Edward M., 34th, F. (See Lancaster.)

Fuller, Alden, 15th, C; 29; July 12, '61; sergeant; prisoner at Ball's Bluff; discharged for disability March 19, '63.

Fuller, Andrew L., 15th, C; 37; Aug. 1, '61; 1st lieut.; resigned Oct 7, '61; died Sept. 10, '67.

Fuller, John, 53d, I; 28; Oct. 8, '62, to Sept. 2, '63,

Gallagher, Thomas, 34th, H; 34; Dec. 7, '63; transferred to 24th, A June 14, '65; mustered out Jan. 20, '66.

Gately, John, 3d Cavalry, H; 21; Jan. 5, '64; killed at Cedar Creek, Va., Sept. 19, '64.

Gately, Martin, 9th, K; 31; June 11, '61; discharged for disability Dec. 22, '62.

Gibbons, John, 4th Cavalry, C; 33; Jan. 6, '64; died July 15, '64, at Richmond, Va.

Gibbons, Patrick, 34th, B; 24; Dec. 7, '63; transferred to 24th, A, June 14, '65; mustered out Jan. 20, '66.

Gifford, Henry A., 36th, G; 41; Aug. 8, '62; mustered out June 8, '65.

Goddard, Artemas W., 4th Cavalry, C; 21; Jan. 6, '64; sergeant; chief bugler July 7, '65; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Gordon, John, 25th, E; 35; Sept. 25, '61; discharged for disability Aug. 1, '62, and died at home Sept. 6, '62.

Grady, Patrick, 4th Cavalry, C; 30; Jan. 6, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, 1865.

Grady, Thomas, 11th, B; 18; June 13, '61; mustered out June 24, '64.

Graichen, Bernard, 20th, C; 21; Aug. 29, '61.

Graichen, Edward, 25th, G; 26; July 29, '62; discharged for disability Aug. 28, '63.

Graichen, Frank, 15th, C; 28; Aug. 27, '61; wounded at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; discharged for disability May 2, '62; re-enlisted Dec. 24, '63, in 2d H. Artillery, M; mustered out Sept. 3, '65.

Graichen, Gustave, 15th, C; 22; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62, and discharged for wound Dec. 4, '62.

Green, Asa W., 19th, F; 22; Jan. 30, '62; wounded at Fredericksburg Dec. 13, '62; transferred to V. R. C. Sept. 26, '63; credited to Haverhill.

Green, Franklin W., 19th, F; 21; Jan. 25, '62; wounded June, '62, in leg, and discharged for disability Feb. 19, '63.

Greenwood, Henry, 15th, C; 25; prisoner at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; re-enlisted Feb. 29, '64; transferred to 20th July 27, '64, to Signal Corps; mustered out Aug. 16, '65.

Grumbacher, Moritz, 25th, G; 32; Oct. 17, '61; corporal; killed at Cold Harbor June 3, '64.

Hall, Augustus M., 21st, E; 22; discharged by G. C. M. Sept. 27, '62.

Hall, Joseph, 3d Cavalry, B; 20; Jan. 5, '64; died at Morganza Bend, La., June 19, '64.

Handley, John, 34th, B; 19; Aug. 1, '62; mustered out June 16, '65.

Hapgood, Charles H., 15th, C; 20; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; transferred to V. R. C. Feb. 15, '64.

Harrington, Edward F., 53d, K; 20; Oct. 17, '62, to Sept. 2, '63.

Harris, Charles B., 51st, C; 19; Sept. 25, '62; mustered out July 27, '63.

Hartwell, Charles H., 3d Cavalry, B; 32; Jan. 5, '64; discharged for disability Oct. 26, '64.

Hastings, Lyman H., 36th, G; 21; Aug. 6, '62; died at Falmouth, Va, Jan. 16, '63.

Hastings, William A., 36th, G; 20; Aug. 5, '62; corporal; mustered out June 8, '65.

Hayes, Edward K. (2d N. Y. Cavalry, A; 21?); record not found.

Hayes, Junius D., 15th, C; 24; Dec. 14, '61; discharged for disability Nov. 16, '62; drafted and paid commutation July, '63.

Head, James, 28th, G; 23; Dec. 30, '61; mustered out April, '65.

Healey, Martin, 3d Cavalry, H; 28; Jan. 5, '64; mustered out June 27, 1865.

Henry, Eben S., 22d, band; 27; Oct. 5, '61; discharged Feb. 21, '62, for disability.

Henry, George I., 15th, C; 20; July 12, '61; tranferred to V. R. C. Jan. 15, '64; mustered out July 14, '65.

Higgins, Timothy, 34th, B; 30; Aug. 1, '62; discharged for disability Jan. 16, '63; re-enlisted in 57th, A, Jan. 4, '64; wounded near Spottsylvania June, '64; transferred to V. R. C.; mustered out Feb. 25, '65.

Hoban, John, 7th N. H., A; Oct. 29, '61; wounded July 18, '63; re-enlisted Feb. 27, '64; died at Fortress Monroe Nov. 12, '64.

Hobbs, Charles P., 11th, B; 17; June 13, '61.

Hoffman, Charles, 53d, I; 32; Oct. 18, '62; wounded at Port Hudson; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Holbrook, Charles E., 15th, C; 19; July 12, '61; killed at Antietam Sept. 17, '62.

Holbrook, John W., 34th, A; 36; July 31, '62; killed April 6, '65.

Holden, Francis T., 3d Cavalry, B; Jan. 5, '64; 1st sergt.; mustered out Aug 10, '65.

Holder, William P., 53d, I; 44; Oct. 18; discharged Nov. 5, '62, for disability.

Hollihan, Michael, 21st, B; 27; transferred to 4th U. S. C. Oct. 25, '62.

Holman, Herman, 25th, G; 34; July 25, '62; lost leg before Petersburg June 25, '64; discharged June 17, '65.

Holman, Henry B., 15th, C; 19; July 12, '61; wounded twice at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; discharged Dec. 6, '62; killed by fall in Worcester Feb. 20, '64.

Holman, Joseph F., 15th, C; 20; July 12, '61; mustered out July 28, 1864.

Houghton, Augustine F.; 1st Cavalry, D; 38; Oct. 19, '61; mustered out Oct. 3, '64.

Houghton, Frank E., 15th, C; 18; July 12, '61; re-enlisted in Rickett's Battery, 1st Light Artillery, U. S. A.; killed at St. Mary's Church June 24, '64.

Houghton, Nathaniel T., 36th, I; 18, Aug. 8, '62; musician; mustered out June 8, '65.

Houghton, Warren, 3d H. Artillery, E; 32; Aug. 27, '63; mustered out April 6, '65.

Howard, Franklin, 1st Cavalry, C; 43; Sept. 23, '61; discharged Feb. 17, '63, for disability.

Howard George O., 3d Cavalry, B; 18; Jan. 5, '64; wounded in shoulder at Cedar Creek, Va., Sept. 19, '64; discharged for disability July 5, 1865.

Howard, James O., 15th, C; 19; prisoner at Ball's Bluff; re-enlisted in Rickett's Battery, 1st Light Artillery, U. S. A.; mustered out June 24, '64.

Howarth, James, 21st, B; 27; Aug. 23, '61; mustered out Aug. 30, '64; credited to Springfield.

Howe, Charles H., 36th, I; 18; Aug. 15, '62; prisoner near Rutledge, Tenn., Dec. 15, '63, and died at Andersonville, Ga., Aug. 27, '64.

Hubbard, George, 21st, B; 22; Aug. 23, '61; discharged Sept. 14, '61, for disability.

Hunt, Andrew J., 15th, C; 28; July 12, '61; trans. Aug. 8, '61, to Western gunboat flotilla; mustered out Aug. 6, '64.

Hunt, George W., 15th, C; 18; July 12, '61; discharged for disability Dec. 4, '63.

Hurley, G. Thomas, Jr., 61st, I; 18; Jan. 23, '65; mustered out July 16, '65.

Jameson, Calvin, 21st, E; 33; Aug. 23, '62; discharged for disability March 16, '63.

Jaquith, Amos S., 15th, C; July 12, '61; prisoner at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; mustered out July 29, '64.

Jefts, Albert N., 15th, C; 20; July 12, '61; enlisted Nov. 12, '62, in U. S. A.

Jewett, George H., 36th, G; 24; Aug. 14, '62; discharged for disability Feb. 28, '63; drafted in Worcester July 11, '63, and served in 2d Co. Sharpshooters until July 3, '64.

Kelly, John, 2d Conn., A; 26; May 7, '61; discharged Aug. 7, '61.

Kenney, Thomas, 53d, I; 18; Oct. 18, '62, to Sept. 2, '63; re-enlisted Feb. 10, '64, in 21st, B; transferred to 36th, I, and 56th, A, June 8, '65; mustered out July 12, '65.

Kidder, William H., 53d, I; 23; Oct. 18, '62.

King, Robert, 3d Cavalry, B; 45; Jan. 5, '64; corporal; wounded at Cedar Creek, Va., Sept. 18, '64; mustered out Sept. 28, '65.

King, W. Robert, 3d H. Artillery, E; 19; Aug. 13, '63; sergeant; mustered out Sept. 18, '65.

Kirchner, John, 15th, C; 31; July 12, '61; probably drowned at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61.

Klein, Edward, 25th, G; 25; Oct. 7, '61; wounded at Port Walthall, Va., May 6, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Klein, William F., 25th, G; 30; Oct. 7, '61; died Nov. 3, '62, at New Berne, N. C.

Kluessner, Herman, 25th, G; 28; Oct. 4, '61; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Koehler, Carl, 25th, G; 38; Oct. 3, '61; re-enlisted Jan. 19, '64; wounded at Port Walthall, Va, May 6, '64; mustered out July 13, '65.

Kohnle, Frederick, 25th, G; 22; Oct. 8, '61; corporal; killed at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64.

Lakin, David, Navy; 26; seaman on "Schackahan" Aug. 61; master's mate; a non resident.

Lammlein, Carl, 53d, I; 40; Oct. 18, '62, to Sept. 2, '63.

Larkin, Alfred G., 4th Cavalry, C; 21; Jan. 6, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Lawrence, Sewell T., 23d, H; 31; Oct. 5, '61; discharged for disability Aug. 11, '62.

Laythe, Gilman W., 15th, C; 23; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; discharged for disability March 6, '63.

Laythe, Oren A., 15th, G; 25; Aug. 12, '62; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; discharged for disability March 14, '63.

Leopold, Wolfgang, 25th, G; 29; Sept. 16, '61; sergeant; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Lewis, Benjamin, 5th Cavalry, C; 25; May 16, '64.

Lindhart, Christian, 25th, G; 31; Oct. 7, '61; wounded at Roanoke Island Feb. 8, '62; discharged for disability March 15, '63.

Linenkemper, Henry, 25th, G; 27; July 29, '62; wounded at Petersburg, Va., July 12, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Lord, Alexander, 15th, C; 27; Aug. 12, '62; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62, and prisoner; killed at Gettysburg July 2, '63; credited to Hinsdale.

Lovell, Francis, 3d Cavalry, B; 24; Jan. 5, '64; died a prisoner at Salisbury, N. C., Feb. 21, '65.

Lowe, Theodore E., 15th, C; 21; July 12, '61; transferred to V. R. C. Jan. 15, '64.

Lowrie, William, 2d H. Artillery, M; 18; Dec. 24, '63; mustered out Sept. 3, '65.

Lyle, Alexander, 15th, C; 29; July 12, '61; wounded at Fair Oaks, Va., May 31, '62; discharged for disability Sept. 18, '62.

Madden, John, 42d N. Y.; record not found.

Madden, Thomas, 42d N. Y.? record not found.

Mahar, Dennis, 21st, B; 21; Aug. 23, '61; discharged for disability Jan. 16, '63; claimed by Lancaster.

Makepeace, Hiram, 15th, C; 39; July 12, '61; discharged for disability July 31, '62.

Maley, John, Navy; 25; May 23, '61, on "Wabash."

Malley, Edward, 15th, C; 20; July 12, '61; drummer; mustered out July 28, '64.

Maloney, Patrick, 21st, B; 28; Aug. 23, '61; wounded at Chantilly; transferred to V. R. C. May 10, '63; re-enlisted Jan. 5, '65.

Maloy, Edward, 24th, C; 24; Sept. 7, '61; re-enlisted Jan. 4, '64; died at home April 19, '64.

Maloy, Patrick, 34th, B; 18; Aug. 1, '62; mustered out June 16, '65.

Maloy, Thomas, 21st, E; 24; Aug. 23, '61; discharged for disability Feb. 3, '63; re-enlisted in 34th, B, Dec. 16, '63; transferred to 24th, A, June 14, '65; mustered out Jan. 20, '66.

Marshall, James, 26th, C; 25; Oct. 2, '61.

Martin, Michael, 36th, G; 25; Aug. 6, '61; mustered out June 8, '65.

Matthews, Josephus, representative for C. L. Swan; 14th U. S. Colored Troops; Nov. 22, '64.

Mattoon, Chauncey, B., 15th, band; 22; July 12, '61; discharged Aug. 8, '62.

Maynard, Waldo B., 15th, C; 23; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62 and died of wound Oct. 2, '62; credited to Northborough.

McGee, Patrick, 36th, G; 36; Aug. 13, '61; discharged for disability Feb. 13, '63.

McGrath, Henry, 36th, G; 25; Aug. 13, '61; died at Crab Orchard, Ky., Oct. 10, '63.

McNabb, John, Navy; 19; Aug. 15, '62; on "Juniata," "Sonoma" and "Sabine;" discharged July 27, '63, having volunteered for pursuit of "Tacony."

McNamara, Michael J., 9th, C; 18; June 11, '61; discharged for disability Jan. 16, '63.

McNulty, James, 3d Battalion Riflemen, C; 23; May 19, '61, to Aug. 3, '61.

McRobie, John, 21st, B; 32; Aug. 23, '61; lost right arm at Chantilly Sept. 6, '62, and discharged Nov, 14, '62.

Meehan, Patrick, 21st, B; 22; Aug. 23, '61; wounded at Chantilly and Spottsylvania; mustered out Aug. 30, '64.

Messier, Enos 34th, H; 27; Dec. 11, '63; prisoner in retreat from Lynchburg, and died at Andersonville Sept. 23, '64.

Miller, August, 25th, G; 40; Oct. 3, '61; discharged for disability May 12, '64.

Miner, Joseph E., 15th, C; 26; Aug. 12, '62; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; mustered out July 29, '64; credited to Boston.

Miner, Dwight, 36th, G; 18; Aug. 1, '62; transferred to V. R. C. March 19, '64.

Moelter, Henry, 25th, G; 29; Oct. 1, '61; discharged for disability May 2, '62.

Moore, Charles W., 53d, I; 32; Oct. 18, '62; corporal; sergeant; wounded at Port Hudson June 14, '63; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Morgan, James A., 36th, G; 20; Aug. 14, '62; served at division headquarters; mustered out June 8, '65.

Morgan, Paul C., 2d N. H., E; 18; Sept. 2, '61; lost right arm at Bull Run Aug. 29, '62, and discharged Nov 10, '62; re-enlisted in V. R. C. July 14, '63; mustered out Jan. 22, '64.

Moulton, Charles H., 21st, E; 18; Aug. 23, '61.

Muir, George, 15th, C; 21; July 12, '61; served in 13th N. Y. Cavalry, B, April 13, '63; transferred to V. R. C.

Müller, Franz, 25th, G; 27; Sept. 25, '61; killed at Arrowfield Church, May 9, '64.

Müller, Valentine, 25th, G; 40; Oct. 1, '61; discharged for disability May 31, '63.

Needham, James A., 34th, B; 19; Aug. 1, '62; corporal; wounded at Piedmont, Va, June 5, '64, and near Strasburg, Va, Oct. 13, '64; prisoner and escaped; discharged for disability April 17, '65.

Nicholas, George S., 4th Cavalry, G; 39; Jan. 27, '64; mustered out Nov. 14, '65.

Ogden, Thomas, 53d, I; 40; Oct. 18, '62, to Sept. 2, '63.

Olcott, Hervey B., 15th, C; 29; Dec. 14, '61; wounded at Antietam and Gettysburg; transferred to V. R. C. March 15, '64; mustered out Dec. 13, '64; died at Springfield Feb. 27, '65.

Olcott, Hiram W., 36th, G; 21; Aug. 3, '62; corporal; sergeant; wounded near Petersburg; 1st lieut. July 7, '64; discharged for wounds Dec. 23, '64, as sergeant.

Orne, David J., 2d, D; 23; May 25, '61; mustered out May 28, '64.

Orr, Robert, 53d, I; 27; Oct. 18, '62; wounded at Port Hudson; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Orr, William, Jr., 53d, I; 25; Oct. 18, '62; sergeant; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Osgood, George F., 15th, C; 22; Aug. 12, '62; wounded and prisoner at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; killed at Gettysburg July 2, '63.

Osgood, Otis S., 15th, C; 22; July 12, '61; wounded in arm at Antietam Sept. 17, '62, and discharged therefor Jan. 10, '63.

O'Toole, Michael, 9th, C; 21; June 11, '61; mustered out June 21, '64.

Owens, Patrick, 53d, I; 39; Oct. 18, '62; wounded at Port Hudson; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Palmer, Edward, 36th, G; 19; Aug. 6, '62; mustered out June 28, '65.

Palmer, George W., 2d H. Artillery, M; 19; Dec. 24, '63; mustered out June 21, '65.

Patrick, George Henry. (See Lancaster soldiers.)

Pease, Henry C., 26th, E; 18; Oct. 6, '61; transferred to 4th La. as 2d lieut. Sept. 28, '62.

Perry, George W., 36th, G; 40; Aug. 10, '62; corporal; died at Warrenton, Va., Nov. 13, '62.

Pinder, Calvin, 21st, G; 33; Aug. 23, '61; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64; transferred to 36th, K, Aug. 30, '64; to 56th, H, June 8, '65; mustered out July 12, '65; belonged to Ashburnham, but second term of service credited to Clinton.

Pratt, George, 34th, G; 18; Jan. 4, '64; transferred to 24th, G, June 14, '65; mustered out Jan. 20, '66.

Pratt, Nelson L. A., 15th, H; 21; Aug. 7, '61; discharged Oct. 24, '63.

Pratt, Orin, 53d, I; 18; Oct. 18, '62, to Sept. 2, '63; re-enlisted in 34th, B, Dec. 11, '63; transferred to 24th, A, June 14, '65; mustered out Jan. 20, '66.

Putnam, George T. D., 15th, C; 21; Dec. 14, '61; discharged for disability Dec. 17, '62.

Putnam, Henry A., 15th, C; 24; July 12, '61; corporal; prisoner at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; enlisted in Rickett's Battery, U. S. Light Artillery, Nov. 12, '62; mustered out July 12, '64.

Quinn, John, 21st, B; 22; Aug. 23, '61; wounded at Bull Run Aug. 30, '62; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64; wounded June 3, '64, at Bethesda Church, and died June 9, '64.

Rauscher, George, 25th, G; 29; July 25, '62; wounded at Arrowfield Church May 9, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Reid, Thomas W., 53d, I; 19; Oct. 18, '62; wounded at Port Hudson May 27 and June 14, '63; mustered out Sept. 2, '63; died June, '65.

Reidle, Albin, 25th, G; 26; Oct. 3, '61; discharged for disability March 18, '63.

Reischer, Philip, 25th, G; 35; Oct. 1, '61; sergeant; wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Renner, Charles R., 21st, F; 19; Aug. 19, '61; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64; sergeant July 1, '64; wounded at Petersburg, Va., July 30, '64, and died Aug. 22, '64.

Roberts, Thomas, 53d, I; 28; Oct. 18, '62; killed at Port Hudson June 14, '63.

Robinson, Henry S., 36th, G; 31; Aug. 22, '62; 2d lieut.; Jan. 30, '63, 1st lieut.; wounded in head at Blue Springs, Tenn., Oct. 10, '63; discharged for disability July 7, '64; served later in navy.

Ryder, Charles G., 15th, C; 28; Aug. 12, '62; corporal; prisoner at Cold Harbor, Va.; mustered out May 17, '65.

Sargent, George E, 2d H. Artillery, M; 18; Dec. 24, '63; discharged for disability May 26, '65.

Sargent, Henry B., 15th, C; 16 ; July 12, '61; discharged for disability Feb. 11, '63; re-enlisted in 2d H. Artillery, M, Dec. 24, '63; mustered out Sept. 3, '65.

Sargent, Renzo B., 2d H. Artillery; Aug. 17, '64; transferred to 17th, G, Jan. 16, '65, as of Boston; mustered out July 11, '65.

Sawyer, George E., 25th, A; 23; May 7, '62; re-enlisted Feb. 25, '64; mustered out July 13, '65.

Sawyer, George E., 60th, F; 20; July 20, '64, to Nov. 30, '64.

Sawyer, Jonathan, 23d, H; 42; Dec. 4, '61; wagoner; discharged for disability May 9, '62; died at Clinton May 29, '62.

Schleiter, Darius, 31st, H; 33; Jan. 21, '62; re-enlisted Feb. 17, '64; mustered out in D Sept. 9, '65.

Schusser, Joseph, 25th, G; 40; Sept. 16, '61; prisoner at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64; died at Richmond, Va., Aug. 16, '64.

Schwam, Ferdinand, 25th, G; 35; Oct. 7, '61; wounded at Roanoke Island Feb. 8, '62; discharged for disability Jan. 16, '63.

Shaw, John, 7th, A; 39; June 15, '61; discharged for disability July 20, '62; credited to Somerset.

Shaw, John, Jr., 7th, A; 18; June 15, '61.

Sibley, John, Navy; 25; Aug. 19, '62, on steam sloop "Juniata;" discharged Dec. 4, '63.

Smith, Augustus E., 5th, I, 18; Sept. 16, '62, to July 2, '63; re-enlisted in 2d H. Artillery, M, Dec. 24, '63; mustered out Sept. 3, '65.

Smith, Alfred, 15th, C; 27; Aug. 7, '62; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62; re-enlisted Feb. 19, '64; transferred to 20th, E, July 27, '64; mustered out July 16, '65.

Smith, Francis E., 15th, C; 18; July 12, '61; died at David's Island, N. Y., July 23, '62.

Smith, George W., 2d H. Artillery, M; 19; Dec. 24, '63; mustered out Sept. 3, '65.

Smith, James, 36th, F; 34; Aug. 7, '62; corporal; wounded at Jackson, Miss., July 11, '63; mustered out June 8, '65.

Smith, John, 15th, C; 27; July 12, '61; prisoner at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; wounded at Gettysburg; transferred to V. R. C Jan. 14, '64; mustered out July 28, '64; re enlisted and died at Rainsford Island, Boston.

Speisser, Christian, 20th, H; 33; Aug. 24, '61; transferred to V. R. C. Aug. 19, '63; credited to Lawrence.

Speisser, Gottfried C., 20th, C; 35; Sept. 4, '61; died on steamer "Commodore" Sept. 18, '62.

Speisser, Gottfried, 25th, G; 28; Sept. 25, '61; wounded at Petersburg, Va., June 18, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Spencer, Jonas H., 15th, F; 18; July 12, '61; discharged Nov. 20, '62 to enlist in U. S. A.

Stauss, Lewis, 53d, I; 28; Oct. 18, '62.

Stearns, Amos E., 25th, A; 28; Sept. 11, '61; missing since May 16, '64; credited to Worcester.

Stearns, George F., 25th, A; 22; Sept. 16, '61; wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 3, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Stewart, Luther E., 21st, G; 19; Aug. 23, '61; wounded at Antietam. Sept. 17, '62; re-enlisted Jan. 2, '64; wounded at Cold Harbor, Va., June 2, '64, leg amputated and discharged Oct. 16, '65.

Stone, Louis L., 60th, F; 19; July 20, '64, to Nov. 30, '64.

Suss, Michael, 25th, G; 28; Oct. 1, '61; killed at Petersburg, Va., June 18, '64.

Thurman, Charles, 34th, D; 20; July 3, '62; musician; mustered out June 16, '65.

Thurman, Charles H., 53d, I; 42; Oct. 18, '62; killed at Fort Brisland, La., April 13, '63.

Toole, Austin, 22d, G; 21; Sept. 12, '61; transferred to V. R. C Sept. 30, '63.

Towsley, Leonard M., 15th, C; 27; July 12, '61; wounded at Antietam Sept. 17, '62, and died Sept. 27, '62.

Tracy, John, 21st, B; 21; Aug. 23, '61; wounded near Petersburg; died at Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 31, '65.

Turner, Horatio E., 34th. (See Lancaster.)

Vetter, George, 25th, G; 20; Sept. 16, '61; wounded at Roanoke Island Feb. 8, '62; died at New Berne July 9, '62.

Vint, Joseph A., 53d, I; 18; Oct. 18, '62; drummer; mustered out Sept. 2, '63.

Vose, Josiah H., 53d, I; 32; Oct. 18, '62, 2d lieut.; 1st lieut. Dec. 15, '62; wounded at Port Hudson June 14, '63, and died at Springfield Landing, La., June 17, '63.

Walker, William, 15th, C; 28; July 12, '61; killed or drowned at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61.

Wallace. David O, 15th, C; 19; July 12, '61; corporal; sergeant; wounded and prisoner at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; prisoner at Petersburg; transferred to 20th, G, July 27, '64; died at Florence, S. C., Feb. 4, '65, a prisoner.

Ward, James H., 4th Cavalry, C; 45; Jan. 6, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '65.

Waters, Horace H., 60th, F; 22; July 20 to Nov. 30, '64.

Waters, John A., 53d, I; 37; Oct. 18, '62, to Sept. 2, '63.

Waters, William G., 15th; 23; July 24, '61; commissary sergeant; 1st lieut. Oct. 27, '62; discharged for disability March 14, '63.

Weisser, Frederick, 25th, G; 34; Sept. 25, '61; corporal; wounded at Port Walthall, Va., May 6, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Wellington, Levi, 4th Cavalry, F; 27; Jan. 6, '64; mustered out June 1, '65.

Welsh, Michael, 3d H. Artillery, F; 18; Sept. 16, '63; mustered out Sept. 18, '65.

Wenning, Frederick, 25th, G; 45; Oct. 3, '61; wounded at Petersburg June 15, '64; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Wheeler, John C., 22d, band; 28; Oct. 5, '61; mustered out Aug. 11, '62.

Wheelock, William R., 15th, C; 39; July 12, '61; sergeant; 1st lieut. Oct. 10, '62; capt. July 5, '63; mustered out July 29, '64.

White, Daniel A., 25th, band; 25; Oct. 3, '61; mustered out Aug. 30, '62.

Whitney, Horace, Jr., 53d, K; 20; Oct. 28, '62; discharged by order of court Dec., '62.

Wiesman, Bernard, 25th, G; 29; July 8, '62; discharged for disability March 1, '63.

Wilder, Sanford B., 2d H. Artillery, M. (See Lancaster.)

Winter, Christian, 25th, G; 35; Oct. 1, '61; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Wood, John, 60th, F; 20; July 20 to Nov. 30, '64.

Wright, Archibald D., 15th, C; 18; July 12, '61; sergeant; wounded twice at Ball's Bluff Oct. 21, '61; wounded at Gettysburg; prisoner at Wilderness May 6, '64; mustered out May 25, '65.

Wright, Daniel, 36th, F; 30; Aug. 6, '62, corporal; sergeant Oct. 1, '62; 2d lieut. Sept. 1, '63; 1st lieut. April 23, '64; wounded and prisoner at Wilderness; mustered out June 8, '65.

Zeigler, Heinrich, 25th, G; 42; July 25, '62; mustered out Oct. 20, '64.

Zimmerman, John, 53d, I; 37; Oct. 18, '62, to Sept. 2, '63.

In July, 1863, eighty-seven citizens of the town were drafted, of whom five served subsequently, five had previously served and the following paid commutation:

Atherton, Frederick A.	Greeley, Henry C.
Bartlett, Joseph F.	Hosmer, Samuel H.
Brown, John N. W.	Hayes, Junius D.
Butterick, William F.	Lowe, George W.
Cutting, George H.	Loring, Frank M.
Dawes, Alfred.	Marshall, Herman A.
Fuller, Sidney F.	Murphy, Cornelius.
Fuller, Eben S.	Weeks, George W.
Foster, John R.	Wilder, George C.

The remainder were exempted for special reasons.

CHAPTER XI.

CLINTON—(*Continued*).

Horatio Nelson Bigelow—Banks—Town-Hall—Bigelow Free Library—Soldiers' Monument—Annals of Manufacturing Corporations—The "Washout" of 1876—Franklin Forbes—Erastus B. Bigelow.

By what has been said on previous pages it clearly appears that the more important industries of Clinton were founded upon, and made possible by, the inventive genius of one man. But the town, if not its manufacturing interests, owes at least as great a debt of grateful remembrance to the older as to the more widely famous younger of the Bigelow brothers; and

Erastus B. Bigelow has feelingly recorded his great obligations to his elder brother for the vast amount of toil and care undertaken by him in building and carrying into operation successively great establishments based upon inventions before untried—for the ability and patience displayed by him in meeting exigencies constantly arising—and for perfecting numerous practical adaptations essential to successful manufacture. He frankly says: "For whatever success has attended the development of my inventions, I am indebted in no small degree to his fidelity, skill and perseverance."

In the building of the town the elder was the master-spirit, and his will, his judgment, his generosity ordered its foundations and influenced its early growth as no other man could. The results of his solicitude for the welfare of his townsmen continue to honor his name, and will long endure to proclaim his prescience and the wisdom of his benevolence.

In the prime of life and at the height of his usefulness Horatio Nelson Bigelow in 1864 was suddenly forced to yield to others the leadership he had so long held. Thoroughly conscientious and self-reliant, he had ever been unwilling to entrust to other agents any share of the duties which he felt to be his own; he had never spared himself. Nature, long and heavily overtaxed, at last revolted and compelled a total withdrawal from labor and business cares. A voyage across the ocean failed to repair the broken mental power, and after three years of invalidism he fell quietly asleep on Wednesday, the 2d day of January, 1868. At the time of his funeral, manufactories, banks and all places of business throughout the town were closed in token of respect for a public benefactor.

Mr. Bigelow was born at West Boylston, Mass., on the 13th of September, 1812. His father, Ephraim, the son of Abel, was a wheelwright and a chairmaker by trade, who also cultivated a small farm. The family lived in a very modest way, as became their moderate circumstances. His mother, Polly (Brigham) Bigelow, was a woman of marked character, unaffected piety and native dignity, who brought up her two sons to fear God and love the truth. The father died in 1837 at the age of forty-six, but the mother lived eighteen years in widowhood, most of the time with her eldest son, honestly proud of the esteem and honor which her children won from their fellow-men.

The boyhood of H. N. Bigelow was one of toil, and his schooldays were few—two terms at the Bradford Academy closing his educational opportunities. He therefore owed little to books, but derived valuable lessons from intelligent study of men, and early personal contest with adverse circumstances. In youth he worked upon the farm and in the neighboring mills, and at the age of twenty had so far mastered the ordinary details of cotton manufacture that in 1832, when his enterprising father started a small factory on the Nashua, he was installed as its overseer. September 24, 1834, he was married to Miss Emily Worcester, and about that time was employed as overseer in the Beaman mill. In 1836 he was called to Shirley to become general superintendent of a cotton-factory there. Thence, at the age of twenty-five, with scant capital and his moneyless but gifted brother as partner, he came to the idle water-power on South Meadow Brook to build a town. In all the positions he had held he had exhibited a restless diligence and confidence in himself, and had developed that exceptional administrative ability which proved invaluable in organizing the giant manufactories which he was called upon to construct and manage until success became assured.

During the anxious first years at Clintonville, when the load of responsibility thrown upon him in the establishment of several novel manufactures seemed too exacting of time and onerous for any one man to bear, he found abundant leisure to be solicitous about the well-being of the neighborhood in which he had cast his lot, and the future economy and comeliness of the bustling town, which, with prophetic vision, he foresaw, must, before many years, people the hill-slopes around. His energy hastened the forming of the first church society, and the building for its use of the little chapel in the grove near his residence. In his first manhood he had become a member of the Orthodox Congregational Church, and remained ever zealous in its behalf; but his sectarianism was free from bigotry, and he often gave efficient service and substantial aid to other religious organizations. He urged the erection of commodious school-houses, and a radical improvement of the local school system, liberally contributing land and money to aid in effecting the desired end, and when growing prosperity made it possible, he often persuaded his fellow-citizens, by his own munificent donations, to a more generous support of worthy public institutions and town improvements.

Like the majority of self-made men, so called, he had a vigorous individuality. He often acted upon impulse, and when confronted with unexpected or what he deemed unreasonable opposition he met it with resolute self-assertion. But he was easily placable and prompt to correct any injustice in his own act or speech. He was happy in his home and took great pleasure in its tasteful adornment, but he gave few hours to what men call recreation, and his chief enjoyment of life seemed to be in ceaseless mental and bodily activity. Despite the engrossing care incident to the agency of important corporations, he accepted various public trusts, the duties of which were never neglected. He was the first postmaster of the village, and represented the town at the General Court during the first two years of its corporate existence. He was the first president of the Savings Bank, vice-president of the First National Bank, and director in the Worcester and Nashua Railroad Company, the City Bank and the Mechanics' Mutual Insurance Company of Worcester.

Mrs. Bigelow has long outlived her husband, residing in the home he built in Clinton. Of four children born to her, two died before his decease. Her sons, Henry H. and Charles B. Bigelow, inherit their father's administrative talent, and succeeded him in due time as managing agents of the Bigelow Carpet Company.

The First National Bank of Clinton was chartered in April, 1864, with a capital of two hundred thousand dollars. Hon. Charles G. Stevens was chosen president, and C. L. S. Hammond, cashier, both of whom have been continued in office to the present day. The bank was at first located in a brick building on Union Street, but in 1881 and 1882 built the costly brick and marble block on the corner of High and Church Streets. It remained the only general banking institution in town until June 15, 1882, when the Lancaster National Bank transferred its office to rooms leased in Brimhall's Block, Hon. Henry C. Greeley being at the time president, and William H. McNeil cashier. In 1885 the latter secured control of a majority of the stock, elected certain friends of his directors, and placed himself in the presidency, probably in order the better to conceal from the stockholders irregularities in his methods of conducting the business of the bank. At the close of the year he fled to Canada, a defaulter, and the settlement of the bank's affairs was placed in the hand of John W. Corcoran, Esq., as receiver. Its creditors have been paid seventy per cent. of their claims, but final settlement has been delayed awaiting the termination of certain lawsuits. The Clinton Co-operative Bank was incorporated in 1887. Daniel B. Ingalls is president, C. A. Woodruff, treasurer, and Walter R. Dame, solicitor.

For over seven years all town-meetings were held in the vestry of the Congregational Church. From November, 1858, the hall connected with the Clinton House was used by the town on public occasions. The erection of a special building for town use was a subject often discussed, and from 1866 began to arouse warm debates in annual town-meetings. In 1869 a committee was appointed to investigate available sites and consider plans. A location upon High Street was by many considered very desirable, and the lots now covered by Greeley's and the bank blocks were much talked of. That now occupied by the High School building was also advocated by many; but the more suitable ground upon Walnut and School Streets was fortunately chosen, purchased for four thousand dollars, and thereon the foundations of the present capacious and imposing town-hall were laid, in July, 1871.

The design adopted by the town was that of Alexander R. Esty, a Boston architect. The edifice is of brick, relieved by a free use of Nova Scotia stone in pilasters, beltings and other constructive and ornamental details. On the first floor are various rooms for town officers and Bigelow Hall, sixty feet wide by eighty feet in length. The public library-room is located at the rear of the hall, in a one-storied semi-circular apse of twenty-five feet radius, which has an entrance and vestibule of its own. The upper floor is occupied mainly by Clinton Hall, ninety-five feet by eighty, in which, including the gallery across the south end, about eighteen hundred persons can be seated. A large stage and retiring-rooms attached occupy the space at the rear of the hall. The interior finish of the whole building is of ash, and all the appointments for heating, lighting, etc., are of the best for their purposes.

The building was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies December 4, 1872, when addresses were given by Colonel T. W. Higginson and Hon. Charles G. Stevens. Franklin Forbes, as chairman of the building committee, made a brief speech in delivering the keys to the committee chosen by the town to have exclusive control and management of the building for three years, and George M. Morse, M.D., in response, gave a condensed history of the town from the time of Prescott's settlement on its soil. The building of this important structure added one hundred and ten thousand dollars to the town's indebtedness, bringing the total to one hundred and forty-six thousand. A funding scheme was adopted in October, 1871, which provided for the issuing of bonds to the amount of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, payable in twenty years from January 1, 1873, bearing six per cent. interest; six thousand five hundred dollars of the principal to be paid annually. These bonds were mostly sold at par. They were exempt from town taxation, and were issued in denominations of one hundred and five hundred dollars.

The Bigelow Free Public Library was opened December 6, 1873, Andrew E. Ford being the first librarian. It began its life of usefulness with four thousand four hundred and eight books upon its shelves, which had been donated by the Bigelow Library Association. This nucleus has grown in fourteen years to fourteen thousand one hundred and eighty-seven volumes, showing an average annual addition of about seven hundred volumes. The association's bequest was made conditional upon the yearly expenditure by the town of at least five hundred dollars for the purchase of books. The annual appropriation, from fifteen hundred dollars in 1874, has increased to twenty-three hundred in 1888, besides the amount received from the dog tax and sale of catalogues, usually about six hundred dollars additional. The circulation from eleven thousand eight hundred and forty-two in 1874, has grown to thirty-five thousand seven hundred and twenty-two in 1886–87. The management of the library is vested in six trustees, whose term of service is three years, two being elected annually. Miss Charlotte L. Greene is librarian, succeeding her sister, Miss Fannie M. Greene, in 1886. A catalogue was printed in 1887.

An appropriate monument to the memory of the fifty-eight Clinton men who died in the Union service during the Civil War was erected in the summer of

1875, the dedicatory services taking place August 28th. It stands in the southwest corner of the town-hall enclosure, and consists of an architectural base of Concord granite eleven feet in height, surmounted by a bronze figure of an infantry volunteer standing at rest, copying a design by M. J. Powers. The exercises of its dedication were a procession with music, the formal transfer of the memorial to the town by Franklin Forbes for the committee of construction, and patriotic addresses by Hon. Charles G. Stevens, John T. Dame, Esq., and the Reverends V. M. Simmons and W. S. Burton. The cost of the monument was about four thousand dollars, of which sum eight hundred and forty dollars was collected by the women of Clinton in various ways for such a memorial, and the remainder was paid from the town treasury.

During the closing year of the Civil War there began for the Lancaster Mills, as for most manufacturers, a period of great prosperity, during which extensive improvements and additions of buildings and machinery were made year by year. In 1867 the dam was entirely rebuilt, with an extreme length of one hundred and seventy feet, securing a fall of twenty-seven feet. At the same time the old breast-wheels were replaced by two turbines of three hundred and fifty horse-power each. In April, 1875, a branch of the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg, now a division of the Old Colony Railway was built to the mills, giving transportation facilities much needed. In 1877 Franklin Forbes, for twenty-eight years manager, died, and George W. Weeks, then superintendent, upon whom very many of Mr. Forbes' original duties had before this devolved, was appointed manufacturing agent.

During the administration of Mr. Weeks, the years 1880, 1881, 1887 and 1888 have been marked by very important extensions of the working plant, the capacity for production having been increased at least seventy-five per cent. The weaving-room, supposed to be the largest of the kind in the United States, if not in the world, has a floor area of one hundred and thirty-seven thousand feet, or three and one-seventh acres, affording space for twenty-eight hundred looms. The carding and spinning departments occupy two brick mills of huge dimensions, one three, the other four stories in height. The whole floor area of the works, including basements, etc., used for storage, and the Sawyer's Mills in Boylston, is about sixteen acres, twelve of which are devoted to manufacture. The company has also about two hundred tenements, nearly all of a class superior to those usually found in manufacturing towns, and three large boarding-houses, each accommodating one hundred persons. An unusually large proportion of the employés have dwellings of their own.

When the recently completed extension receives its machinery, the corporation will require the labor of nearly twenty-two hundred operatives, about equally divided between the two sexes, and its yearly product is expected to reach twenty-eight million yards of twenty-seven inch ginghams; last year it was nearly twenty-five million yards. Three large steam-engines of Corliss pattern, developing fourteen hundred horse-power, are employed to aid the turbines, while six small engines are in constant use for various purposes. Among the army of workers are skilled mechanics of various crafts, and corps of chemists and designers perform important duties. But a single quality of goods is here made, a high grade of gingham everywhere known for its always reliable colors and exceptional durability. Although combinations of color are restricted to stripes and checks, already about two hundred thousand distinct patterns have been designed.

It will be noticed that the enormous increase of production over that of the earliest years of the corporation's life is far in excess of the numerical increase of looms and operatives. In every department new processes and improvements in mechanism have been introduced from time to time, and greater speed of movement attained, until the product per operative is two and four-tenths times what it was in 1850. The average wages have during the same period been increased eighty per cent., and this although the hours of labor per day are now two hours less than in 1850.

The present officers of the company are: S. G. Snelling, president; Harcourt Amory, treasurer; George W. Weeks, agent; George P. Taylor, superintendent.

February 18, 1864, the corporation which gave name to the town ceased to exist, its charter being annulled by legislative enactment. The coach-lace looms had been sent to Philadelphia, it had the year before sold its real estate in Boylston, known as Sawyer's Mills, and certain of its looms for weaving checks, to the Lancaster Mills Company; and its water-rights, factory buildings, tenant-houses and lands in Clinton to the Bigelow Carpet Company. The latter corporation had already made preparations to do its own wool-cleansing and spinning,—for which preliminary processes of its manufacture it had previously been dependent upon other parties,—and to the extensive plant required for these the grounds and buildings of the coach-lace mills were devoted. A large worsted-mill was completed in 1866, and the dam was rebuilt and raised to control a flowage of two hundred and thirty-six acres, including Mossy and Sandy, two of the three great natural ponds of Clinton.

Upon the death of Horatio N. Bigelow, in 1865, his eldest son, Henry N. Bigelow, was made superintendent of the new department, and Charles L. Swan held the same position in the weaving-mill. In December, 1871, Mr. Bigelow became managing agent of the company. Under his supervision extensive additions were made in both departments during 1872. A new worsted-mill, three stories in height, two hundred feet long by sixty-five feet wide, was built in 1875, and great improvements were made in

the machinery. Upon his retirement, March 26, 1881, he was succeeded in the management by his brother, Charles B. Bigelow. During 1885 the weaving department was very greatly enlarged, and in 1886 and 1887 an extension, two hundred feet in length, was added upon the west, reaching to School Street. In this have been placed newly-invented looms for the weaving of Axminster carpeting.

The president of the company is James H. Beal, and C. F. Fairbanks is treasurer. The capital, which was two hundred thousand dollars at the incorporation of the company in 1854, has been increased to one million.

The number of looms is two hundred and forty, and when the works are run to their full capacity, twelve hundred persons are employed, whose pay amounts to fifteen hundred dollars each day, and the production is at the rate of one million eight hundred yards per year. About six million pounds of wool are used annually. The company is complete within itself, importing the grade of wool which it requires, and conducting all the operations of its fabrication, —cleansing, spinning, dyeing, weaving,—on its own premises. The floor space occupied amounts to ten and three-fourths acres. Its various buildings are of brick, and very attractive in appearance. The company also owns houses accommodating sixty-three families, and has three boarding-houses.

Three grades of carpeting are manufactured by the Bigelow Company,—Wilton, Axminster and Brussels. The first power-loom, invented by E. B. Bigelow, thirty years ago won admiration, because with it a single girl wove as much Brussels carpeting in a given time as four men and four boys could do with four hand looms. The perfected loom of to-day has fourfold the capacity of the first Bigelow loom.

C. M. Bailey & Son, a few months after the destruction by fire of their property at Sterling in February, 1868, purchased the low-lying land between Sterling Street and the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg Railway in Clinton, and established thereon an extensive tannery with sixty-one vats, a large currier shop, engine and boiler-house, and other accessories of their business. The capacity of the yard was about twenty thousand hides, and required the attendance of forty men and boys. The junior member of the firm, George E. Bailey, died in 1873, when Bryant & King, by purchase, succeeded to the business. They at once enlarged the works to more than double their original capacity, employed about one hundred hands, and were apparently in full tide of prosperity when the breaking of the Mossy Pond reservoir dam in 1876 swept away their large stock of material, demolished their buildings and left them weighed down by too heavy discouragements for renewal of the enterprise. Two years later C. M. Bailey and William J. Stewart rebuilt some portions of the buildings, gave work to twenty-five or thirty men, and continued the tanning business until August 28, 1880, when a fire laid the property again in ruins, in which condition it remains.

Deacon Joseph B. Parker, the veteran machinist of Clinton, died September 1, 1874, at the age of seventy years. He was a native of Princeton, but came here from Providence, R. I., where he had a shop, to organize and manage the machine-shop connected with the Clinton Company's works. His practical ability and judgment were of great value to E. B. Bigelow in the adjustment and construction of his inventions. He was a pillar of strength in the Congregational Church, a man of thorough independence and originality.

A joint stock company was formed to continue the business of which he was the founder and had been for nearly twenty-five years the manager, which took the title of the J. B. Parker Machine Company. The capital is forty-five thousand dollars, and the yearly manufacture is estimated as fifty thousand dollars in value. A. C. Dakin is president, C. C. Murdock, treasurer, and N. E. Stowell, foreman. From seventy-five to one hundred men are required when the machinery of the shops is fully employed. The special line of work done is the construction of carpet-looms, the Bancroft mule, the Clinton yarn-twister, and other mechanism for wool manufacturers. The buildings of the company are commodious, well equipped with power and tools, and conveniently located beside the tracks of the Worcester and Nashua Division of the Boston and Maine Railway.

Closely allied with and adjoining the machine-shops are the new and admirably appointed works of the Clinton Foundry Company, recently completed in place of the old foundry, built by Gilman N. Palmer, in 1849, which was crushed in during the great snow-storm of March 12, 1888. Major Christopher C. Stone, for many years associated with Colonel Palmer, bought the foundry in October, 1881, and, forming a partnership with the J. B. Parker Company, under the corporate title above named, became general manager of the business. Twenty-six men are regularly employed here, chiefly upon machine and railroad work, casting daily from a three-ton cupola furnace. The value of castings sold annually is about thirty-six thousand dollars.

Colonel Gilman M. Palmer came to Clintonville from Dover, N. H., in 1847, but was born in Gardner, Maine, December 4, 1812. He was foreman of the first engine company, the first captain of the Clinton Light Guards, lieutenant-colonel of the Ninth Militia, vice-president of the Savings Bank, and director of the First National Bank. He served the town as selectman for four years; was one of the founders of the Unitarian Church, and a member of Trinity Masonic Lodge. He died May 27, 1885. By his will nearly fifteen thousand dollars were left in public bequests.

Upon Sterling Street, near the station of the railway, stand the neat brick workshops of the Gibbs Loom, Harness and Reed Company, which was incor-

porated April 1, 1874, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars. William H. Gibbs, the president of the company, became in 1865 associated with George H. Foster in the manufacture of belting, loom-harness and roll-covering, and later began making reeds—in which business they had been preceded by Robert Turner. In the autumn of 1868 the partnership was dissolved, and in a division of the assets Mr. Gibbs retained the loom-harness and reed manufacture, and Mr. Foster that of belting and roll-covering. Hearing of an improved heddle machine of English invention, Mr. Gibbs imported one, the first brought into the United States. A rapid increase of orders rewarded his enterprise, requiring more machinery and capital, and the formation of a company followed. It now has in operation thirteen heddle—or heald—machines, giving work to forty operatives, male and female. The ebonized loom-harness is a specialty for which the company have a patent, granted February 1, 1881. The reed manufacture was begun in November, 1884, and has met with such encouragement that but one reed maker in America now rivals this company in yearly production. This success has been attained by superior workmanship. Charles L. Swan is treasurer of the corporation.

About half-past three o'clock of Sunday, March 26, 1876, the people of Clinton and villages adjoining, were startled by loud and long-continued alarm signals from the steam gong of the wire-mill, giving wide warning of an unforeseen and grievous disaster, one that, because of the fortunate hour of its happening, was not attended with loss of human life, but which forever ruined several useful industries, seriously interrupted others, and utterly destroyed three hundred thousand dollars' worth of capital, buildings, machinery and goods.

A snow-storm, quickly followed by copious rains, had filled the great reservoir of the Bigelow Carpet Company to overflowing. In the Mossy Pond portion of it the water stood higher than in the Clinton basin, the culvert under the Worcester and Nashua Railway, which joined them, proving insufficient to take away the unprecedented flow poured in by the South Meadow Brook. Before danger was suspected, the waters rose so high as to wash over or through an embankment at the northerly side of Mossy Pond, just above the sources of the little brook formerly known as Rigby's. This dam of earth was about forty feet long and ten feet in height, and the ground at either end of and beneath it was porous gravel and sand. The trickling overflow soon grew to a resistless torrent and tore this obstacle from its path, opening a broad gap between the hills down to the level of the marshy ground below.

About sixty rods away the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg Railway crosses the valley upon a gravel embankment nearly forty feet in height, which dammed the flood for a while, affording time for the residents of houses upon the meadow below to escape. In less than half an hour, however, a river nearly one hundred feet in width was rushing through the railroad bank over the vats of Bryant & King's tannery, bearing along the *débris* of falling buildings and thousands of hides from the extensive yards. Crossing Sterling Street, it spread over the wide, level tract below, undermining several dwellings, the occupants of which barely escaped with such valuables as they could hastily snatch and carry away in their arms. The next impediment met was the embankment of the Worcester and Nashua Railway. This, being a much lower and older earthwork than that previously burst through, held firm for a time until a great lake had formed behind it, and the water began to pour over the track; but at length it gave way at the little brook culvert, when the mad flood poured across Main Street, whirled the old dams and shops built by the early comb-makers, and a house which it had brought from the meadows above, crashing down the ledges into the valley of the South Meadow Brook.

On this stream a factory, then the property of the Boyce Brothers, of Boston, a three-story wooden building, over one hundred and fifty feet in length, stood upon the dam directly in the path of the waters. It was quickly lifted from its foundations and borne away upright over the Currier farm into the Nashua, to bring up with a loud crash against the first island. Nearly half of the structure, caught in a swirl, again floated on at terrific speed towards the iron bridge and the mills at South Lancaster. Luckily, the depth of the flood was so great that the main flow poured outside the river banks, and the wreck following it passed down between the cotton-factory and the grist-mill, struck the Lancaster Railroad Bridge a sounding blow as it went under it, toppled over and was torn into fragments. Meadow farms along the river for many miles were deeply inundated, strewn with wreckage of buildings, machinery, furniture, hides, horn goods and great masses of peat from Mossy Pond, and covered with a deposit of sandy mud. The gaps in the railroads had to be bridged, and remained serious interruptions to travel for several days.

The Carpet Company, during the summer, filled the crevasse through which the reservoir had drained itself so disastrously with a solid structure. Tedious lawsuits for damages followed, and the sites of the manufactories demolished are even now marked by ruins and desolation.

No citizen of Clinton ever stood nearer the popular heart than Franklin Forbes, the manager of the Lancaster Mills. In 1866 some warning from overtaxed brain impelled him to seek much-needed rest, by a vacation in Europe; but although he soon returned to his wonted labors much invigorated, he began to delegate more and more of his duties to the assistant whom he had trained from youth to be his successor—George W. Weeks, then holding the office of superintendent. After a year or two of visibly fad-

ing strength, he died, December 24, 1877, at the age of sixty-six, mourned as an irreparable loss by young and old, in all classes of society, and wherever his genial presence had been known.

Mr. Forbes was born in West Cambridge, Mass., March 8, 1811, but his parents removed to Boston in his early childhood. He was prepared for college at the Latin School, being a schoolmate of Charles Sumner, and was graduated at Amherst in 1833. Thrown upon his own resources, he decided to adopt the profession of teaching for a livelihood, and accepted the position of usher in a Boston school. Scholarly in his tastes and a diligent student, he also possessed the gift of inspiring others with his own enthusiasm for knowledge, and his success as an instructor was correspondingly marked. He became master of the school, and was called thence to Lowell, to become principal of the High School in that city. In 1837 he was married to Martha A. S. Cushing, of Lunenburg. He continued to teach for several years after his marriage, but finding this field of occupation somewhat narrow for his abilities and aspirations, he began to employ his leisure in legal studies. He was not, however, destined to practice at the bar.

The avocation for which his natural powers pre-eminently fitted him, and in which he subsequently won so honorable repute, was pointed out to him and others during his short period of service for the Locks and Canals Company of Lowell. His peculiar ability in the conduct of large business affairs attracted notice and brought him the offer of the agency of the Lancaster Mills, which he accepted, and on December 1, 1849, assumed his new duties. From that day, for twenty-eight years, Mr. Forbes stood prominent among the foremost citizens of Clinton, a respected leader in municipal and church affairs and social circles, whose breadth of culture, genial and sympathetic nature, unselfishness and strong practical sense, made him not only an intelligent adviser in matters of public concern, but one to whom all were glad to listen.

He believed the true interests of capital and labor to be identical, and his management of the great manufactory placed in his charge was consonant with his theory. His services were invaluable to the corporation, whose annual product increased during his administration from four million to fifteen million yards; but he never forgot the workman's rights or welfare while he successfully labored to secure for the stockholders their proper yearly harvest of profit. Once, in a period of great depression in businesss circles, his innate kindliness of heart prompted him to keep the mills running half-time for several weeks at a probable loss, to save the wage-earners from the privations that would inevitably have followed the entire stoppage of the works. He was ever thinking of his operatives' needs and planning for their elevation. To this end he established evening schools and popular lectures, to which he contributed much personal labor.

His long experience as a teacher and his warm interest in the education of the young made him a valuable member of the town's School Board, of which he was chairman thirteen years, a service exceeded in length only by that of John T. Dame, Esq. He was for many years president of the Savings Bank, of the Clinton Gas-light Company, and of the Bigelow Library Association. He was the first chief engineer of the Fire Department, director in the First National Bank, and his counsel was sought on all questions of grave interest to the town. The esteem and respect in which he was universally held were never, perhaps, more conspicuously shown than when, in 1864, he was persuaded to allow himself to be a candidate for Representative of the Eighth Worcester District, then comprising the towns of Clinton and Lancaster. He received every vote cast, save one in Clinton. The Unitarian Society, which he was active in organizing, found in him a generous benefactor and an indefatigable Christian worker. His patriotism was not only fervent and inspiriting, but self-sacrificing. He was president of the Soldiers' Aid Society during the Rebellion, and the volunteers and their families knew no more loyal, no more tender-hearted and cheery friend and adviser than he.

Mr. Forbes left two sons and three daughters, and his wife still survives him.

December 2, 1879, Erastus Brigham Bigelow died at his residence on Commonwealth Avenue, Boston. His body was, in accordance with his expressed wish, brought for burial to the town which his genius had created, and was there received with public demonstrations of genuine respect and sorrow.

Mr. Bigelow was phenomenal even among inventors for his power of analysis and mental concentration. Some of his inventions consist of very numerous elements in harmonious conjunction, forming the most complex mechanism used in manufacture. But these were all complete mental conceptions, as the author of them himself assures us, fully fashioned and adjusted in his mathematical imagination before draughtsmen attempted to delineate, or workmen wrought a single cam or lever of them. Singularly enough, he was no mechanic, handled no tool well, made only rough pencil sketches, and entrusted to others the draughting of his ideas to working scale for the machinists. His extraordinary power was shown very early in life, for he was but fourteen years of age when his little machine for the making of piping-cord was perfected. During the fifty years of his subsequent career he was granted in the United States more than fifty patents, the larger number of them for improvements in textile machinery.

He was a native of West Boylston, Massachusetts, born April 2, 1814. He was obliged to contribute to his own support when a mere boy by daily labor upon the farm, and at the age of thirteen years began work

in a cotton-mill. The fortunate earning of one hundred dollars by the sale of the piping-cord machine enabled him to pay for a few terms' tuition at a neighboring academy. He earnestly desired a higher education, but means were wanting, and for a few years, apparently unconscious of his special talent, he wandered from one place and occupation to another with youthful instability—displaying, however, great energy not wholly wasted, inasmuch as varied experience was a part of the preparation for his life's work. At sixteen years of age he is found a clerk in a Boston dry-goods store. Next he became a zealous student of stenography; even published upon that subject his first book, and earned a little money by teaching the art, travelling with a partner through New England and the Middle States. For a time he then became overseer of a cotton factory at Wareham, and later he taught a writing-school and began the study of medicine. Suddenly he conceived the idea of weaving Marseilles quilts by power, and abandoned his intention of becoming a physician to build the counterpane loom, having induced a firm of Boston importers to undertake the cost of the experiment. The financial troubles of 1837 interfering with the expected support by the firm, he came to Lancaster with his brother; Horatio bringing to the partnership his moderate savings, Erastus contributing an automatic device for weaving coach-lace by power which the experts declared would not work, but which the brothers were confident would.

Prosperity rewarded pluck, and did not come with its usual coyness and at laggard pace; fame followed closely after. Mr. Bigelow had at last evidently found his appointed place in the world's army of workers. He was henceforth to take rank among the creators and organizers of human industry; a fellow-laborer for human progress with Watts, Arkwright and Eli Whitney. The Lowell Companies employed him at appropriate salary to act as their advising agent, to suggest special improvements in machinery and methods of manufacture. Invention after invention speedily followed. The gingham, the various carpet, the wire and the brocatel looms successively won their victories and extended his reputation. The great English carpet manufacturers acknowledged themselves outdone by American ingenuity, and purchased the new machinery.

It is noteworthy that Mr. Bigelow's aim, both as an inventor and a manufacturer, was ever towards greater perfection in the product. No prospective profit could induce him to cheapen manufacture by allowing the quality to fall below his ideal of excellence. His object was to produce by machinery a fabric every way better than that wrought by hand—the decreased cost of production inevitably following, and the consumers enjoying a double gain. He always perfected his ideas, resolutely laboring until the object sought was consummated, never abandoning the half-wrought for some promising afterthought.

Mr. Bigelow first married Miss Susan W. King. She died in 1841, leaving an infant son, Charles, who survived his mother but six years. He found a second wife in Miss Eliza Means, of Amherst, N. H., by whom he had one daughter, Helen, now the wife of Rev. Daniel Merriman. His stay in Clinton was but brief, though he was a frequent visitor here. His regular residence for most of his life was in Boston, but he owned an estate of two hundred acres at North Conway, N. H., which he named Stonehurst, and there he spent the summers of his later years.

The degree of Master of Arts was bestowed upon him in 1845 by Williams College; in 1852, by Yale; in 1854, by Dartmouth, and in 1861 by Harvard. Amherst conferred upon him, in 1867, the degree of Doctor of Laws. He was a member of the American Academy of Sciences, the Massachusetts Historical Society, and the London Society for the Encouragement of the Arts, Manufactures and Commerce. He was one of the founders of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In politics he was generally a conservative, never an active partisan, and in later life proclaimed his independence of party. He was, in 1860, nominated by the Democracy of the Fourth District as their candidate for Representative to Congress, but his opponent, Alexander H. Rice, afterwards Governor of the State, secured the election by a small plurality.

Mr. Bigelow's published writings mostly treat of political economy, and are characteristic of the man, exhibiting his analytical skill, and remarkable rather for precision of statement and lucidity than for rhetorical graces. He sent to the press in 1858, "Remarks on the Depressed Condition of Manufactures in Massachusetts, with Suggestions as to its Cause and Remedy;" in 1862, a large quarto entitled, "The Tariff Question Considered in Regard to the Policy of England and the Interest of the United States;" in 1869, an address, "The Wool Industry of the United States;" in 1877, "The Tariff Policy of England and the United States Contrasted;" in 1878, "The Relations of Labor and Capital," an article in the *Atlantic Monthly*.

CHAPTER XII.

CLINTON—(*Continued*).

Schools—Churches—Newspapers—Water Supply—Statistics, Etc.

WHEN, in the latter days of the Revolution, it became necessary to resort to a draft to fill the quotas demanded for the Continental service, towns in Massachusetts were usually divided into districts called squadrons, in such manner and number as were suggested by neighborhood convenience and the number of men to be raised. An exactly similar plan seems

to have obtained at the same time, if not earlier, for the distribution and use of school money. A law of 1788 made this custom as applied to schools general in this Commonwealth, and at this date Lancaster was divided into thirteen squadrons. Two of these, known as Prescott's Mills and South Woods, were within the bounds of Clinton. Judging from the share of the town's appropriation received, they were among the smallest districts in population. In succeeding years the limits of the squadrons and their number were frequently changed, but these two remained essentially unaltered until 1846, being generally called Districts Ten and Eleven.

Each squadron provided its own school accommodations, whether a special building, or, as was often the case, a room in a dwelling house, or an unused shop. The earliest school-house known to have been built upon Clinton soil was that at Prescott's Mills, in 1800—a cheap, frame structure located upon a slight elevation in the woodland on the southwest corner of the intersection of the Rigby Road (now Sterling Street) with the main highway. On each of three sides it was lighted by small windows, placed high above the floor and protected on the outside with board shutters. The room was about eighteen feet square and had a plank seat running around the three windowed sides, with long heavy writing-desks before it. To the front of the desks were attached board seats for the abecedarians. On the fourth side was a fire-place broad enough to take in cord-wood. The South Woods School-house, or Number Eleven, was similar in style, but less capacious, and situated entirely out of sight of any other building on the old county road east of the Nashua, about half-way between Bolton corner and Boylston line.

With the increase in population and wealth brought by the enterprise of Poignand & Plant, the pride of the "Factory District"—as Prescott's Mills began to be called—demanded larger and better school accommodations, and in 1824 a brick edifice was built upon Main Street, about fifty rods southerly from the old one, its cost, four hundred and twenty dollars, being assessed upon the property of the district. This was planned by James Pitts, Sr., and the scholars' seats all faced in one direction, being arranged in tiers gradually rising from front to rear. This building served in the cause of education for about twenty-five years. The first teacher in the old school-house was Miss Sally Sawyer, who was paid one dollar per week, and boarded with Captain John Prescott, who was paid five shillings per week by the district. In 1808 there were twenty-seven scholars coming from twelve families. Those who sent children were expected to contribute wood, cut fit for use, the amount being prescribed by the prudential committee and apportioned according to the number of scholars. There were never but two terms of schooling in the year—a summer and a winter session, each of seven to ten weeks. Titus Wilder, Silas and Charles Thurston, and Ezra Kendall were for many years the winter teachers of Number Ten, noted disciplinarians all, who sucessfully guided the youthful generations of their day along thorny paths of learning, according to the often-quoted Hudibrastic version of Solomon's proverb. Titus Wilder, in 1808, received four dollars and fifty-eight cents per week for his instructions, and "boarded himself."

The whole population in both districts, during even the prosperous days of Poignand & Plant's mills, probably did not reach two hundred and fifty souls, and the schools were small. Upon the opening of the new industries the old school-rooms were soon filled to overflowing, and a primary school for Number Ten was established in 1844. A so-called high school was started in Clintonville by private enterprise during 1846, kept by Miss Adolphia Rugg. She was soon succeeded by George N. Bigelow, an exceptionally successful instructor, who was called away to become principal of the State Normal School at Framingham, in 1855. There were in 1847 about two hundred and thirty children of school age in Clintonville, and the citizens, with commendable zeal, combined to establish graded schools, elected a prudential committee, a board of overseers and treasurer, and authorized the borrowing of thirty-five hundred dollars for the building of the needed school-houses. The South Woods District was abolished and the whole territory divided into four sections. New houses were erected at Lancaster Mills and Harris Hill, the central brick house was refurnished, and the northern section was provided with a suitable room by the enlargement of the primary school-house. The third grade, or grammar school, at first occupied the chapel of the Congregational Society at the corner of Main and Sterling Streets, and was generally known as the high-school. The establishment of a high school as distinct from the grammar school dates from 1874.

Clinton has now eleven school buildings, all but two being substantial brick structures. Thirty-six teachers—all females but one—and a general superintendent are employed, besides eight engaged in the evening schools. The various schools are thus graded: one high, ten grammar, twenty-two primary—all open ten months in the year. In 1888 twenty-seven thousand dollars were appropriated for their support, and the pupils attending them numbered fifteen hundred and ninety-four. The number of children between five and fifteen years of age is now nineteen hundred and sixty.

The first high school building, which also served for the centre grammar school, was built at the corner of Church and Walnut Streets in 1853. The present handsome structure at the corner of Chestnut and Union Streets, one of the most finely appointed in the Commonwealth, was completed in 1885, from plans of J. L. Faxon, at a cost of sixty thousand dollars. It is of brick and Long Meadow sandstone, and con-

tains eight rooms above the basement. The principals of the high school have been as follows: George N. Bigelow to 1853; C. W. Walker, one year; Josiah S. Phillips to 1859; Henry S. Nourse, temporarily to fill out Mr. Phillips' term; Rev. Frederick A. Fiske one year; Miss Elizabeth A. Owens, one year; Dana I. Joscelyn, one year; Rev. Milo C. Stebbins, 1862 and 1863; Josiah H. Hunt, eight years; Andrew E. Ford, from 1873 to present time. Mr. Ford is a graduate of Amherst College, a member of the class of 1871. The superintendents have been: Samuel Arthur Bent, 1883–85; William W. Waterman, 1886–89.

There are now nine organized religious societies in Clinton, seven of which own capacious and comfortable meeting-houses. The residents preceding the advent here of the Bigelow looms were a God-fearing and church-going people, most of whom regularly attended the Sabbath services in Lancaster, two or three miles distant. When members justified it, the managers of the Clintonville corporations and other leading citizens organized neighborhood meetings, which were usually held in the brick school-house. November 14, 1844, a church of the Orthodox Congregational denomination, called the Second Evangelical Church of Lancaster, was formed, having fifty-one members, and occupied as their place of worship a chapel built upon or near the site of the first school-house at the corner of Main and Sterling Streets. The first pastor, Joseph M. R. Eaton, was engaged at a salary of five hundred and fifty dollars, and ordained January 9, 1845. The society hired the bass viol used in the choir, but the performer upon the instrument was one of its most prominent members. In September, 1847, signs of a change in the fashion of church music appeared, by a vote of the parish that they "would be pleased to have the Seraphine played on trial." The society rapidly increased in numbers and prosperity, and January 1, 1847, dedicated a new house of worship upon Walnut Street. This building, much enlarged in 1859 and again in 1871, it continues to occupy. Mr. Eaton was dismissed April 11, 1847. His successors have been as follows: William H. Corning, ordained December 8, 1847, dismissed October 2, 1851; William D. Hitchcock, ordained October 21, 1851, dismissed July 16, 1853; Warren W. Winchester, ordained March 23, 1854, dismissed June 17, 1862; Benjamin Judkins, Jr., acting pastor, December 1, 1862, resigned December 1, 1867; DeWitt S. Clark, ordained November 11, 1868; dismissed December 12, 1878; Charles Wetherbee, installed April 30, 1879, dismissed July 31, 1884; Darius B. Scott, installed January 14, 1885.

So early as March, 1816, several families of the Baptist faith formed themselves into a society and held meetings, sometimes in the South Woods School-house, sometimes at the house of Charles Chace, and engaged various preachers to visit them on stated Sabbaths. Elders Luther Goddard and Thomas Marshall were thus hired for some time. The leaders in the society were mostly residents of School Districts Ten and Eleven, and included Charles and Alanson Chace, John Burditt, the Lowe and Sargeant families, Deacon Levi Howard, Joel Dakin, Abel Wilder, Benjamin Holt, etc. In 1830, when the Hillside Church was established, many of these joined that society. The second church organized in Clintonville was called the First Baptist Society, and dates from April 24, 1847. For two years its meetings were held in the chapel on Main Street vacated by the Congregational Society. In 1849 it removed to the present house on Walnut Street, the capacity of which, however, was greatly increased in 1868. The land upon which the meeting-house stands was a gift from Horatio N. Bigelow. The first pastor of the church, Charles M. Bowers, D.D., resigned March 28, 1886, after thirty-nine years of faithful ministry. He was succeeded by Rev. Henry K. Pervear.

A chapel for Roman Catholic worship was built upon Burditt Hill, on Main Street, in 1849, by Rev. John Boyce, occupied as a mission church, and called St. John's. Clintonville had then been for about four years a mission station, a priest from Worcester coming on one Sunday of each month to say Mass at the house of some parishioner. Rev. J. J. Connelly succeeded Father Boyce in 1862, residing in Clinton, and the next year the town became a parish, with Rev. J. Quin as pastor. He was followed in May, 1868, by Rev. D. A. O'Keefe, who died in October of the same year. Rev. Richard J. Patterson, the present pastor, was ordained a priest December 22, 1866, and came to Clinton in November, 1868. The chapel on Pleasant Street was built by him in 1869. The corner-stone of the new Gothic church building at the corner of Union and School Streets was laid August 8, 1875. This is by far the largest and most costly of Clinton's houses of worship. It is solidly built of brick and cut Fitzwilliam granite, according to plans of P. W. Ford, of Boston, and can accommodate a congregation of three thousand persons. It was formally dedicated June 27, 1886.

The Methodist Episcopal Society was organized in October, 1851. Regular meetings had been attended previously by those attached to this faith, in Burdett's —then known as Attic Hall, and were continued in Concert Hall until the dedication of their present meeting-house on High Street, December 25, 1852. The basement of this edifice was added and finished as a vestry in 1856, and the whole building was renovated and improved in 1868. A parsonage which stood until this year upon the opposite side of the street was the gift of Daniel Goss, of Lancaster. In 1887 the church building was again remodeled and enlarged. The pastors have been as follows:—Philip Toque, October, 1850 to March, 1851; George Bowler, one year; J. Willard Lewis, two years; Augustus F. Bailey, one year, 1854; Newell S. Spaulding, two

years; Daniel K. Merrill, eight months, 1857; Willard F. Mallalieu, four months; William J. Pomfret, two years; Thomas B. Treadwell, one year, 1860; Albert Gould, two years; John W. Coolidge, hired for a brief time; William G. Leonard, four months; E. F. Hadley, fourteen months; Edwin S. Chase, one year, 1866; Frederick T. George, one year, 1867; Joseph W. Lewis, two years; William A. Braman, three years; A. C. Godfrey, one year, 1873; Volney M. Simons, three years; Watson M. Ayers, three years; Chas. H. Hanaford, two years, 1880–81; Albert Gould, three years; John H. Short, three years; M. Emory Wright, 1888.

The First Unitarian Church was organized June 12, 1852, though services had been regularly held in Burdett and Clinton Halls, by its members, during the two previous years. The meeting-house upon Church St. was dedicated Feb. 2, 1853. Twenty years later it was raised, greatly enlarged, and the basement fitted up for use as a vestry and church parlor. A bequest received from the estate of Colonel G. M. Palmer has enabled the parish to build a spacious and comfortable parsonage upon a valuable lot on the corner of Walnut and Water Streets. The pastors have been as follows:—Leonard J. Livermore, began preaching April, 1851, resigned September, 1857; Jared M. Heard, ordained August 25, 1858, resigned in 1863; James Salloway, installed November 9, 1864, dismissed December, 1868; Ivory F. Waterhouse, began preaching January 3, 1869, resigned May 25, 1873; William S. Burton, began preaching October 5, 1873, resigned December, 1875; Charles Noyes, began preaching May 7, 1876, resigned August 13, 1882; J. Frederick Dutton, installed June 6, 1883, resigned November 24, 1885; James Cameron Duncan, ordained June 17, 1886.

The Church of the Good Shepherd (Episcopal) was established as a mission in 1874. Regular services began April 12th of that year, in Bigelow Hall. On the last Sunday of June, Rev. L. Gorham Stevens assumed charge of the mission, and remained until the following April. After a brief interval he was succeeded by Rev. John W. Birchmore, who, however, never became a resident of Clinton, but was in charge of the mission until April 28, 1878. October 28, 1876, the foundations of a chapel were laid on Union Street and the building was consecrated on the 17th of the following April. Rev. Henry L. Foote was settled as rector in August, 1878, and a parish organization was effected April 14, 1879. In July, 1881, Mr. Foote was called to the parish of Holyoke and Rev. E. T. Hamel, an Englishman, became rector in September, 1881. He was followed by Rev. George F. Pratt, in May, 1884, who resigned and was succeeded by Rev. Thomas L. Fisher, April 1, 1888.

The Second Advent Society meet in Courant Hall. The organization dates from 1871, but no minister has been settled. Isaac Barnes is the elder.

The Spiritualists hold meetings in Currier's Hall, having no settled pastor. Their organization dates from 1882.

The German Church, Rev. F. C. F. Sherff, pastor, has recently built a neat Gothic meeting-house at the corner of Haskell and Birch Streets. Services in the German language had been held for about a year previous to its dedication, May 20, 1888, in the vestry of the Congregational Society.

The post-office, in its present spacious and convenient quarters, occupies nearly the same site as when established in 1846, by H. N. Bigelow, the first postmaster. The second postmaster, John T. Dame, Esq., served from September 7, 1853, to April 6, 1861, when he was relieved by Deputy Sheriff Enoch K. Gibbs, who held the office until August 1, 1870. His successor, Charles M. Dinsmore, closed his service January 3, 1887, when John McQuaid, the present postmaster, received his commission. From the date of the removal of the office from Kendall's Block, in 1853, to its return to High Street upon the completion of the Bank Block, April 9, 1882, it occupied the western end of the Bigelow Library Association building, on Union Street.

Under the law of 1858, creating trial justices, John T. Dame, Esq., was commissioned and held office until 1864. Daniel H. Bemis, Esq., succeeded to the office, and was superseded by Christopher C. Stone in 1871. The Second District Court of Eastern Worcester was established in July, 1874. It took the place of the trial justice, and includes in its jurisdiction the towns of Berlin, Bolton, Harvard, Clinton, Lancaster and Sterling, its sessions being all held at Clinton. Hon. Charles G. Stevens was appointed the first standing justice, Major C. C. Stone, special justice, and Frank E. Howard, clerk of the court. September 7, 1880, Major Stone was confirmed as justice in place of Mr. Stevens, who declined further service, and Jonathan Smith, Esq., was commissioned special justice on September 14th. In January, 1886, Mr. Smith resigned, and Herbert Parker, Esq., was appointed to succeed him January 27, 1886.

The *Saturday Courant's* early history has been told in a former page. With its restricted local circulation becoming unremunerative when the war prices of paper and labor were encountered, it was discontinued with the number for December 13, 1862. In July, 1851, Mr. Messenger had withdrawn from both editorship and partnership, to be succeeded by Edwin Bynner, who with genial versatility figured at the same time as editor, painter, poet, town-wit, auctioneer and station-master. November 1, 1853, the publishing office was moved across High Street to rooms under the Clinton House hall, where it remained for fifteen years. Mr. Bynner abandoned the enterprise July 1, 1854, finding it not sufficiently profitable, and was replaced temporarily by John P. Davis. January 1, 1855, Rev. Leonard J. Livermore was given editorial charge of the paper, which he retained until September 5, 1857, when he removed to Lexington. Rev. Charles M. Bowers then acted as editor for twenty months, but did not permit his

name to appear as such. Thenceforward for about three years the paper was nominally under the direction of "an association of gentlemen." March 22, 1862, Horatio E. Turner essayed the task of editing it, but at the end of four months enlisted in the Thirty-fourth Infantry, to give his life for country. Wellington E. Parkhurst performed the editorial duties from August 16, 1862, to the farewell number.

Upon the muster-out of the Union forces, Lieutenant William J. Coulter, a skilled printer, who had been employed upon the *Saturday Courant*, resolved to resume its publication. Mr. Parkhurst was chosen as editor, and September 30, 1865, the first number of the *Clinton Courant* appeared from the old office. The venture proved promising enough to warrant enlargement of the paper in 1866, 1867 and 1870. In January, 1869, the office of publication was removed to Tyler's Block, then just completed, and October 10, 1872, to its present location on Church Street. Its management remains unchanged. The *Courant* has maintained from the outset an independent position in politics and religious matters, but is not weakly neutral, nor reticent in expression of opinion upon any topic of public interest. It is now twice the size of the original sheet of 1846, has a wide circulation for a paper of its class and is growing in deserved popularity. A smaller sheet was published as an experiment, on Tuesdays from September, 1880, for one year, in connection with the Saturday issue, and called the *Clinton Advance*. The unique file of the *Courant* preserved in the Bigelow Public Library is an invaluable record of Clinton's progress.

The *Courant* has had an active competitor for public favor during the last ten years. The *Clinton Record* was first published by John W. Ellam September 1, 1877. Its editors were E. A. Norris and R. M. Le Poer. This newspaper was bought by Trowbridge & French, and its name changed to the *Clinton Times*, November 13, 1882. Mr. Trowbridge soon sold his interest to his associate, George French, who, in April, 1884, disposed of the paper to George W. Reynolds, from Melrose. During 1883 the *Times* also appeared in semi-weekly form. It was Republican in politics and advocated prohibition. It was published Wednesday afternoons from a printing-office in Greeley's block. Its publication ceased March 24, 1887. Meanwhile a third candidate for the people's favor had appeared.

The *Clinton Enterprise*, published by Wood Brothers in Greeley's block dates from Friday, May 14, 1886. M. E. C. Hawkes was its first local editor and manager.

For the first thirty years after its incorporation the town's people were wholly dependent upon wells and rain-cisterns for water required for domestic purposes. The larger manufacturing companies, by means of their steam pumps, supplemented by reservoirs upon high ground, protected their works from fire and supplied their tenants. The question of the introduction of water for general use was often agitated, but it was not until November 22, 1875, that definite action favoring such introduction was taken by a town-meeting. On that date the report of a special water-supply committee, of which Hon. Daniel B. Ingalls was chairman, was adopted, and the committee instructed to obtain the necessary legislation for the furtherance of their recommendations. April 4, 1876, an act was approved authorizing Clinton to take the waters of Sandy Pond, or any other pond or brook within the town limits, for domestic and fire purposes, and to borrow the sum of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars for the construction of works. During the subsequent five years, however, nothing resulted save surveys, estimates and warm discussion. Upon petition the Legislature revived and extended the act February 4, 1881, for three years. During that year a reservoir, with a capacity of two million gallons, was constructed upon the summit of Burditt Hill, and the main pipes were laid connecting it with the principal streets.

The water of Sandy Pond is of great depth and purity, covering an area of about fifty acres, and so situated as easily to be guarded from external contamination. The supply from it can be cheaply increased by bringing to it the flow of Mine Swamp Brook; but its elevation is insufficient to obviate the necessity of a costly pumping-station. Explorations were, therefore, extended into the adjoining towns, in the hope of obtaining a reservoir at sufficient height to supply the town by a gravity system. Investigation of the sources of Wickapeket Brook, begun by Jonas E. Howe of the committee, disclosed such unusually favorable conditions that the scheme for using the waters within the town bounds was abandoned, and a petition met the Legislature of 1882 asking authority to take water from Sterling. An act gave the desired privilege, and also authorized the issuing of additional water-bonds to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars. This legislation was accepted by the required two-thirds vote of a town-meeting March, 1882, and by January 1, 1883, the main works were completed.

The cast-iron main is sixteen inches in diameter, and about five and three-fourths miles in length. The water is of unsurpassed purity, abundant for all probable needs, and reaches the hydrants in High Street with a pressure of about eighty pounds to the square inch, having a head of over one hundred feet. At the mills the hydrant pressure is one hundred and ten pounds. During 1883 Lynde Brook and Pond were taken into the reservoir system. The first basin had a capacity of three million gallons; Lynde reservoir has a capacity of ten million gallons. An act, approved March 27, 1884, and accepted by a town vote, permits the additional sum of fifty thousand dollars in water bonds to be issued, and authorizes the selling of water to the inhabitants of Lancaster along its main line, and to the Lancaster Water Company,

provided the needs of the inhabitants of Clinton are first supplied. The water bonds authorized have not all been issued. They yield four per cent. interest, payable April and October 1st, and run for twenty years. Work has recently begun upon an additional reservoir of thirty million gallons capacity.

In connection with the subject of water supply, that of public sewage was given to the consideration of the committee of 1875, and a report was made to the town March 5, 1877, advising that no action be taken at that time looking to any plan for a general system of drainage. The little reservoir of the Clinton Yarn Company, known as Counterpane Pond, had already become seriously polluted by the foul matter constantly poured into it from the carpet-mills and various other sources, and, being in the heart of the town, was a fruitful cause of complaint, especially from those dwelling in its immediate vicinity. A plan for a system of sewers was obtained from the noted engineer, Phineas Ball, in 1883, and a petition for authority to construct a sewerage system was presented to the Legislature of 1886. The petitioners, however, preferred to be given leave to withdraw rather than accept any bill prohibiting the discharge of unfiltered sewage into the Nashua River, a restriction which was demanded by the inhabitants of towns upon that stream below Clinton. The subject continues to be persistently debated, but the multiplicity and importance of the interests involved, and the cost of an efficient and comprehensive system, have, thus far, prevented the adoption of any but a make-shift policy. Pipes for house drainage are now being laid through the main streets.

The period of the town's life, thirty-eight years, has been one of almost uninterrupted prosperity, exempt from those episodes of great depression and financial disaster which frequently visit similar manufacturing towns. This is, doubtless, in part due to the high grade and great variety of the products of its mills and workshops, but greatly also to the friendly relations which have been sustained between labor and capital. It speaks much for the intelligence of its working citizens as well as for the liberal spirit of those who have managed the capital here invested, that the harmony which should exist between the employer and the employed has never been very seriously nor generally disturbed.

In the hard times of 1857 the larger manufactories, for several weeks, were run on half-time or less, and, but for the sympathy of the managers with the workers, would have been closed. The tact, energy and unselfishness of Franklin Forbes were brought prominently into view during the trials of this critical period. The shares of the older companies gradually fell in the stock market to half their par value. The stock then, as now, was largely in the ownership of non-residents, a fact preventing any strong personal bond of sympathy between the wage-payer and the wage-earner. But the managers, though firm in the control of their great trusts, were tender of heart and heedful of the needs of the toilers for daily bread. The commercial stress, though long continued, therefore created little bitter antagonism. New inventions, and improvements of the old, were brought forward by E. B. Bigelow, cheapening manufacture, and when the clouds of civil war began to lift, a new era of prosperity dawned, surpassing that of earlier days.

In 1879 a reduction of wages was found necessary at the Lancaster Mills to compensate for a great depreciation in the market for ginghams, and was accepted without unusual demonstrations of dissatisfaction. In March, 1880, the old rates were voluntarily restored, when the manager was met by a demand from some of the weavers for an additional and large increase. This was firmly refused, as the petitioners were already receiving larger daily wages than given at other mills in New England for the same or similar labor. A portion of the weavers struck work, and for several days the community was excited by fears of trouble and loss. The cause of the disaffected, however, signally failed to win public sympathy, and, after about a month of idleness, the deserted looms were all manned again.

A similar difficulty arose in April, 1886, at the carpet-mills, when seventy-seven dyers, being refused demands deemed unreasonable, resolved to leave their work. Upon the attempt to fill the places vacated with workmen procured elsewhere, threats and abuse were used to intimidate the newcomers, and riotous demonstrations were made in the vicinity of the mills by certain sympathizers with the strikers. The manager at once closed the works, announcing that they would remain closed until the company's property and employés were safe from mob violence and insult. A strong special police force was organized, a few arrests were made, order was at once restored and in a few days the machinery was again set in motion.

These two short-lived disturbances, participated in by comparatively few, and those for the most part the least responsible, are all that blot the industrial annals of the town.

Associations for benevolent, charitable and social purposes, as well as mutual benefit societies, are exceedingly numerous in Clinton. Besides many more or less closely connected with the several churches, the following distinct organizations exist:

MASONS—occupying Masonic Hall, in National Bank Block: Trinity Lodge, organized 1859, and Clinton Royal Arch Chapter, organized 1869.

ODD-FELLOWS—having a hall in Greeley's Block: Lancaster Lodge, No. 89, organized 1846; Clinton Encampment, No. 29, organized 1883; Germania Lodge, No. 42, Daughters of Rebecca, instituted October 31, 1884.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC—occupying G. A. R. hall in National Bank Block: E. D. Baker Post, No. 64, organized August 17, 1868;

Ladies' G. A. R. Relief Society, organized 1883; Camp A. L. Fuller, Sons of Veterans, mustered in November 7, 1887.

TEMPERANCE SOCIETIES.—*Good Templars*—Everett Lodge, No. 31, and Good Samaritan Lodge, No. 81; Clinton Temperance Associates; Women's Christian Temperance Union; Young Women's Christian Temperance Union; St. John's Total Abstinence and Mutual Aid Society.

IMPROVED ORDER OF RED MEN.—Wattoquottoc Tribe, No. 33; Juanita Council, No. 7, Daughters of Pocahontas.

UNITED ORDER OF THE GOLDEN CROSS.—Wachusett Commandery, No. 56.

KNIGHTS OF HONOR.—Clinton Lodge, No. 193.

ANCIENT ORDER OF UNITED WORKMEN.—Clinton Lodge, No. 29.

ROYAL ARCANUM.—Wekepeke Council, No. 742.

UNITED ORDER OF THE PILGRIM FATHERS.—Nashawog Colony, No. 75.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF GOOD-FELLOWS.—Sholan Assembly, No. 166.

GERMAN ORDER OF HARUGARI.—Lichtenstein Lodge, No. 129.

TURNVEREIN SOCIETY, organized 1867.

SCHILLER VEREIN, organized 1868.

SONS OF ST. GEORGE.—Rose Lodge, No. 40.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY, organized 1879.

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS.—Division No. 8, organized 1872.

VERMONT ASSOCIATION.

MASSACHUSETTS CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS.—Clinton Court, No. 56.

FIREMAN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION, incorporated 1875.

TWENTY ASSOCIATES.

TWENTY-FIVE ASSOCIATES.

FULL SCORE ASSOCIATION.

CLINTON SPORTSMEN'S CLUB.

PRESCOTT CLUB, incorpated April 20, 1886.

CLINTON BOARD OF TRADE, organized February 15, 1884.

CLINTON RIFLES, Company K. Sixth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Militia.

CLINTON BICYCLE CLUB.

The growth of Clinton has been very uniform. Its population, by the official enumerations, has been as follows: 1850, 3113; 1855, 3636; 1860, 3859; 1865, 4021; 1870, 5429; 1875, 6781; 1880, 8029; 1885, 8945; 1888, 10,037.

Numerous nationalities are here represented. The Germans have a neat village by themselves, known as Germantown, with a house of worship and a capacious Turnverein Hall. The Irish are in the majority in three or four localities—notably the "Acre," "Duck Harbor" and "California." By the last census, the native-born numbered 5547, and the foreign-born, 3398, although three-fourths of the population are registered as of foreign parentage. Of those born aliens, 2097 came from Ireland; 465 from Germany; 295 from Scotland; 257 from England; 248 from various British provinces in America; 9 from France; 8 from Austria; 4 from Italy, and 1 from China.

The valuation of the town has increased at more rapid rate than the population: 1850, $1,262,813; 1855, $1,607,991; 1860, $1,690,692; 1865, $1,860,763; 1870, $2,952,568; 1875, $4,340,919; 1880, $4,444,937; 1885, $5,143,726; 1888, $5,531,811.

The total indebtedness of the town in the same years was: 1850, $13,600; 1855, $14,500; 1860, $14,500; 1865, $34,190; 1870, $40,262; 1875, $132,000; 1880, $99,500; 1885, $337,000; 1888, $342,500.

Of the one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars in six per cent. bonds issued at the building of the town hall in 1872, twenty-seven thousand five hundred dollars remain unpaid, six thousand five hundred dollars of the amount having been annually called in. The school-house four per cent. loan, which was fifty-four thousand dollars in 1886, has been decreased six thousand dollars annually. Of the four per cent. water bonds, two hundred and fifty-three thousand dollars are outstanding, and nine thousand dollars in amount have been bought for the sinking fund. Most of the principal is due in 1901 and 1906.

The amount annually raised by taxation has grown from $9059 in 1850, when the tax rate was seven dollars to the thousand, to $104,598 in 1888, the rate being eighteen in a thousand.

The votes of the town for Presidential candidates have been:

1852. Winfield Scott, 200.
Franklin Pierce, 100.
John P. Hale, 82.
1856. John C. Fremont, 353.
James Buchanan, 54.
Millard Fillmore, 3.
1860. Abraham Lincoln, 346.
Stephen A. Douglas, 71.
John Bell, 11.
John C. Breckenridge, 7.
1864. Abraham Lincoln, 334.
George B. McClellan, 84.
1868. Ulysses S. Grant, 443.
Horatio Seymour, 107.
1872. Ulysses S. Grant, 524.
Horace Greeley, 298.
1876. Rutherford B. Hayes, 576.
Samuel J. Tilden, 482.
1880. James A. Garfield, 682.
Winfield Scott Hancock, 513.
James B. Weaver, 1.
Neal Dow, 7.
1884. Grover Cleveland, 683.
James G. Blaine, 630.
Benjamin Butler, 42.
John P. St. John, 16.

The following citizens have served the town as Representatives in the Legislature: Horatio Nelson Bigelow, 1851–52; Andrew Lowell Fuller, 1854; James Ingalls, 1855; Horace Faulkner, 1856–58; Jonas Elijah Howe, 1860, 1870, 1872, 1887; Rev. Jared Mann Heard, 1862; Franklin Forbes, 1864; Rev. Charles Manning Bowers, 1865–66; Charles Whiting Worcester, 1868; Elisha Brimhall, 1871; Lucius Field, 1878, 1882; Daniel Bowman Ingalls, 1880; Edward Godfrey Stevens, 1881; Alfred Augustine Burditt, 1884; Jonathan Smith, 1886; Frank Edward Holman, 1888–89. Charles Godfrey Stevens, Esq., was delegate in the State Convention of 1853.

The following have served as State Senators: Charles Godfrey Stevens, 1862; Henry Clay Greeley,

1870 and '71 ; Elisha Brimhall, 1876 and '77; Daniel Bowman Ingalls, 1881 and '82.

Henry Clay Greeley was a member of the Executive Council in 1885 and '86.

The clerks of the town have been: Albert S. Carleton, 1850–52; C. S. Patten, 1853; Artemas E. Bigelow, 1854–59; Henry C. Greeley, 1860-69; Wellington E. Parkhurst, 1870–72; Lucius Field, 1873–77; Wellington E. Parkhurst, 1878–80; Martin J. Costello, 1881–84; John F. Philbin, 1885–.

Treasurers in order of service: Sidney Harris, one year; Alfred Knight, four years; Sidney Harris, one year; Alfred Knight, ten years; Elisha Brimhall, five years; Edwin N. Rice, four years; Wellington E. Parkhurst, one year; Alfred A. Burditt, one year; Henry O. Sawyer, one year; G. Walton Goss, ten years.

The following have served as selectmen: Ezra Sawyer, Samuel Belyea, Edmund Harris, Gilman M. Palmer, Calvin Stanley, Nelson Whitcomb, Alanson Chace, Jonas E. Howe, Abel Rice, J. Alexander, Horace Faulkner, David Wallace, Joshua Thissell, B. R. Smith, James F. Maynard, Gilbert Greene, Charles W. Worcester. P. L. Morgan, Elisha Brimhall, Alfred A. Burditt, George S. Harris, Charles Bowman, Otis B. Bates, Charles L. Swan, Dr. George W. Symonds, Charles H. Chace, Henry C. Greeley, Albert H. Smith, T. A. McQuaid, William Haskell, A. C. Dakin, George F. Howard, Christopher C. Stone, Eben S. Fuller, C. C. Murdoch, Samuel W. Tyler, Alexander Johnston, John Sheehan, Eli Forbes, Sidney T. Howard, J. C. Parsons, C. C. Cook, George W. Morse, Anton Wiesman, Henry N. Otterson, P. J. Quinn, Herman Dietzman, Charles A. Vickery, William H. Nugent.

The following served upon the School Committee: Rev. William H. Corning, Rev. Charles M. Bowers, Dr. George M. Morse, Dr. George W. Burdett, C. W. Blanchard, Charles L. Swan, W. W. Parker, Augustus J. Sawyer, Franklin Forbes, for thirteen years; John T. Dame, Esq., for sixteen years; Horatio N. Bigelow, Albert S. Carleton, Rev. William D. Hitchcock, Rev. George Bowler, James Ingalls, Dr. Preston Chamberlain, Rev. Leonard J. Livermore, Rev. T. Willard Lewis, Artemas E. Bigelow, Charles G. Stevens, Esq., Josiah H. Vose, Henry C. Greeley, Daniel W. Kilburn, Eneas Morgan, Dr. George W. Symonds, Joshua Thissell, Charles F. W. Parkhurst, William Cushing, Rev. James Salloway, George W. Weeks, Alfred A. Burditt, Wellington E. Parkhurst, for twelve years; M. H. Williams, Daniel H. Bemis, Harrison Leland, Henry N. Bigelow, Daniel B. Ingalls, Edward G. Stevens, Samuel McQuaid, John W. Corcoran, Esq., Rev. Charles Noyes, Dr. Philip T. O'Brien, Frank E. Holman.

The following have been practicing physicians in Clinton: George W. Symonds, M.D., 1841, Dartmouth, M.M.S.S., died 1873; George W. Burdett, M.D., 1846, Harvard, M.M.S.S.; George M. Morse, M.D., 1843, Harvard, M.M.S.S.; Charles D. Dowse, ——; A. W. Dillingham, ——; Pierson T. Kendall, M.D., 1816, Harvard, M.M.S.S., died 1865; Adoniram J. Greeley, M.D., 1845, Harvard; Charles A. Brooks, M.D., 1859, Homœopathic Medical College, Philadelphia; Oscar T. Woolhizer, ——; George A. Jordan, M.D., 1872, Harvard, M.M.S.S.; L. W. Taft, ——; Philip T. O'Brien, M.D., 1872, Albany; Perley P. Comey M.D., 1878, Harvard, M.M.S.S.; Walter P. Bowers, M.D., 1879, Harvard, M.M.S.S.; Charles L. French, M.D., 1869, New York, College of Physicians and Surgeons, M.M.S.S.; C. R. Bradford, ——; Thomas F. Roche, M.D., 1882, Bellevue, M.M.S.S.; Thomas H. O'Connor, M.D., 1883, Bellevue; O. A. Everett, ——; Edward S. Everett, ——; George C. Ward, M.D., 1882, Hahnemann College, Chicago; Albert C. Reed, M.D., 1887, Boston University.

The following attorneys have had offices in Clinton: Charles G. Stevens, A.B., Dartmouth, 1840; John T. Dame, A.B., Dartmouth, 1840; Isaac Baldwin; Daniel H. Bemis; William B. Orcutt; John W. Corcoran, LL.B., Boston University, 1875; Jonathan Smith, A.B., Dartmouth, 1871; John F. Brown; Charles G. Delano; Herbert Parker; Walter R. Dame, A.B., Harvard, 1883; John G. Crawford; Thomas F. Larkin.

The following, born upon Clinton soil or residents of the town when graduated, have received degrees at collegiate institutions:

George Ide Chace, born in Lancaster, February 19, 1808, son of Charles and Ruth Chace; graduate at Brown University, 1830; tutor of mathematics, 1831; professor of chemistry, 1834; of physiology, geology, etc., 1836; LL.D., 1853; president *ad interim*, 1867; professor of moral philosophy, 1868; died at Providence, R. I., April 29, 1885.

George Harris, A.B., 1837, Brown; a son of Emory; died 1838, aged twenty-three years.

Frederic Warren Harris, A.B., 1845, Harvard; a brother of the preceding; died 1863.

George W. Burdett, M.D., 1846, Harvard, M.M.S.S.

Alfred Plant, A.B., 1847, Yale; a son of Samuel; now a wealthy merchant of St. Louis, Mo.

Charles A. Bowers, A.B., 1864, Harvard; died 1865.

Charles H. Parkhurst, A.B., 1866, Amherst; D.D., 1880; pastor of Madison Square Presbyterian Church, New York City.

Eli Forbes, S.B., 1868, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Charles S. Gowen, S.B., 1869, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Edward G. Stevens, 1870, West Point Military Academy.

Arthur F. Bowers, A.B., 1871, Brown University.

Howard E. Parkhurst, A.B., 1873, Amherst.

Charles L. Swan, Jr., A.B., 1874, Yale.

John W. Corcoran, LL.B., 1875, Boston University.

Michael Kittridge, A.B., 1875, Holy Cross, Worcester, clergyman.

Peter T. Moran, A.B., 1877, Holy Cross; M.D., 1883, Bellevue.

Clarence H. Bowers, D.D.S., 1878, Boston Dental College.

Walter P. Bowers, M.D., 1879, Harvard, M.M.S.S.

Thomas J. Kelly, A.B., 1880, Holy Cross, Worcester.

James F. Maher, A.B., 1880, Holy Cross, Worcester, clergyman.

Elmer S. Hosmer, A.B., 1882, Brown University.

Thomas F. Roche, M.D., 1882, Bellevue, M.M.S.S.

Thomas H. O'Connor, M.D., 1883, Bellevue.

Walter R. Dame, A.B., 1883, Harvard; LL.B., 1886, Boston University.

James H. Grant, M.D., 1883, Bellevue.

John M. Kenney, A.B., 1884, Holy Cross, Worcester, clergyman.

Michael J. Coyne, A.B., 1884, Ottowa, clergyman.

John H. Finnerty, M.D., 1884, Bellevue.

John J. Leonard, A.B., 1884, St. Michael's, Toronto, clergyman.

Thomas H. MacLaughlin, A.B., 1884, Boston College.

Henry K. Swinscoe, A.B., 1885, Harvard.

Henry A. McGown, A.B., 1886, Amherst.

Charles L. Stevens, A.B., 1886, Amherst.

Martin Moran, M.D., 1887, Bellevue.

J. Frederic McNabb, S.B., 1887, Worcester Institute of Technology.

Patrick J. O'Malley, A.B., 1888, Ottawa.

Henry Forbes Bigelow, S.B., 1888, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

CHAPTER XIII.

CLINTON—(*Continued.*)

MASONIC HISTORY.[1]

TRINITY LODGE.—The charter of Trinity Lodge was dated January 30, 1778. It was issued by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge, of which Joseph Warren was appointed the first Grand Master. Trinity Lodge's charter was signed by Joseph Webb, Grand Master; Moses Deshon, Deputy Grand Master; Samuel Barrett, Senior Grand Warden; Paul Revere, Junior Grand Warden. It was addressed to Michael Newhall, Edmund Heard, James Wilder, Jonas Prescott and Richard P. Bridge. No previous dispensation had been granted these Masons to erect a lodge and initiate candidates; but, as was often the case at that period, the charter was issued, in the first instance, upon application of the brethren. All the charter members were residents of within what are now the limits of Lancaster, except James Wilder, whose home was in the Squareshire District in Sterling. Newhall came from Bolton, and Heard from Worcester; but neither had lived in Lancaster very long, nor did either of them die there. Newhall went to Leominster some time after 1800, and Heard removed to Lower Canada about 1793. Their places of death are unknown. Jonas Prescott was a descendant of John Prescott, one of the first settlers of the town. He always lived in Lancaster and died there. Of Richard P. Bridge very little is known. If a resident of Lancaster at all, he lived there but a short time, and his name does not appear in the records after December, 1783. It is not known where any of the charter members received their Masonic degrees, though it was most probably in Boston, as at that time (1778) there was no lodge existing nearer than Boston and Newburyport.

Trinity Lodge was numbered six, but was the fifth in order chartered by the Massachusetts Grand Lodge. The Lodge of St. Andrew, of Boston, was number one, and was chartered November 30, 1756, though it had done some Masonic work for two years or more, receiving its charter from Sholto Charles Douglass, Lord Arbedour, Grand Master of Masons in Scotland. By the concerted action of St. Andrew's and three traveling lodges, which were holden in the British army, then stationed in Boston, a commission was obtained from George, Earl of Dalhouse, Grand Master of Masons in Scotland, appointing Joseph Warren Grand Master of Masons in Boston and within one hundred miles of the same, upon the receipt of which the brethren of the above-named lodges proceeded to organize the Massachusetts Grand Lodge. The first charter issued by this Grand body was to Tyrian Lodge, of Gloucester, March 2, 1770. Then followed Massachusetts Lodge, of Boston, May 13, 1770; St. Peter's Lodge, Newburyport, March 6, 1777; Berkshire Lodge, Stockbridge, March 8, 1777; and Trinity Lodge, January 30, 1778. There were other Masonic Lodges in the State, at the time Trinity was organized, which received their charters from the St. John's Grand Lodge of Boston, a body chartered by Anthony, Lord Viscount Montague, Grand Master of Masons in England, in 1733. St. John's Grand Lodge issued charters for lodges in Boston, Nova Scotia, Philadelphia, Rhode Island and other States, and claimed jurisdiction over all the Masons in America, while the Massachusetts Grand Lodge had jurisdiction of Masons in Boston and within a hundred miles thereof only. The agitation which grew out of the existence of these rival bodies found its way into Trinity Lodge.

While the two grand bodies did not unite until 1792, yet as early as April, 1786, it was voted in Trinity Lodge, "to chuse a Comity of three to Consider of our Situation as a Lodge and Connection there is between us and the Massachusetts Grand Lodge or any other order of Antient Masons with their opinions of the proceedings necessary for us to take to render our

[1] By Jonathan Smith.

Situation More Eligable." And in the following June it was "voted to Acknowledge the Supremecy of the present Grand Lodge of Massachusetts on Condition our Quarterage take place from the present Date." There is no further allusion to the subject on the records of the lodge, and the union of the two grand bodies six years later created no disturbance in its relations to the Supreme Masonic authority of the State.

In its first years Trinity Lodge exercised jurisdiction over a wide territory. Applications were received and acted upon from Merrimack, Medford, Barre, Worcester, Oxford, Brookfield, Amherst, N. H., and even from Lower Canada. But the founding of new lodges, which proceeded rapidly after the close of the Revolutionary War, and notably the organization of Morning Star Lodge in Worcester, in 1792, narrowed its jurisdiction, and during its last years in Lancaster it covered a territory no larger than that now embraced in the territory of the present Trinity Lodge of Clinton.

Its records up to 1783 and subsequent to 1800 are missing, and but little of its history, except between those dates, is known. Michael Newhall was the first Master, and he was succeeded by Timothy Whiting, Jr., and probably by Isaiah Thomas, of Worcester, though this is not certain. Thomas was a member up to about 1792, and among the very earliest of the existing records is described as a Past Master. In 1783 the list of officers was as follows: Edmund Heard, Master; James Wilder, Senior Warden; Ephraim Carter, Junior Warden; Joseph Carter, Treasurer; Moses Smith, Secretary; James Wyman, Senior Deacon; Samuel Adams, Junior Deacon; Jonas Fairbank, Senior Steward; John Prescott, Junior Steward.

There was evidently considerable interest in the order prior to 1800, notwithstanding the hard times following the Revolution. The records show a good attendance at the meetings, and that on every meeting night, from 1783 to 1801, through summer and winter, the lodge was regularly opened with a full set of officers and a liberal representation of the brethren. The number present varied from twelve to fifty at each communication, and in the eighteen years following 1783 one hundred and forty candidates received their degrees.

The first hall occupied by the lodge in 1778 was in a building once standing on the site of the house now owned by Daniel Howard, in South Lancaster.

In 1778 Edmund Heard purchased this property of Dr. Israel Atherton. The house has since been known as the Ballard House. When it was torn down, many years ago, there could still be seen at one end of the north front chamber the platform and other indications of the lodge's tenancy. Some trouble afterwards grew up between the lodge and Edmund Heard over the lodge's occupation. When Heard purchased the property he borrowed of the lodge £224 4*s*. 6*d*. (£35 7*s*. 2*d*., reduced scale) with which to pay for it. Matters run along until 1788, when, after repeated efforts on part of the brethren, a settlement was had, at which Mr. Heard presented a long bill for sundry repairs on the house and hall, and for care of the lodge-room and property. The matter was finally settled by Heard's giving the lodge his note for £56 11*s*. 4*d*., at the reduced scale, and a lease of the "hall with the chamber adjoining, with the usual privilege the Lodge have heretofore had in the house from time to time, and at all times so long as the Lodge shall continue as a Lodge." But the lodge did not always remain there. In February, 1799, a committee was appointed "to make provisions for a suitable hall for Trinity Lodge," and in the following February another committee was chosen to "contract with Brother Merrick Rice to furnish a suitable and convenient hall for the use of the Lodge." But when it removed to the new quarters, and how long it there remained, are unknown. One of the houses then owned by Merrick Rice is the same now occupied by Mrs. E. M. Greene, in the Centre Village, and it is probable, but not certain, that it was to this house the lodge removed in 1799. Afterward, the lodge occupied a hall in the Lancaster Hotel, and as the order grew unpopular, about 1826, the furniture was removed to a private room in the house of some one of the brethren, where the faithful continued to assemble until the organization became finally extinct.

The meetings were on the first Monday of each month, lasting from four o'clock P.M. until eight o'clock, up to September, 1787, when the dates were changed from four o'clock on the first Monday of every month until six o'clock P.M. on the first Tuesday of August, October, December, February, April and June. But in February, 1790, the dates were again changed to the first Tuesday of every month, from six o'clock to ten P.M., and so continued, though in 1792 the hour was changed back to four o'clock.

The brethren faithfully observed the feast days of the order. The festival of St. John the Evangelist (in December) was celebrated in their hall, only members of the craft being admitted. But the feast of St. John the Baptist (June 24th) was public, and often an imposing affair. All the brethren were summoned, and the clergy in the neighboring towns, whether Masons or not, were formally invited, and one of them, by special request of the lodge, preached a sermon. The brethren assembled at their hall at nine A.M., transacted any business that came before them, and at eleven a procession was formed which marched to the church to attend a religious service. Sometimes, as at the celebration in 1790, they were escorted thither "by a well-disciplined company of cavalry in complete uniforms," and were preceded by "a band of music playing Entered Apprentice Song." The services were interspersed with singing by selected choirs, and were listened to by large audiences, "whose attention and decency of behavior manifested an unfeigned approbation of the animating truths

delivered." After the service the brethren, with the clergy and invited guests, returned to the hall, where a grand banquet was served. At the festival in 1790 the following toasts were drank:

1. "The Memory of St. John the Baptist."
2. "Our Illustrious Brother, George Washington, President of the United States."
3. "The United States of America, with the Craft."
4. "The Venerable Clergy."
5. "All Mankind."

Among the clergymen who preached on these occasions were Rev. Mr. Sumner, of Shrewsbury, in 1789; Rev. Phineas Whitney, of Shirley, in 1790; Rev. Peter Whitney, of Northboro', in 1792; and Rev. Wm. Emerson (father of Ralph Waldo Emerson), of Harvard, in 1793. After 1792 Trinity and Morning Star Lodges often united in the observance of this feast, meeting alternately in Worcester and Lancaster. On these occasions the programme was very elaborate, and was successfully carried out to the great pleasure and, be it hoped, to the edification of all the brethren.

The meetings of the lodge were occasions of refreshment, as well as labor. A suggestive fact is the amount of the steward's bill, which was presented at the close of every meeting and promptly ordered paid. In 1793 a committee was chosen "to accommodate the Hall with a conveniency for mixing liquors," and at another time it was voted, "That the Treasury furnish some brother with money to purchis 2 Dozen Tumblers;" and as a preparation for one of their June festivals, they procured five dozen tumblers for the banquet. But no intemperance or excess was tolerated; for at one of the meetings a committee was chosen to remonstrate with Brother —— —— for his intemperate habits. The admonition did not cure the appetite, however, for subsequently the lodge, by a formal vote, debarred the erring brother from the privilege of celebrating the approaching Feast of St. John's with them. But, with all these festivities, the records show that the lodge was fully alive to its duties to the "poor and distressed," and to their widows and orphans. They buried their dead brethren, relieved the widows, made liberal donations of money to those in misfortune, and, in many other ways, extended sympathy and help to those in need in a manner which made it a society dear to its members and sincerely respected by the community.

In those days Washington was regarded as the most illustrious patron of the order in America. At all Masonic festivals his health was drank and his virtues eulogized in speech and song. His death was the occasion of a memorial service by Trinity Lodge. At a special communication held January 11, 1800, the lodge voted to meet on the 22d of the following February, "for the purpose of testifying in a public manner the sorrow we feel on acct. of the decease of the greatest and best of men, Br. Genl. George Washington." The hall was draped in black and all the brethren summoned to be present. Rev. Nathaniel Thayer was invited to preach the sermon. There was a very large attendance, and citizens and soldiers joined in the procession to the church. "The discourse," says the record, "delineated in a comprehensive manner the virtues and excellencies of the deceased, and enjoined it on all the Brethren to imitate, as much as possible, his great and unequalled virtues."

After the services a banquet was held at the hall of the lodge. In the records a memorial page is given to Washington, as follows:

BROTHER GEORGE WASHINGTON.

Born Feby. 11th, Year of Light, 5732.
Invested with the Command of the American Armies, 5775.
Resigned his Commission to Congress, 5783.
Chosen President of the United States, 5788.
Gave in his Resignation, 5796.
Invested a second time with the Organization and Command of the American Forces, 5798.
Died December Thirteenth, 5799.

The following were the Masters of the lodge from 1783 to 1801: Edmund Heard, 1783–89–90–91–92 and part of 93—six years; Timothy Whiting, Jr., 1784–85–87–93–94–97—six years; Ephraim Carter, 1786—one year; Abijah Wyman, 1788—one year; John Maynard, 1795–96—two years; Abraham Haskell, 1798—one year; Moses Thomas, 1799—one year; Amos Johnson, 1800—one year. Not all of these were residents of Lancaster.

Among those holding the office after 1800 were Joel Pratt, Luke Bigelow, John G. Thurston and Calvin Carter. The dates and length of their services are unknown.

The year in which the lodge ceased to hold meetings is in doubt. It was not represented in the Grand Lodge after 1824, and it ceased to exist as an active organization about 1832. The Morgan excitement and the political agitation arising therefrom were the principal causes of its decline. The society became unpopular. The hall was given up and a small room obtained, where, for a time, the faithful of the craft continued to meet. At last even this was abandoned, and the lodge property was taken in charge by John G. Thurston, one of the members. A part was stored in his attic, where it was found twenty-five or more years later, and the altar, pedestals and some other articles were put into his barn, and were never recovered. Neither the charter nor any of the furniture or regalia were surrendered to the Grand Lodge. When the lodge was reorganized in Clinton in 1858, the old charter, a portion of the records, the jewels, seal and many papers belonging to the Old Trinity Lodge were recovered, and are now deposited in the archives of the new organization, where they still remain as interesting relics of the elder Trinity Lodge.

NEW TRINITY LODGE.—On the evening of September 8, 1858, E. Dana Bancroft, of Ayer, Geo. L. Thurston, of Lancaster, and Henry Bowman, Alfred A. Burdett, Daniel Marsh, Charles W. Odiorne and A. M. Eaglesham, of Clinton, met in Harris Hall, in what is now known as C. W. Field's Block, to open a lodge for instruction in Masonry. E. Dana Bancroft was chosen Master, and gave instruction to the brethern in the work and lectures. At this meeting Mr. Bancroft was appointed a committee to ascertain if Trinity Lodge, No. 6, formerly existing in Lancaster, could be revived in Clinton; or, if that could not be done, to make such further inquiry as he might deem material for the establishment of a new lodge. At a meeting one week later the committee reported that in the opinion of the secretary of the Grand Lodge, Old Trinity Lodge could not be revived, and that the proper course was to organize a new lodge. The brethren at once voted to ask for a dispensation for a new lodge in Clinton, to be called Trinity Lodge, and the following were elected officers thereof: E. Dana Bancroft, W. M.; Henry Bowman, S. W.; Alfred A. Burdett, J. W.; Daniel Marsh, Treas.; Geo. L. Thurston, S. D.; A. M. Eaglesham, J. D.; C. W. Odiorne, S. S.; Henry Eddy, J. S.

The Grand Lodge granted the prayer of the petitioners; the new dispensation was received and accepted September 29, 1858, and the list of officers previously selected was confirmed.

On the 21st of September, 1859, the charter, dated September 8, 1859, was received, and the lodge formally constituted and organized by the officers of the Grand Lodge, John T. Heard being Grand Master. The following were the charter members: Henry Bowman, Alfred A. Burdett, Daniel Marsh, George L. Thurston, Charles W. Odiorne, Luke Bigelow, Levi Greene, Josiah H. Vose and Henry Eddy. Of these, all but Josiah H. Vose were Masons prior to the date of the dispensation, though Henry Eddy had received two of his degrees in Trinity Lodge under the dispensation; and George L. Thurston, Levi Greene and Luke Bigelow were members of Old Trinity Lodge, No. 6.

The first list of officers under the charter were Henry Bowman, W. M.; Alfred A. Burdett, S. W.; Geo. L. Thurston, J. W.; Josiah H. Vose, Treas.; Henry Eddy, Sec.; Samuel T. Bigelow, S. D.; Daniel Marsh, J. D.; John T. Buzzell, S. S.; A. A. Pevey, J. S.; Gilman M. Palmer, Marshal; Levi Greene, Tiler.

The establishment of the lodge was largely due to the zeal and efforts of the three first officers—Bowman, Burdett and Thurston. The following is a list of the members of Old Trinity Lodge who joined the new organization: George L. Thurston, Levi Greene, Luke Bigelow, Joel Pratt, Artemas Barnes, Reuben Blood and A. M. Eaglesham. The lodge, when firmly established, grew rapidly, though the War of the Rebellion made heavy inroads upon its membership. The records of that period illustrate the loyalty of Masons to the supreme civil authority, and their ardent patriotism in behalf of the Union cause. Some of the brethren entering the army were presented with substantial tokens of respect and affection; several of the lodge's most beloved and, up to their enlistment, active members fell upon the field of battle or died of disease contracted in the military service, and were brought home and tenderly laid at rest with the impressive funeral ceremonies of the order. The following is a list of those who served in the army. It includes only those who were Masons at the time of or during their military service.

Geo. L. Thurston, adjt.; captain 55th Ill. Vols.; died of disease contracted in service.
Josiah H. Vose, lieut. 53d Mass. Vols.; mortally wounded July; died July, 1863.
Henry Bowman, capt. 15th Mass.; col. 36th Mass. Vols.
Franklin Howard, Co. C, 1st Mass. Cav.
Frank T. Holder, sergt. Co. B, 3d Mass. Cav.
William L. Cobb, lieut 34th Mass. Vols.; died of wounds.
Lucius Field, lieut. 36th Mass. Vols.
Alonzo S. Davidson, capt. 36th Mass. Vols.
William Orr, Jr., sergt. Co. I, 53d Mass. Vols.
Edwin Sawtelle, Co. I, 53d Mass. Vols.
Andrew L. Fuller, lieut. 15th Mass. Vols.; died of disease contracted in service.
William G. Waters, lieut. 15th Mass. Vols.
Chas. B. Culter, lieut. 34th Mass. Vols.
W. H. Bigelow, asst. surgeon 32d Mass. Vols.

The lodge first leased a hall in C. W. Fields' building, then called "Harris Hall," which it continued to occupy until April 6, 1869, when it removed to a new hall in Tyler's Block, which was formally dedicated January 28, 1870. On the completion of the New Bank Block, in 1882, it again removed to the new hall in that building, which had been finished and elegantly fitted up by the brethren at an expense of about twelve hundred dollars, and where it now remains. The new hall was solemnly dedicated to Masonry October 20, 1882, by the officers of the Grand Lodge, Samuel C. Lawrence, Grand Master, with impressive ceremonies, at the close of which a grand banquet was served in the Clinton House Hall. The following brethren have served as Masters of the lodge: E. Dana Bancroft, 1858–59, under dispensation; Henry Bowman, 1859–60, one year; Alfred A. Burdett, 1860–61, 1861–62, 1863–64, 1873–74, four years; Josiah H. Vose,[1] 1862–63, one year; Daniel Marsh, 1866–67, one year; Levi Greene, 1864–65, 1865–66, two years; George W. Burdett, 1867–68, one year; Henry N. Bigelow, 1868–69, one year; Charles W. Ware, 1869–70, one year; Charles F. Greene,[2] 1870–71, one year; Daniel B. Ingalls,[3] 1871, 1871–72, one and a half years; Sylvester S. Welsh, 1872–73, one year; Henry A. Putnam, 1874–75, one year; Henry O. Sawyer, 1875–76, 1876–77, two years; G. Walton

[1] Entered the military service soon after his installation, and fell in battle before the close of his Masonic year.
[2] Died in office.
[3] Elected to fill vacancy.

Goss, 1877–78, 1878–79, two years; Henry McGown, 1879–80, 1880–81, two years; George Sutherland, Jr., 1881–82, one year; Edward G. Stevens, 1882–83, one year; James B. Finnie, 1883–84, one year; Samuel Booth, 1884–85, 1885–86, two years; Charles A. Bartlett, 1886–87, one year; Jonathan Smith, 1887–88, one year.

In 1885 Col. Gilman M. Palmer left a legacy of two thousand dollars to the lodge, the income thereof to be devoted to the relief of the widows and orphans of its deceased members. The lodge has had a steady growth, and now numbers one hundred and forty members. It has upon its rolls many of the most substantial and honorable citizens of the towns within its jurisdiction, whose zeal and fraternal love for its honor and welfare deservedly place it first, as it is by many years the oldest, among all the societies of the community.

CLINTON ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER.—In April or May, probably in April, 1869, the following Royal Arch Masons met in Masonic Hall, in Tyler's Block, to organize a Royal Arch Chapter in Clinton: Henry N. Bigelow, Alfred A. Burdett, Levi Greene, Henry A. Putnam, Charles W. Field, Charles W. Field, Jr., George M. Lourie, Albert Shattuck, John Bennett, Marcus E. Amsden and C. L. S. Hammond. All but John Bennett were then residents of Clinton—Mr. Bennett lived in Lancaster—and all belonged to chapters in Worcester, Marlborough and Fitchburg.

The meeting organized by the election of Henry N. Bigelow chairman, and C. L. S. Hammond secretary. It was voted to petition the Grand Chapter for authority to form a chapter in Clinton, and the name of "Clinton Royal Arch Chapter" was selected for the new organization. Choice was made of the following officers: M. E. H. P., Alfred A. Burdett; E. King, Henry N. Bigelow; E. Scribe, C. L. S. Hammond. These officers were also chosen a committee to obtain the recommendation of the chapters in Worcester and Marlborough, and also to draw up and obtain signatures to a petition to the Grand Chapter the following June for a dispensation to work.

In September of that year the Grand Chapter granted leave to the new body to work. The dispensation was dated September 7th, and was addressed to the petitioners, which included, besides those at the first meeting, Henry E. Starbird, J. E. Hitchcock, C. W. Odiorne, Reuben Blood, E. W. Bigelow, Quincy A. Whitney, H. Stevens and Benjamin Whittemore. The three officers chosen at the first meeting were appointed High Priest, King and Scribe respectively, and the dispensation was signed by Henry Chickering, Grand High Priest, and Thomas Waterman, Grand Secretary. On the evening of September 8th, of the same year, the chapter held its first meeting under the dispensation, and the necessary steps were taken to procure an instructor in the work, a hall for meetings and the proper regalia and jewels for the officers. For the first year the chapter met nearly every week, and the Royal Arch Degree was conferred on nineteen candidates.

September 15, 1870, having worked a year under a dispensation, Clinton Royal Arch Chapter was formally constituted and consecrated by the officers of the Grand Chapter. The list of charter members includes those petitioning for a dispensation the previous year, and also the names of Elisha Brimhall, George H. Evans, Robert J. Finnie, Charles F. Greene, Alonzo S. Davidson, Lucius Field, Henry O. Sawyer, Wellington E. Parkhurst, Albert T. Bigelow, A. S. Jaquith and Charles M. Dinsmore, twenty-five in all. The charter dated from September 7, 1870.

The chapter leased rooms of Trinity Lodge, in Tyler's Block, which it occupied until September 4, 1882, when it removed into the new and more commodious rooms fitted up by Trinity Lodge in the new Bank Block, where it still remains. Since 1870 the chapter has had a steady and prosperous growth and now numbers sixty-one members. The following are the names of those who have filled the office of High Priest, in the order of their service: Alfred A. Burdett, three years, one under dispensation and two under charter; Henry N. Bigelow, two years; Charles W. Field, Jr., one year; Lucius Field, two years; Alonzo S. Davidson, two years; C. L. S. Hammond, one year; G. Walton Goss, one year; C. C. Stone, two years; George B. Dinsmore, two years; Jonathan Smith, two years; George Sutherland, Jr., in office.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

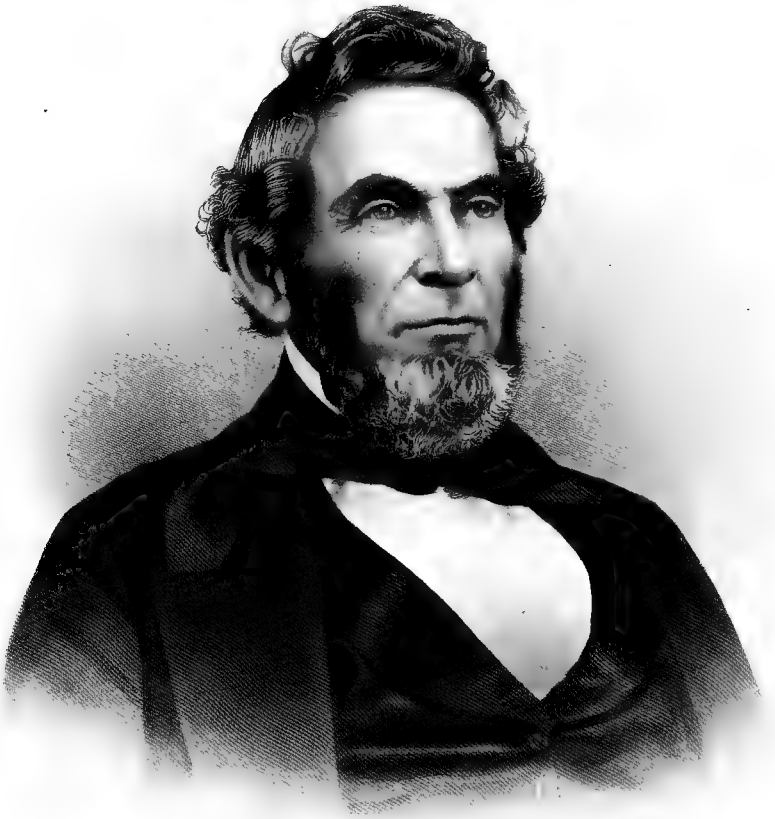
SIDNEY HARRIS.

A fitting tribute to the life-work of an honored citizen cannot be given in the brief sketch herewith presented, but the people of Clinton can see that in Sidney Harris they had a citizen whose influence for good was widely spread in all directions and will continue to be felt for generations to come.

Mr. Harris was born in Lancaster (in that part now called Clinton) in 1804, the youngest son of Daniel and Abigail (Reed) Harris, and always resided in the town of his birth.

His father was a Revolutionary pensioner, a strong temperance man, as was likewise the son, who bore the mantle of his father with the fearless, independent spirit which is required to successfully carry on a good cause in the face of opposition.

In early manhood he established the business of manufacturing horn-combs, many of the methods being original with himself, and from a small beginning built up a business which became national in its reputation and yielded an ample fortune. The territory bounded by his works became known as "Harrisville," in which resided many happy families, contented with their lot and surrounded by that neat-



Sidney Harris

E. L. Harris

Samuel W. Tyler

ness and thrift which characterize a successful New England village.

He was noted for his kindness to his employés and to those who were associated with him in business, and showed his appreciation of their faithfulness and honesty by many kind and generous deeds, so that the few surviving him still hold his name in grateful remembrance.

Mr. Harris was married in Lancaster by Rev. Nathaniel Thayer, D.D., in the year 1829, to Sally Kilburn, daughter of Daniel and Rachel (McIntosh) Kilburn, of Lunenburg, Mass.

Their children were: Edwin, born December 7, 1829; died December 27, 1829. Almira Jane, born June 6, 1831; died September 22, 1847. Christopher Thayer, born March 22, 1833; died March 20, 1854. Edwin Algernon, born May 31, 1837; died May 28, 1875. George Sidney, born March 13, 1839; died April 28, 1867.

He served on the Board of Selectmen in 1838 and also as treasurer and collector in 1850 and 1855.

In religion he was a Unitarian, a pillar in the church of his faith. As a citizen he espoused every good cause and became identified with every movement which pertained to the welfare of the town.

The last few years of his life were enfeebled by disease, and after relinquishing his business to his sons, he slowly declined until November 21, 1861, when death released him from his sufferings. His widow survived him until March 9, 1872.

EDWIN A. HARRIS.

One of Clinton's young and active business men forms the subject of this sketch, and though passed from this life, his influence is still felt among the living, and his memory cherished in grateful remembrance.

Mr. Harris was born May 31, 1837, at the Harris homestead, in Clinton, Mass., the fourth child of Sidney and Sally (Kilburn) Harris. His boyhood was passed at school and in his father's workshops, so that when he came to years of manhood he was thoroughly prepared to assume the responsibility of the business which was relinquished by his father on account of failing health. He was connected with one of our most successful business establishments. The father, Sidney, long and well known in this community, commenced the comb business in 1823, on the site of the present works, and upon his death was succeeded by his sons, Edwin A. and George S.; the subsequent death of the younger brother threw the entire responsibility upon the elder, the business being conducted throughout these changes under the firm-name of S. Harris & Sons. From the start Mr. Harris was remarkably successful, and under his vigorous efforts the works rapidly increased in size and capacity, until they became the largest comb works in the United States. He was one of the most active and earnest men in business life, giving to his business all his powers of mind and body; a practical believer in industry and all that it can do; though a young man, he was able to show what earnestness and perseverance may accomplish.

His excellent business traits commanded the admiration of his fellow-citizens, and his death in the prime of life, while fulfilling a mission of great usefulness, was mourned by all, particularly by the residents of the village which bore his name.

He married, December 28, 1858, Adeline K. Damon, daughter of William Damon, of Fitchburg, Mass.

Children's names as follows: Herbert Christopher, born April 28, 1862, deceased June 24, 1863; Flora Kate, born July 20, 1865, deceased January 6, 1883.

In religion Mr. Harris was a Unitarian, and gave generously to the support of the church. Like his father, he was active in reform, and manfully defended the right on all occasions. Ever interested in the public welfare, he was one of the first projectors and supporters of the Agricultural Branch Railroad, and the town is greatly indebted to him for the successful culmination of this important enterprise, which marked a new era in the growth of the town. Besides being one of the railroad directors, he was also one of the directors of the First National Bank of Clinton, and greatly interested himself in the growth of this institution.

But ere he had reached the age of thirty-eight, when his future seemed full of promise and the remaining years of his life prospectively free from the harassing cares of business, was he called to a higher stage of existence, his death occurring May 28, 1875. The funeral procession to the beautiful Harris lot in Woodlawn Cemetery was one of the largest ever seen in town, and well attested to the worth of the citizen whose departure was mourned by the whole community.

SAMUEL W. TYLER.

Samuel Willard Tyler, the subject of this sketch, settled in Clinton in 1864, coming from Attleboro', his native town, Bristol County. His emigrant ancestor, Job Tyler, who came from England about 1653, was one of the pioneer settlers in the domain of the good Massasoit, the steadfast friend of the English.

When but twelve years of age his father died, leaving him and an only sister to the care of a widowed mother. He remained on the farm, spending the time in rural pursuits, until he was twenty-one. The only pride he was taught to desire was that which arose from the exercise of an honest industry, and he found full scope for its indulgence during his early years. Though not of age, he was permitted to act for himself, and to dispose of the results of his labors.

Forty years ago a lad's school advantages in the

country were circumscribed, and the boy Samuel's were supplemented by only a brief academic course.

Possessing a talent for music, all the hours of recreation were spent at the key-board of the home instrument; while only a boy, the Sabbath found him presiding at the organ of the country church. Later, in his adopted town, he was identified with various church choirs, and officiated as organist in more than one of the leading churches.

His life was not an eventful one, and its history is briefly told.

Large knowledge of the outside world was gained in the War of the Rebellion, where he served as musician until orders were issued from the War Department discharging all regimental bands from the United States service.

His honored father and grandfather served in preceding struggles, the latter being an officer in the Revolutionary War. In the military and civil departments of the annals of his native town, from the date of incorporation, in 1694, the names of grandfather and great-grandfather appear conspicuously, and are suggestive.

While in the South Mr. Tyler formed the acquaintance of a comrade and brother-musician, and in 1864 the two formed a co-partnership in business under the firm-name of Tyler & White. Four years subsequently he disposed of his interest in the business, and himself engaged in the musical instrument trade.

If we were to select any traits of character for which Mr. Tyler was especially remarkable, they would be his almost stern justice and fidelity to what he believed to be right. His honesty made him not less exacting with himself than with others. His accounts were always correct, his dealings always just.

In these days, when chicanery, malfeasance in office, embezzlements, breaches of trust and fraud are so prevalent, it is pleasant to write of one who kept himself free from any kind of stain on his integrity.

He wrought continuously, ungrudgingly and unselfishly for the public weal; and no fruits of his labors were so grateful to himself as those garnered in connection with public service.

He enjoyed always the esteem of the best elements of the community. The public is ever willing to place responsibility on competent, trusted and willing shoulders. During his residence in his adopted town he was one of Clinton's most active and honored citizens in every line of business enterprise, activity and public service. Though not a member of the Board of Trade, on its records may be found the following: "The Clinton Board of Trade hereby expresses its hearty appreciation of Mr. Tyler's unfaltering interest in our town, and his constant devotion to its welfare, as shown in liberal and successful efforts to enlarge and improve the business facilities of Clinton."

He was elected to various positions, which he filled to the universal acceptance of his constituents and the public generally.

He was selectman for a period of four years, assessor ten years, and water commissioner two years, serving always with an enthusiastic appreciation of responsibility and opportunity.

While possessing a quick discernment, he was cautious in adopting new measures; weighed all matters in the balance of a clear judgment, and, after forming an opinion, was very decided, rarely finding any reason to alter it.

So far we have spoken of Mr. Tyler only in his business and public life; but, as is ever the case, that life is the most real and important of which the public sees but little and can know but little,—the life each man lives in his family. In 1864 Mr. Tyler married Persis Eldora Bemis, of Paxton, Mass., with whom he passed more than twenty years of wedded life.

Their children were Samuel Willard and Harriet Frances.

Mr. Tyler died February 19, 1886, aged forty-seven.

"He liveth long who liveth well."

JOSEPH B. PARKER.

Joseph B. Parker, son of Quincy Parker and Patience Brooks, was born in Princeton, Mass., in 1805. His ancestors were of Puritan origin, and for several generations lived in Massachusetts. Aside from his home training, his early education was limited to the common district school of his town. At the age of fifteen he was apprenticed to Mr. Joel Howe, a blacksmith of Princeton, with whom he remained six years. Completing his apprenticeship, he entered the machine-shop of Samuel Flagg, of Oakdale, a village in West Boylston. In this position he developed at once an uncommon tact for his new employment; for within a year he was appointed foreman of the shop, on account of which some of the senior workmen, refusing to work under so young a man, left the shop; but his apparent ability as a mechanic held for him his position, and his manly demeanor won back his disaffected shop-mates and made them ever after his true and faithful friends.

This position he held for eight years, until the failure in business of his employer—1834. A year prior to this he had built himself a house and married, in October, 1833, Miss Mary A. Morgan. In July, 1835, he was chosen deacon of the Orthodox Congregational Church in West Boylston. His engagement with Mr. Flagg terminating, he commenced the machine business on his own account, occupying the shop formerly occupied by Mr. Flagg.

Meanwhile, E. B. Bigelow, then of West Boylston, and since so distinguished as an inventor, had conceived the idea of building a loom for weaving counterpanes. In his struggle to bring forth his inven-

Jos B Parke

Levi Greene

tion, he sought the aid of Deacon Parker. The coming together of these two men resulted in the formation of a company to complete the undertaking and put the loom in operation. The company consisted of E. B. Bigelow, Deacon Parker and Eli Holbrook, all young men, and all about the same age.

This loom, however, was not a success. The company wanting means to carry on the work further, the enterprise was, for a time, abandoned, though the company fully believed in the final success of the work. From this, the inventive genius of E. B. Bigelow was turned to his coach-lace loom, which at once came to better results.

This loom was built by Deacon Parker and put in operation in Shirley Village, and later was removed to Clinton. In 1840, Deacon Parker removed his business to Providence, R. I. The success of the Messrs. Bigelows being assured, they, with others, formed a company, purchased the water-power in Clinton, built a machine-shop and made extensive preparations for operating their new inventions. After the trial of other machinists to build their machinery, the Bigelows again sought the aid of Deacon Parker. He was called from Providence to Clinton and put in charge of the new machine-shop built by the Clinton Company.

This new position brought more fully his mechanical ability to the test. Following the coach-lace loom came the reconstruction of the counterpane looms then running, but had not done satisfactory work. These were all rebuilt, resulting in the manufacture of a much improved fabric. Following these were the gingham and the Brussels carpet looms, each of which was the first power loom of its kind ever in operation. All these were made under Deacon Parker's supervision. All were new; there being no models to work from or workmen experienced in that line of machine building. Everything was wrought out step by step, without the suggestion or aid of others. In the coach-lace loom was found the germ of the Brussels carpet loom, which was brought to its present state of perfection only by the protracted study of years. To invent or make such a masterpiece of machinery is honor enough for any man, and justly entitles him to lasting fame. It may seem invidious to institute comparisons between men of eminent qualities in any profession. No one is greatest in everything. Each has his weak as well as his strong characteristics. The weak points of one man are exactly those in which another is strongest. This was especially true in case of E. B. Bigelow and Deacon Parker. One was the counterpart of the other. The two ought and did work together. Neither could have accomplished alone what they achieved unitedly. E. B. Bigelow was an inventor of the highest order, but was not a practical mechanic. Construction was not his forte. But where he was weakest Deacon Parker was strongest. The idea of a machine being given him, he could make it, which oftener than otherwise is the most difficult part to perform. In 1851, Deacon Parker was sent by the Messrs. Bigelows to England, to superintend the setting up of Brussels carpet looms. He remained there some six or eight months, when he returned to Clinton. Soon after his return he built a shop and commenced the machine business again on his own account. His business at once increased, his machine-shop was twice enlarged and under his management became an important business interest of Clinton.

His strong points as a man of business were his strength and clearness of mind. These were seen in everything. United with his intense application this quality was invaluable to him as a machinist.

He was a man of superior judgment. This also appeared in all matters of every-day life. He was every man's counselor, though he never wore a title. In his business few men were his equal as a judge of machinery. Young men esteemed it a privilege to be taught the business of a machinist by him.

His ideal of a machine was perfection. Great care was taken to make every machine perfect. Nothing was allowed to leave his shop that was not so. This had much to do with his success in after-life.

His attention to all the details of his business was unremitting. He trusted nothing to others. And as it was continuously on the increase, it was almost a matter of necessity that he be more and more industriously occupied with its cares and management. In the summer of 1859 he and his family spent a day at the seashore in York, Maine, which up to that time was the only holiday of the kind he had enjoyed.

Few men are identified with the almost model town of Clinton more than Dea. Parker. In the variety and extent of its manufactures, in its rapid growth and continued prosperity, he took a constant interest, and bore a conspicuous part. And could the town be photographed in its moral, as well as in its material aspects, it would appear that he was even more an important factor in it. A man of clear head, sound judgment, and a Christian character that always commanded respect and confidence, he, with others, did most valuable pioneer service in laying the foundations of the moral and religious institutions of the town. He exerted a strong influence over young men, and by his counsel and example was most useful in aiding them to make a good start in life.

Though sufficiently conservative, he was a man of reform; always headed in the right direction, always standing for the best things, no man ever doubting how he would talk, and what he would do, when the common good was at stake.

LEVI GREENE.

Prominent among the early pioneers of this town was the subject of this sketch, who was born in Berlin, Mass., October 12, 1801, the son of Aaron and Lydia (Goddard) Greene.

After serving his apprenticeship at carpentering, under the famous Jacob Stone, of Lancaster, Mass., he married Achsah, Jacob's daughter, November 5, 1829, settled in Lancaster and became a builder and lumber dealer on his own account, in which occupation he was very successful, which, with judicious investments in the then small village of Clinton, laid for him the foundations of his ample fortune.

The death of his first wife occurred October 21, 1843, and September 19, 1844, he married Lucy Harris, of Lunenburg, Mass., daughter of William and Betsy (Spaulding), who survived him.

The children of Mr. Greene were,—Charles F., born August 21, 1830, died March 29, 1871; Ellen M., born May 7, 1832, died August 2, 1863; Eliza A., born July 30, 1833, died January 9, 1856; Emery W., born October 7, 1839, died June 18, 1857; Lucy H., born July 18, 1846, died August 24, 1846; Charlotte E., born July 23, 1848, died September 18, 1848.

In 1848 he served the town of Lancaster as selectman, also in 1846–47 as assessor, in which latter capacity he also served the town of Clinton in 1855–56, '58, '60–62, '65, most of the time as chairman of the board.

In Masonic circles Mr. Greene took an active interest, and Trinity Lodge and Clinton Royal Arch Chapter elected him to their highest offices.

The Congregational Church also found in him a faithful supporter, he being one of the original founders. Always discharging his duties with perfect honesty, he held the respect of his fellow-citizens, and his opinion was sought by all classes, with full confidence in his judgment. In his family and personal friendships he was kind and affectionate, and few men were more conscientious than he and none felt more deeply the responsibility of citizenship and the duties devolving upon him.

HON. ELISHA BRIMHALL.

Mr. Brimhall was born in Oakham, Mass., March 25, 1825, and died in Clinton, after a brief illness from pneumonia, April 9, 1887. Age, sixty-two years and fifteen days.

He was the only child of Jonas and Caroline (Nye), of Oakham, whose names for many generations were prominent in the history of that town. His first work was on his father's farm, but at the age of twenty he commenced to learn the trade of a carpenter, which, with fortunate circumstances, enabled him to lay the foundation of his successful fortune. Coming to Clinton at its first formation, he quickly became a successful business man, and among those early pioneers he was one of the most active and energetic, adding much to the growth and progress of the then small village.

In 1857 he erected the large block on High Street, known as Brimhall's Block, while the Courant Block, Oxford House, and the large tenement block, bearing his name, followed in quick succession to become, not only ornaments to the principal streets of the town, but enduring monuments to his zeal and business enterprise. Before his decease he completed an elegant mansion on Prescott Street, where he was permitted to reside but a brief period, ere he was called away. During the Rebellion he was on the Board of Selectmen, and to him the town was largely indebted for his valuable services during those trying times. As an example of his energetic and persistent nature, his special trip to Washington may be cited, where, through a personal interview with President Lincoln, he secured a credit to the town of seventy men, thereby saving a draft. From 1866 to 1871 he was the treasurer of the town, having been unanimously elected twice in the five years.

In 1873 he was again elected selectman, and in 1874 was chosen chairman of the Board of Assessors, but declined to serve.

In politics Mr. Brimhall was a life-long Republican, and also a firm believer in temperance principles, carrying out his belief in every-day life.

In 1871 he was elected to the Legislature from the District then comprising Clinton, Northboro', Berlin, by 170 majority over Jonas E. Howe. In 1876 he was elected to the State Senate by 1048 majority, and re-elected the following year by 1920 majority.

In financial matters Mr. Brimhall's services were almost constantly employed. He was a director of the Lancaster National Bank, which failed through the defalcation of the president. With his sharp eye, Mr. Brimhall detected methods of business distasteful to a man of his habits, and rather than be identified with anything which had the semblance of dishonesty he withdrew from the institution entirely. At the time of the failure of the Lancaster Savings Bank his services were secured as one of the receivers, which position he held at the time of his death. The Congregational parish, of which he was an efficient member, is largely indebted to him for generous financial aid and hearty co-operation in all good works.

To enjoy an honorable position in the business world was Mr. Brimhall's great ambition, and that he attained it his fellow-citizens bear cordial testimony by holding his memory in grateful esteem. He acquired the high regard of his fellow-citizens by his exemplary methods of life, in his business or social relations, and he won the esteem of all by undeviating rectitude. He belonged to that class of men whose motives are always honest, and who, in the pursuit of wealth, never sacrifice their honesty for a single moment.

Mr. Brimhall married Mary A. Fletcher, of Springfield, Vt., who survives him.

PERLEY P. COMEY, M.D.

Perley P. Comey, M.D. (Harvard), youngest son of Elbridge G. and Abigail (Pierce) Comey, was born in

E. Brimhall

Perley P. Comry M. D.

Lyman Leighton

Holliston, Mass., January 14, 1852. His father was born in Hopkinton, Mass., was a farmer and returned to Hopkinton to reside when the subject of our sketch was eight years of age,—a man of sterling integrity and exemplary character. Perley P. Comey received his early education in the common and high schools of Hopkinton, being also kept busy upon his father's farm.

In 1868, his father having died, he was sent to the Oread High School, in Worcester, a classical school connected with the Oread Institute, afterward learning the apothecary business in Worcester. Later he began the study of medicine with Dr. A. P. Richardson, of Boston, and at the Harvard Medical College, at which institution he graduated in June, 1878, and in August of the same year he began practice in Clinton, Mass. He almost immediately began to have a very liberal patronage and soon had a very extensive practice, not only in Clinton, but in all of the adjoining towns. Ever ready to sympathize with and advise the afflicted and suffering, he seemed to possess the qualifications which make a man popular in the medical profession. Few men bring to the study and practice of their profession more of those varied qualifications which help to make up the true physician and surgeon. Always on the alert in everything relating to his profession, quick to see and prompt to act, make him a successful surgeon as well as physician.

He married Marion L. Jones, daughter of John O. Jones, of Boston, and granddaughter of Col. Jas. Estabrook, of Worcester, with whom she resided. They have three children, two daughters and one son—Effie M., Gertrude J. and Clifton J.

He is a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, a prominent Mason and Odd-Fellow, a member of the Improved Order of Red Men, Knights of Honor and United Order of Golden Cross.

LYMAN LEIGHTON.

Mr. Leighton was born in Upton, Mass. His father, Hazard Leighton, was strongly built, over six feet tall, and an athlete. The stories of his suppleness, physical feats and strength are quoted to this day. His mind and judgment, though little schooled, were as vigorous and self-poised as his powers of body. He was highly skilled in agriculture. In 1839 he married Lydia Aldrich, of the same place. Lyman was one of six children born to them, and the eldest of three boys. He was early sent forth to earn something for the family, or at least his own bread. The first place open to him was as a boy on a farm, and in this humble way he began his battle with the world.

Mr. Leighton's school advantages were meagre. In them, however, he acquired elements of an education that have enabled him to use well such advantages as came to him in life. He importuned his parents to let him learn the trade of a carpenter, and with their consent entered the employ of Thomas J. and Nahum B. Hall, a then active co-partnership of contractors in Upton. The old-fashioned days of apprenticeship were on the wane, and the firm allowed him to work with them and under their instruction for what he could earn. He was a mere boy, but being permitted to enter the ranks as a fellow-workman aroused his manliness and called out his best traits. With these men, who were skillful workmen and led their men as well as planned and directed them, he had a fine opportunity, not only to train his hands in the use of tools, but to study their ways as successful builders. They did not suppress but encouraged every laudable effort, so that he found full play for his ambition and energy, and while he learned the details of the art of his choice he also gained an insight into those ways that laid the foundation for his future successful business career. He applied himself diligently and faithfully to his chosen profession until the breaking out of the Civil War. He enlisted at the age of eighteen years in that fine regiment which was the pride of Worcester County,—the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Volunteers,— and in September, 1861, went to Annapolis, Maryland, where he entered at once upon the train and drill of a soldier. He was here stricken down by an attack of the measles and was sent to the hospital, and though receiving the best possible care, came from it with a weakened voice and wasted frame, and the experienced surgeons felt he would not be able to go through the hardships of an active campaign. He did not shirk his duty, however, but went with his regiment to North Carolina. After two battles he was so reduced in strength that a court of surgeons recommended his discharge for disability, which he received in July, 1862. He returned home at once, and in his native air and with good nursing he so far recovered as to be accepted by the examining surgeon, and again became an enlisted man. He joined a company of heavy artillery in September, 1863, and served until the close of the war with credit to himself and to his company.

He returned to his native town to take up again the pursuits of peace. His trade had not been completed, and its work was now found to be very dull, and he was compelled to accept any chance offered him. In these new fields of labor he enlarged his knowledge and gained valuable information that was afterwards turned to good account in the management of his affairs as a contractor. It was about this time that he made the acquaintance of Miss Carrie Clark, a young lady who resided in Upton with her mother, and they were married in November, 1866. She was of patriotic stock. Her ancestor, Edward Clark, was a soldier in the Colonial army, and was present at the surrender of the fortress of Louisburg to the English in 1758.

After his marriage, finding he was unable to command a sufficient income to satisfy his household requirements, Mr. Leighton removed to Clinton, Mass.

Here he obtained employment as a foreman at his old trade, and eventually went into business for himself as a contractor and builder. Mr. Leighton's business grew rapidly; he has added to it a lumber-yard, which is also doing a large and increasing business. Many fine buildings erected by him through the town stand as monuments to his skill and enterprise.

Mr. Leighton is an enterprising citizen, and all matters pertaining to the advancement and welfare of his adopted town find in him an earnest advocate. He is a Republican in politics, and takes an active interest in the affairs of the party. Mr. Leighton has a family of five children.

CHAPTER XIV.

SOUTHBOROUGH.

BY DEXTER NEWTON.

Location and Incorporation—Soil and Surface—Waters—Productions—Agriculture—Manufactures and Mechanical Industries.

THIS town is situated in the extreme easterly part of Worcester County, about twenty-eight miles from the State-House and about sixteen miles from the court-house in the city of Worcester. The town-house is located at a bearing of about seven degrees south of due west from the State-House. Southborough is skirted on three sides by Middlesex County. It has Marlborough on the north, Framingham and Ashland on the east, Ashland and Hopkinton on the south and Westborough and Northborough on the west. A large portion of this town formerly belonged to Marlborough. Before its incorporation it was called "Stoney Brook," probably so-called from a stream of water which still bears that name. The part which lies north of said brook was called "Cow Commons," from the fact that it was used by the inhabitants for a common pasture. The cattle were marked and their whereabouts was reported to the owners by the friendly Indians, from time to time. The town of Southborough was incorporated July 6 (old style), or July 17 (new style), 1727, in response to the following *remarkable* petition, to-wit:

To the Honorable William Dummer, Esq., Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief, the Honorable Council and House of Representatives at their session in May, 1727:

The petition of us, the subscribers inhabitants of the Southerly part of the town of Marlborough, Humbly sheweth That, whereas Devine Providence, which appoints the bounds and habitations of all men, hath so ordered our lots, or at least most of us, that we are at such a distance from the Place of Public Worship, that ourselves, but especially our aged and infirm, together with our women and little ones, cannot comfortably endure the necessary travel that they are forced unto for the attaining an opportunity at the place of Public Worship, and likewise others, whose lots, although, not at present so difficult as the other aforesaid, yet considering that it is but a point of christian duty and charity to compassionate the circumstances of such, and having also obtained a vote of the town of Marlborough in our favor to be set off as a seperate Town, by such bounds as is described by the vote of Town and the Plan herewith annexed, and likewise for a further manifestation of the aforesaid Town of Marlborough's good-will towards us in the matter, have by their vote directed their Selectmen to sign or order an assignment with us as petitioners to this Honorable Court, upon the consideration of the whole, we have some reason to think Providence favors the matter and have hope of a Blessing. Wherefore, we humbly petition this Honorable Court that we, the Inhabitants of the aforesaid southerly part of the Town of Marlborough, being about fifty families already settled with some preparation for more, may be set off by such bounds as described by the aforesaid vote of the Town for setting us off, and more fully set forth in the plan herewith annexed, and with the land may be incorporated into a Town and have and enjoy all immunities, Privileges, Rights and power as other Towns within this Province have and do by law enjoy, and we your humble Petitioners, as in Duty Bound, shall ever pray."

The above pursuant to a vote of the town of Marlborough, June 12, 1727, directing the major part of the selectmen, or the whole of them to sign a petition to the General Court with the inhabitants of "Stoney Brook," being the southerly part of the town, for a corporation of the same: Joseph Stratin, John Sherman, Eliazer Howe, Samuel Brigham, Abraham Eager, selectmen. Names of petitioners: William Ward, William Johnson, John Bellows, David Fay, John Woods, Daniel Taylor, Nathan Brigham, Nathaniel Joslen, John Mathis, Jr., David Bruce, William Johnson, Jr., Jonathan Witt, John Amsden, Jon. Newton, Joseph Woods, Roger Bruse, Othniel Taylor, Daniel Newton, Isaac Bellows, Samuel Bellows, Robert Horn, John Newton, Joseph Ball, Abram Newton, Ephraim Newton, Benjamin Newton, Caleb Witherbee, Samuel Lyscom, Eliazer Bellows, John Belknap, Isaac Newton, Joseph Witherbee, Samuel Gibbs, Jon. Bellows, Moses Johnson.

From its local situation in the mother town it was named Southborough. At the time of the incorporation of Southborough it contained about eight thousand eight hundred and twenty-two acres. On the 7th day of March, 1786, in response to a petition signed by the following persons, who resided on the premises, viz.: Daniel Fay, Elisha Bemis, Phinehas Bemis, John Leonard and Lydia Pierce, that part of Framingham, then known as "Fiddle Neck," and which now forms the southerly portion of Southborough, containing about three hundred acres, was, by an act of the Legislature, set to Southborough. May 5, 1835, by an act of the Legislature, about sixteen acres were taken from the formerly supposed area of Southborough and added to Westborough, thereby putting an end to a long contest between the two towns in regard to their boundary lines, March 24, 1843, by an act of the Legislature, and in response to the petition of Willard Newton, Willis Newton, Henry B. Newton, William F. Newton, David Temple and Daniel Walker, that part of Southborough lying north of Monument No. 3, near the house formerly owned by Barnabas Brigham, and Monument No. 5, near the "Tunnecog Bridge," containing about eighty-two acres, was set to Marlborough. Southborough now contains about nine thousand and twenty-four acres, according to the

old surveys, including roads, common, cemeteries and land under water. Its surface is somewhat undulating, and its scenery delightful and varied. The soil is a strong, deep, gravelly loam, rich and very productive. The land is somewhat stony, especially in the southerly portion of the town. The principal rock is granite. In the western part, and near Fayville, there are numerous springs which contain large quantities of iron. The wood consists chiefly of oak, walnut, chestnut, maple and birch. The following are the names of its familiar hills, meadows and streams of water: Wolf-pen Hill, Break-neck Hill, Pine Hill, Oak Hill, Clean Hill, Mount Victory, Troublesome Meadow, Bloody Meadow, Handkerchief Meadow, Angle Brook, Deerfoot Brook, Pancake Brook, Stony Brook and Sudbury River. Stony Brook, having its source in the westerly part of Southborough, meanders in an easterly direction through the central portion thereof, and falls into the Sudbury River in Framingham. This last-named stream has its source in Westborough, and forms the southern boundary of Southborough. Its thread divides this town from Hopkinton. The two streams afford considerable water-power. Angle Brook, a tributary of Stony Brook, has its source in Marlborough. Numerous towns and county roads of superior quality checker the town. Her many bridges are mostly of stone. The inhabitants of the town, in her early days, were principally employed in agriculture. The sturdy yeomanry of the town, from generation to generation, have laid low many of her forests, and her men of energy and perseverance have, through the lapse of her past years, converted many of her once rugged hills and valleys into beautiful fields, orchards and gardens, which bring forth abundant crops for man and beast.

This town now contains several superior farms, and there are one hundred and seventy-nine in all, of from ten to four hundred acres. By statistical comparison of farm products, including her great yield of excellent fruit, Southborough appears to lead all the towns but one in the Commonwealth. The farms are nearly all in a high state of cultivation, and are mostly fenced with good stone walls. The buildings are commodious and tasty and are generally kept in good repair. Her agricultural products in 1875 amounted to $197,365. The farmers formerly produced butter, veal and beef for the market; now their energies are largely devoted to the production of milk and fruit. The noted "Deerfoot Farm Company" is a corporation established under the laws of the State, and the shares thereof are owned by members of the Burnett families; Hon. Edward Burnett being president; Robert M. Burnett, treasurer; Seth H. Howes, clerk; William W. Rogers, superintendent. Butter of superior quality is made here on the most scientific principles, from the milk of pure Jersey cows. About 55,000 pounds of butter are made here yearly, and 49,000 quarts of cream are sent to Boston; 146,766 cans of milk were used in this factory the past year. There has also been sent to Boston by other parties 445,193 cans of milk during the past year.

Southborough has had a Farmers' Club for some twenty-eight to thirty years. It has done much to revolutionize the whole system of farming. Farmers have been stimulated largely through the influence of the club to vie with each other in having the finest breeds of cattle and the best herds of cows. Much greater yields of grain, vegetables and fruit, and of vastly better quality and size, reward the intelligent and industrious farmers. The great success of the club is largely due to the indefatigable exertions of a few men, among the foremost of whom we would mention Samuel N. Thompson, its president; Deacon D. W. C. McMaster, its clerk; and Horace F. Webster, its treasurer.

The superior grazing fields of Southborough impart a peculiarly rich and agreeable flavor to the milk and butter. The inhabitants of this town are generally in comfortable circumstances. The number of persons fully supported by the town during the twenty-eight years immediately preceding 1888 averaged yearly only about seven. The following statistics from the Assessor's Report in 1888, concerning the wealth of the citizens and other matters of interest, shows that there are in the town 398 horses, 1089 cows, 22 sheep. 79 swine, 421½ houses, 16 oxen, 234 other neat cattle, Personal property taxed, $287,043; real estate taxed, $1,142,400—total, $1,429,443. Number of polls, 618. Amount of taxes raised, $18,249.13. Statistics show that there is much wealth in this town, far exceeding *per capita* that in most other towns. Although a large portion of the inhabitants in former years were employed in agricultural pursuits, we find that there has been a commendable degree of interest manifested in other important enterprises. There have been in town since its incorporation at least six grist mills. three saw mills, one wire factory, one carpet factory, one flour mill, two sash and blind factories, one peg mill, three extensive tanneries, one currier shop, one brush factory, two brick kilns, three cotton and wool factories, six boot and shoe factories, one bonnet factory and one carriage factory. This town contains four villages, viz.: Southborough Centre, Fayville, Cordaville and Southville. Fayville is situated in the easterly and Cordaville and Southville in the southerly portion thereof. The Boston and Albany Railroad extends through Cordaville and Southville; the Old Colony Railroad extends through Southborough Centre and Fayville, and connects with the Boston and Albany Railroad at South Framingham. In about the year 1845 Southborough seemingly took upon herself a new life, in consequence of the sudden influx of manufacturers. Extensive boot and shoe factories were built in the south part of the town, and, as a consequence, the beautiful village Southville sprang into existence. John Hartt & Co. and Newton & Hartt manufactured

boots and shoes there extensively and successfully for many years, giving employment to a large number of workmen. G. Bickford Brigham continues the business there, and employs about one hundred hands; and his annual sales of boots and shoes amount to $165,000.

William B. Wood also erected a factory in Southville, in which he manufactured cotton and woolen cloths for many years, giving employment to a num ber of people.

Soon after the erection of those factories, Milton H. Sanford, Esq., purchased a large tract of land in the south part of the town, and in 1846–47 he erected thereon a large stone factory for the manufacture of cotton and woolen goods. He also built thereon many dwelling-houses and other buildings. This thriving village he named Cordaville, in honor of his wife, Cordelia. The same factory was burnt October 31, 1855. Two persons lost their lives in consequence of the fire, and others were injured. On the same spot he erected the present stone factory. He manufactured very extensively various kinds of cotton and woolen fabrics, and jute blankets. He became very wealthy. In 1864 he sold the real and personal property to a stock company, called the "Cordaville Mills Company," Franklin Haven, Esq., being president, John H. Stevenson, Esq., treasurer, and Judge Thomas Russell, clerk. In 1871 said property was sold by auction to Adolphus Merriam, Esq., of Framingham. For some years large quantities of goods were there manufactured by Merriam & Wilson. March 9, 1876, a stock company was formed under the corporate name of "Cordaville Woolen Company," Hubbard Willson, Esq., president and superintendent, and Adolphus Merriam, Esq., treasurer, said Willson, Merriam and Joseph Merriam, directors. This company now manufacture blankets. They employ about one hundred operatives, and the sales amount to about one hundred thousand dollars per year.

In 1860 one Kidder commenced the manufacture of brick near Fayville; after his death the property was owned and the business continued by Ball & Holman. They were succeeded by the Framingham Brick Company. By the aid of steam-power and improved machinery the latter company are able to manufacture yearly one and a half millions of brick. Fayville was so named in honor of a large portion of its former business men, to wit: Colonel Dexter Fay, and his two brothers, Colonel Francis B. Fay and Honorable Sullivan Fay, Colonel Artemas Fay and his brother, Elijah Fay. Colonel Dexter Fay commenced business as a butcher. He afterwards built a small store about fourteen feet square. His trade so increased that he had to enlarge his store from time to time. It became a famous place for trade and eventually the yearly sales therein for many years exceeded $125,000. His brothers formerly were more or less interested with him in this business; so, latterly, were his sons, Emery B. Fay, Caleb T. Fay, Sylvester C. Fay and Augustus F. Fay. Colonel Dexter Fay was also a noted cattle broker, and was a constant attendant at the Brighton Cattle Market for over forty years. Colonel Francis B. Fay, after having filled many important offices in town and county, moved to Chelsea, Mass. He became a very successful commission merchant, was several times in his lifetime honored with a seat in both branches of the Legislature, and was once elected representative to Congress. He was the first mayor of Chelsea. Honorable Sullivan Fay was conveyancer, settled many estates, was clerk of the Agricultural Branch Railroad Company, was elected to both branches of the Legislature, and was president of a Medical College in Worcester, Mass. Colonel Artemas Fay was a manufacturer of boots, shoes and bonnets. Elijah Fay was a currier. The phrenological poet once wrote concerning the organ of weight in the head of Colonel Dexter Fay: "This organ is very large in your friend, Colonel Fay—Colonel Dexter, of course. There are many of that name on the records of fame —there is Francis of Boston, in the mercantile trade; and Artemas, here at home, by whom bonnets are made."

In those days beef cattle were sold in market by estimated weight or by weight of the sides after they were killed and dressed. In estimating droves of heavy cattle his judgment was most always sought, as no broker who attended the cattle market could excel him in that art. He was a very honorable man in his dealings, was very active in business, and was honored and respected by his townsmen. He held many of the principal offices and represented the town in the General Court. He was an excellent colonel in his regiment. Fayville received the following distinguished honor:

General Lafayette, in about the year 1815, while journeying from New York to Boston with his bodyguards, stopped at the hotel in Fayville for refreshments. The people of the village assembled to do him honor, and he shook hands with them all.

John L. Whiting was born in Shrewsbury, Mass., May 28, 1823. He was the son of Seth Whiting and Mary Kendall, and was one of nine children.

The Whiting family in the United States is descended from Rev. Samnel Whiting, who came to this country in 1636, and was the first minister of Lynn, Mass. (1636 to 1679).

Seth Whiting and family moved to Southboro' in 1841, and from that date until 1850 the brush business was carried on by the father and son in Fayville. Mr. Whiting, Sr., was one of the earliest and one of the best brush-makers in New England; he made several valuable improvements in the art, and did more than any other man to supersede English with American paint-brushes in the Boston market. He considered it a sin to make a poor brush, or one that was not exactly what it

John L. Whiting

seemed to be. Shoddy of any kind, moral or material, found no favor in his sight.

John L. Whiting married Mary, daughter of Moses Sawin, of Southboro', in 1852. He commenced the manufacture of brushes in Boston in 1864, and has for years been the largest brush manufacturer in the United States. Whiting's patent brushes have a national reputation, and have been introduced to some extent in other countries. Mr. Whiting has introduced machinery into his factory, thus effecting a great saving of labor. The brush-makers of the olden time used but one machine, while John L. Whiting & Son have in use between seventy-five and eighty.

Several of Mr. Whiting's inventions effect a very material saving in the length of bristles used in brushes; this is accomplished by mechanical devices which secure the bristles in the ferrule by a shorter hold than any of the old methods, thus practically extending their length and increasing their value, without injury to the quality of the brushes. This economy of stock of course reduced the prices of the brushes; the result has been more of a public than a private benefit, as other brush-makers have been stimulated to extra exertions, in order to accomplish, as far as possible, the saving effected by Mr. Whiting's inventions.

Mr. Whiting is popular with his employés, it being worthy of note that there has never been a strike in his factory.

He is a public-spirited citizen and a liberal contributor to many worthy charities.

In 1872, Curtis Newton and Dexter Newton, sons of Stephen and Sally Newton, having purchased the large estate of the late Col. Dexter Fay, erected, with the assistance of Daniel H. Thompson, Joseph Fairbanks, Allan D. Howe and Lewis Brewer, a shoe-factory in Fayville, forty by fifty feet. Since that time the factory has been twice enlarged, so that now it contains over forty-six thousand feet of flooring. The last addition was made by Dexter Newton, Joseph Fairbanks, Allan D. Howe, Henry H. Newton and Augusta E. Brewer, who are the present owners of the factory. It is leased to H. H. Mawhinney & Co.; Allan D. Howe, superintendent.

The monthly pay-roll amounts to about twelve thousand dollars. They employ about three hundred operatives. The sales amount to about four hundred thousand dollars annually.

Since the erection of this factory Fayville has more than doubled its inhabitants and tenements.

Lincoln Newton (2d), was formerly a boot and shoe manufacturer in Fayville, and gave employment to many persons.

CHAPTER XV.

SOUTHBOROUGH—(*Continued*).

THE number of inhabitants in town at the time of its incorporation is not positively known. There were about fifty families, and probably about two hundred and eighty inhabitants. In 1757 it appears that the number of enrolled men was 75, and the number of minute-men 56. In 1790 the number of inhabitants was 837. At the close of each subsequent decade the number of inhabitants was as follows, viz.: 1800, 871; 1810, 926; 1820, 1,030; 1830, 1,080; 1840, 1,145; 1850, 1,347; 1860, 1,854; 1870, 2,133; 1880–85, 2,100.

Of the names of the inhabitants, the Newtons, Fays and Brighams have always predominated. The number of Newtons born in town since its incorporation is 443; and the number of Fays born in town during the same time is 334.

By order of the General Court, the first town-meeting was held August 28, 1727, at the house of Timothy Brigham, which stood where is now located the St. Mark's School-house. William Johnson was moderator. The first town-meeting, under warrant of selectmen, was held March, 1728—James Newton, moderator; Moses Newton, Seth Bellows, Doe Mathes, and Captain Ward were selectmen. The principal business of this meeting, besides the choice of officers, and of several town-meetings which followed, was to arrange for procuring a minister of "good conversation to preach God's word," and to devise ways and means to build a meeting-house. Money for both purposes was promptly raised. The first meeting-house built was 50x40 feet, and 20-foot posts; £300, or $1,000, was appropriated for same. It was built in 1727–28. This house lasted seventy-nine years, at the end of which time it was sold for $76.99, and taken down. It was located a few feet south of the house now owned by the Pilgrim Evangelical Society, and on a portion of the land given by the inhabitants of Marlborough to the inhabitants of this section thereof, previous to the incorporation of Southborough (said land was given and set apart for the accommodation of meeting-house, burial-place and for a training-field forever). In 1806, December 17th, the second church edifice was dedicated; it cost $7,778.

The pews sold for $2,658 above the appraisal. In 1856 said meeting-house was conveyed by the First Parish Society to said Pilgrim Evangelical Society, and by the latter it was remodeled and fitted up in its present modern style at a cost of about $13,000, and dedicated. In 1828, September 10th, the Baptist Society dedicated the brick church which is now occupied for a dwelling. For want of sufficient room in the church, the dedicatory services were held in the grove near "Mount Vickory." The present Baptist Church was built in 1845. The first church

of the Pilgrim Evangelical Society was built in 1832. It is now the high school-house. The Episcopal Church was dedicated August 15, 1862. The Second Congregational Church was located in Southville, was built in 1872.

St. Matthew's Catholic Church, located between Cordaville and Southville, was built in 1879. St. Anne's Catholic Church was built in 1887, and located between Fayville and Southboro' Centre. Rev. John F. Redican is rector of both societies. He was born in Worcester, April 2, 1858; is a graduate of the public schools of Worcester, also of the Holy Cross College, Worcester, Mass; studied theology in Montreal University; was ordained in Montreal; spent five years as assistant in Webster; came to Cordaville as first pastor of St. Matthew's Church November 26, 1886.

The first minister settled by the town was Rev. Nathan Stone. He was ordained October 21, 1730, and continued their pastor until his death, May 31, 1781. June 1, 1791, Rev. Samuel Sumner was settled. He was dismissed, agreeably to his request, December, 1797. In 1799, October 9th, Rev. Jeroboam Parker, a native of Southborough, was ordained, and became their pastor. He was dismissed at his own request in 1832. The First Parish Society afterwards settled Rev. John D. Sweet, Rev. William Lord, Rev. Alden and Rev. Barnard. The salary first paid to Mr. Stone was £120 or $400, and thirty cords of good wood. In 1734 his salary was raised to £150 and thirty cords of good wood.

Only one religious society existed in town until 1825. The Baptist Society have settled Rev. Jonathan Forbush, Rev. Abiasaph Sampson, Rev. W. Morse, Rev. Aaron Haynes, Rev. M. Ball, Rev. John Alden. They have had several acting pastors, the present one being Rev. H. G. Gay. The Pilgrim Evangelical Society was organized February 17, 1831, and have settled Rev. Walter Follett, Rev. Jacob Cummings, Rev. E. M. Elwood, Rev. G. D. Bates, Rev. W. J. Breed, Rev. John Colby, Rev. H. M. Holmes, Rev. A. L. Love, Rev. J. E. Wheeler and Daniel E. Adams, D.D. Rev. Alanson Rawson was acting pastor from April 28, 1843, to April 12, 1852. Rev. Andrew Bigelow, D.D., was acting pastor from April 1, 1874, to April 1, 1875.

The Episcopal Society have had for rectors Rev. Joshua R. Pierce, Rev. A. C. Patterson, Rev. Charles Wingate, Rev. Robert Lowell, Rev. J. I. T. Coolidge, D.D., and the present rector, Rev. Waldo Burnett.

The Second Congregational Society have settled Rev. C. A. Stone, and have had for acting pastors Rev. John Le Bosquet, and Rev. Truman A. Merrill.

The first appropriation made by Southborough for teachers was in 1732, viz.: to Timothy Johnson, six pounds; and to Samuel Bellows, four pounds ten shillings. Subsequently, for several years, Solomon Ward was employed to teach in rotation the four schools located in different sections of the town. Southborough maintained but four schools until 1837. The citizens of Southborough have ever manifested a great interest in education.

In 1859, Henry H. Peters, Esq., a wealthy citizen, feeling a deep interest in the education of the youth, and having a desire that the scholars of Southborough should have as good advantages for obtaining an education as was enjoyed by the scholars in the neighboring towns, donated the present school-house, nicely finished and furnished, and the land connected therewith, to the town, on condition that it should be used for a high school, to be taught by a master qualified to teach the branches usually taught in a high school, and to be kept at least eight months in each year. The town accepted the very liberal donation at a regular town-meeting; and as a token of their appreciation of his generosity, they directed that it should be called the "Peters High School-House."

The citizens generally have manifested great satisfaction with the good results of the school. They have been willing to appropriate a liberal sum yearly for the support of this as well as for the other ten schools. The School Committee, in 1878, expended for schools, $5,854. In 1852 a free public library was established. The opening of the same was properly celebrated. A public meeting was held in the Town Hall February 12th. The occasion was enlivened by speeches, songs and music. A. L. Hobart, M.D., then of Southborough, made the principal address. The following extract from his address will quite fully explain the character of the preliminary measures incident to its establishment:

> Col. Francis B. Fay, in the fullness of his soul and liberality of his spirit, conceived in his heart to do a good thing unto the inhabitants of the good old town of Southborough, which gave him birth; and so, unsolicited, and of his own good-will and pleasure, he thrust his hand deep into his pocket, and drawing forth five hundred pieces of silver ($500), held them up before the eyes of the inhabitants of the town, while he thus spoke: "Fellow-citizens! Fellow-townsmen! I was born, and nurtured, and rocked, and reared in your midst. I am one of you, and you are dear unto me. And now, as you are dear unto me, and as my heart and hands are drawn towards you in affection, and as the enlightenment and elevation of your minds are things near my heart, therefore, if all together, or any of you, will give a like sum, I will give these five hundred pieces of silver to form the nucleus of a Town Library, which shall be free for all the inhabitants of the town, to use for their improvement, and for their children's children forever."

The town appropriated the other five hundred dollars, and directed that as a token of their esteem for the generous donor, it should be called the "Fay Library."

In 1870, April 20th, Col. Fay donated to the town the additional sum of one thousand dollars, for the benefit of the library. There is now a fund of fifteen hundred dollars in the hands of the trustees of the library, the interest of which, with various other items contributed and appropriated, enable the trustees to expend about two hundred dollars annually for books. There are now in the library five thousand six hundred and thirty-five volumes. The people of Southborough have great cause to hold in fond remembrance the

names of aforesaid donors; and not only we, but, in future years, full many a son and daughter, who shall inhabit this land, read books and learn in this school, —looking back, perhaps, through time's long vista,— will also exultingly claim these donors as their immortal benefactors.

In 1865 the St. Mark's School was incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth, and was founded for the classical education of boys. Its course of studies is prepared with the purpose of giving a thorough preparation for the admission to the universities and colleges of the country. It is a school for the Episcopal Church, and its order and management are in conformity with the principles and spirit of the Church. Its scholars number about sixty, and are required to board at the institution. It is said to be one of the most thorough and best-disciplined schools in the State. The establishment of this school and the erection of the beautiful Episcopal Church are the results of the great enterprise and perseverance of our honored and esteemed fellow-citizen, Dr. Joseph Burnett. The school is under the management of the following officers:

Episcopal Visitor.—The Right Rev. Benjamin H. Paddock, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts.

Board of Trustees.—Rt. Rev. B. H. Paddock, D.D., Rev. D. C. Millett, D.D., Rev. George S. Converse, A.M., Rev. Thomas R. Pynchon, D.D., Joseph Burnett, Esq., Joseph Story Fay, Esq., Francis C. Foster, Esq., H. N. Bigelow, Esq., Rev. S. U. Shearman, George P. Gardner, Esq.

Head Master.—William E. Peck, A.M.

Treasurer.—Joseph Burnett, Esq.

Dr. Joseph Burnett was born in Southborough, November 11, 1820. He married Josephine Cutter, June 20, 1848, by whom he has had twelve children. He received his education from the common schools in Southborough and the English and Latin schools in the city of Worcester, commencing business as an apothecary in that city, where he remained two years. He then removed to Boston, where he continued the business for several years. He is now a manufacturing chemist of great notoriety.

The beautiful appearance of the Centre Village is largely due to his benevolence, influence and taste. In 1840 the town built its first town-house. Previous to that time the town-meetings were held in the church of the First Parish Society. Said town-house cost about $4,000. It was burnt in 1869. Without delay the inhabitants proceeded to erect another. The present handsome, substantial and commodious brick town-house was built in 1869–70, at a cost, including fixtures and furniture, of about $30,000. The building committee, consisting of Dr. Joseph Burnett, Dexter Newton, Dr. J. Henry Robinson, Franklin Este and Curtis Hyde, delivered the keys thereof to the selectmen April 20, 1870. In 1824 the young men organized a lyceum. Hon. Francis B. Fay was president of the same for several years. This is said to be one of the first lyceums ever formed in this vicinity. One of the most exciting debates participated in by the then young America was: "Is an untruth ever justifiable?" Disputants appointed in the affirmative were Peter Fay and Blake Parker; negative, Joel Burnett and Brigham Witherbee. The discussion waxed warm. The disputants, pro and con, fought the battle inch by inch during the allotted time. Question was finally decided on its merits, in the negative. This lyceum accomplished much good.

Another lyceum was formed in 1842. Its members at one time numbered forty-four. Many momentous questions were considered. Interesting and instructive free lectures, through their exertions, were given to the public. Southborough has raised many noble men and women, and several distinguished scholars.

The following is a list of those reared in town who have availed themselves of the benefits of a college-education, viz.: Jeroboam Parker, graduated at Harvard in 1797, became a minister; Nathan Johnson, graduated at Yale in 1802, judge of Court of Common Pleas; Sherman Johnson, graduated at Yale in 1802, minister; Luther Angier, graduated at Amherst in 1833, minister; Marshall B. Angier, graduated at Yale in 1834, minister; Henry M. Parker, graduated at Harvard in 1839, teacher; Joel Burnett, graduated at Harvard Medical in ——, physician; Waldo I. Burnett, graduated at Harvard Medical in 1849, naturalist; Edward Burnett, graduated at Harvard in 1871, M.C.; Harry Burnett, graduated at Harvard in 1873, chemist; Waldo Burnett, graduated at Harvard in 1875, rector; Clarence Thompson, graduated at Amherst in 1874, civil engineer; George E. Brewer, graduated at Amherst in 1874, insurance broker; Charles T. Murray, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1882, teacher; Winfield Scott Hammond, graduated at Dartmouth College in 1884, teacher; Charles C. Burnett, graduated at Harvard in 1886, railroad manager.

Jeroboam Parker, mentioned above, was for many years the minister in Southborough. Joel Burnett was a noted physician in the town, was particularly interested in her schools and was greatly honored and respected. He delivered the first lecture on the subject of temperance given in the town. His son, Waldo I. Burnett, was a zealous student and became a distinguished naturalist. By the Boston Society of Natural History he was elected curator of entomology. In successive years he gained many of the prizes offered by said society. In the winter of 1851 he delivered, at the Medical College in Atlanta, Ga., a course of lectures in microscopic anatomy. In 1852 he prepared the essay which received the prize from the American Medical Association. He died of consumption July 1, 1854, in the twenty-sixth year of his age. From an address concerning his life and writings, delivered before the Boston Society of

Natural History, July 19, 1854, by Dr. Jeffries Wyman, is taken the following extract: "We cannot but sensibly feel that in his death we have lost an associate of no ordinary talents; we can point to no other member of our society, and not more than one other naturalist in our country, who has given such proofs of zeal and industry, and who, in so short a life, has accomplished so large an amount of scientific labor. Had he been spared to future years, we cannot but feel the assurance that he would have acquired for himself a far higher place and still more honorable name in the annals of science. Let us cherish his memory and profit by his example."

The records of the town show that the people have always taken a forward rank in the cause of freedom. Capt. John Taplin went in command of a company of forty-nine men on the Crown Point expedition in 1756; was out from February 18th to December 20th. Capt. Aaron Fay commanded a company sent for the reduction of Canada, and was out from March to November, 1758.

Capt. John Taplin was also out in this campaign.

A number of Southborough men were out in the campaign of the last French and Indian War.

Dilenton Johnson was at Fort William Henry when it capitulated, August 9, 1757, and was exposed to the Indian barbarities of that terrible day. Elijah Reed and Joshua Newton, also of Southborough, were in that battle.

In 1765, in town-meeting, the following unanimous vote of instruction was given to their representative, Ezra Taylor, Esq.: "That you would in the most effectual and loyal manner firmly assert and lawfully maintain the inherent rights of the Province, that posterity may know that if we must be slaves, we do not choose by our own acts to destroy ourselves, and willingly entail slavery on them."

The military warrant, dated November 7, 1774, will be read with interest by the citizens of the town:

To Ezekiel Collings, One of the Corporals of the Military foot Company, in the Town of Southborough, in the County of Worcester, under the command of Josiah Fay, Captain, and in the Rigimant whereof Artemas Ward Esq. of Shrewsbury is Colonel—Greeting.

You are hereby Directed to Warn forthwith all the afternamed Non-Commission Officers and Soldiers of Said Company, Viz.,—

Jonathan Champny, sargeant.	Asahel Newton.
Elijah Brigham. sargeant.	Luke Newton.
Hezekiah Fay, sergeant.	Sirus Newton.
James Williams, corporal.	Gideon Newton.
Ezekiel Collins, corporal.	Mark Collins.
Ebenezer Richards, corporal.	John Richards.
Isaac Newton, Jun., drummer.	Josiah Fay, Jun.
Joshua Smith.	Andrew Phillips.
Benj. Smith.	John Phillips.
Nathan Tapplin.	Eben. Newton.
Elisha Tapplin.	Josiah Ward.
Eneas Ward.	Ebenezer Collins.
Elisha Fay.	John Clifford.
John Fay, Jun.	Zacheus Witherbee.
Elisha Johnson.	Daniel Johnson.
Ephraim Amsden.	Kirby Moore.
Moses Newton.	Edmand Moore.
Erasmas Ward.	Mark Collings, Jun.
David Newton, Jun.	William Winchester.
Isaac Newton.	Jabez Newton.
Solomon Leonard.	Williams Williams.
Timothy Angier.	Abnor Parker.
Jonah Johnson.	John Johnson.
Edward Chamberlin.	Isaac Ball.
Nathan Champny.	Nathan Fay.
Job Biglo.	Jedediah Parker.
Thomas Stone.	John Leonard.
Peter Ston.	Jonas Woods.

To appear in the Common training field By the Meeting House in said Southbro with their fire-arms Compleate on the ninth Day of this Instant November, att Eight of the Clock, in the fournoon of said Day then and thair Remain attend to and Obay further orders Hereof fail Not and make return of this Warrant with your Doings thereon Unto me att or Before Said time. Given under my hand att said Southbo the seventh Day of November anno-dom 1774,

JOSIAH FAY *Cap.*

Capt. Josiah Fay's company of fifty-six minute men, who were disciplined and supported at the expense of the town, marched to Lexington and Concord, April 19, 1775. Every able-bodied male citizen, sixteen years old and upward, was armed according to law. They were required to be in constant readiness to repel any attack of the enemy.

In town-meeting April 29, 1861, on motion of Sylvester C. Fay, Esq., it was voted, unanimously "that the town is ready to respond to the proclamations of the President with every able-bodied citizen and every dollar, if necessary." The town furnished two hundred and nineteen brave and patriotic men, being thirty-three more than enough to fill her quota under every call of the President during the great Rebellion. Seventeen of those men died in the service of their country, and these names appear on the monument erected to their memory. Said monument, erected on the common in Southborough Centre, is of Fitzwilliam granite, and was built by E. F. Meaney, of Boston, from a design of A. R. Esty, Esq. It was dedicated January 1, 1867. It is twenty feet high. On the south (front) side are inscribed the words, "Erected by the citizens of Southborough;" on the east, "In Memoriam;" on the north, "Our Country's Defenders;" and on the west, "Rebellion, 1861."

Patriots are here in freedom's battle slain—
Men whose short lives were closed with scarce a stain;
Men lovers of our race, whose labors gave
Their names a memory that defies the grave.

This monument cost $1613.50, and was paid for mostly by subscription. Some of the money, however, was contributed by various assemblies and societies. Henry H. Peters, Esq., subscribed $500; Dr. Joseph Burnett, $100; the ladies, nearly $200; Curtis Newton, E. D. Rockwood, Peter Fay and S. N. Thompson, each $25; and ninety-two other persons contributed smaller sums. This town has a very perfect record of her soldiers who enlisted in the late war. To William P. Willson, Esq., great credit is due for his alacrity and perseverance in its preparation and completion. The following is a list of the names of said soldiers:

S. H. Andrews.	Lyman B. Collins.
George Brown.	Daniel Chick.
John F. Bates.	Otis Q. Claflin.

Moses Sawyer

Edwin F. Barney.
Charles Baldwin,
George T. Brigham.
Alfred W. Brigham.
Charles H. Bidgelow.
Francis Bird.
Charles Battle.
William E. Buck.
Mitchell Butterfield.
Emerson Bigelow.
Thomas Boyd, Jr.
Eugene F Bigelow.
Augustine B. Bemis.
Henry T. Breed.
Theodore N. Brewer.
Daniel Bressman.
George G. Burlingame.
Michael Bressney,
William Barr.
Marcelus J. Burditt.
Lucell Boyd.
Lovely Bird.
George M. Brigham.
Charles E. Brigham.
John Blanchard.
James Bresman.
Peter Clark.
D. A. Chamberlain.
Robert Crosby.
Michael Caughlin.
A. E. Chamberlain.
Patrick H. Cleary.
Charles K. Collins.
Joseph H. Collins.
Lowell T. Collins.
John Collins.
Harrison Chase.
Marshall Collins.
William Carroll.
Irving S. Hunt.
William H. Hill.
Vergene O. Hyde.
William Hunt.
S. E. W. Hopkins.
Uriah Howes.
Sylvester G. Hosmer.
Martin J. Hubbard.
Henry E. Hartwell.
George H. Houghton.
Charles H. Homes.
Camilus C. Hyde.
Joseph W. Hurd.
A. E. Ingraham.
David Ireson.
Lyman A. Jones.
Cornelius W. Johnson.
William Keefe.
Patrick Kilgariff.
David Kilpatrick.
John H. Kimball.
Charles T. Love.
John Lahan.
Edward L. Loveland.
Louis Lovely.
Paul Lake.
Benjamin F. Langley.
Michael Murphy.
George H. Moore.
Charles B. Moore.
Joseph Martin.
Michael McMahone.
James McNabb.
Edward McKnight.
Dennis Mahoney.
Richard Mulstee.
Austin McHaster.
Peter McFarlan.
James F. Chickering.
Michael Cook.
Moses E. Cook.
Maurice Crowaan.
Edwin C. Dockham.
Warren W. Day.
Erastus A. Durgin.
John L. Day.
Francis H. Davis.
John Donahoe.
Andrew Dunn.
George E. Day.
Thomas Doan.
Thomas F. Dunbar.
Samuel R. Day.
John Denny.
Cornelius Doherity.
Bartlet Daily.
Orrin Edwards.
William E. Fay.
Horatio L. Fay.
Henry L. Flagg.
Marcelus E. Fay.
Darius C. Flagg.
A. Claflin Fay.
Eugene A. Frederick.
Charles F. Fisher.
Alfred Featherstone.
Frederic Fay.
Herbert W. Fay.
Charles B. Fay.
George W. Flagg.
George W. Fay.
William Fogarty.
Francis A. Gould.
Thomas Grant.
Matthew R. Gleason.
Michael Haggarty.
John Haggarty.
Thomas O'Brien.
James L. Onthank.
Lowell P. Parker.
Charles S. Parker.
Charles F. Parker.
Gardner R. Parker.
Rodger Pope.
Austin G. Parker.
Adolphus B. Parker.
Frank Paul.
Ebenezer Pearson.
Charles E. Preble.
Arthur T. Rice.
Edward Roberts.
Joseph Raymond.
Levi Ramsden.
David Richardson.
Andrew Rock.
Timothy Ryan.
Andrew J. Reed.
Francis H. Stowe.
Charles Scott.
Amos P. Sargeant.
Warren H. Stevens.
George S. Sanford.
Charles B Sawin.
William M. Seavy.
Allen Stevenson.
Dennis Spellin.
Daniel Shay.
William Stafford.
Charles A. Trask.
Simeon O. Taylor.
Frank C. Tucker.
George E. Thompson.
James S. Toothaker.
Samuel A. Toothaker.
J. Granville Underwood.
Michael McNarlan.
Patrick McAlear.
Michael McCue.
Osceola V. Newton.
Hartwell Newton.
George W. Nichols.
Joseph B. Nourse.
John F. Newton.
Francis A. Newhall.
Francis D. Newton.
S. Whitney Nourse.
Jeremiah L. Newton.
Dexter D. Onthank.
George O'Grady.
George E. Onthank.
John O'Brien.
Ares M. Onthank.
Charles O'Grady.
Greenville H. Winchester.
Warren W. Williams.
Hamlet S. Woods.
James Ward.
George W. Williams.
Albert L. Weeks.
George F. Wheeler.
Ephraim Ward.
Charles H. Woods.
William Welsh.
Edwin J. Walker.
Hiram N. Walker.
George L. Works.
George H. Waterman.
Marshall Whittemore.
Charles H. Walkup.
Joseph Wise.

The following-named persons were allotted to Southboro' by the Navy Commissioners, viz.:

George O. Allen.
Arthur A. Henry.
William H. Smith.
Thomas Shadwick.
Charles Smith.
Hiram Storer.
Jeremiah Shemnaham.
Frederick Scarlett.
Frederick A. Smart.
Joseph Staples.
Timothy Toomey.
—— Taskett.
Leroy L. Walden.

Among the names of many prominent men of this town—part of whom are now living and the others have recently deceased—who have done much to promote its highest and best interests, are the following:

Moses Sawin purchased the grist and saw-mill and a small lot of land situate one-half mile west of Town Hall, in Southborough, of Deacon Gabriel Parker, in 1833. The year following he bought of said Parker seven acres of land adjoining same, and on south side of Mill Pond, and built thereon a spacious dwelling-house, barn and other buildings. The estate is now owned and occupied by Charles B. Sawin, youngest of his three surviving sons. Said Moses Sawin was a lineal descendant of a long list of millers. His ancestor, Thomas Sawin, was the third son of John Sawin, of Watertown, who was the father of the American Sawins. Thomas Sawin bought of the Natick Indian (a branch of the Massachusetts) fifty acres of land in South Natick, for which he paid ten pounds of lawful money. The following conditions were agreed upon in their transaction, viz.: The said Thomas Sawin was to build a mill on the premises for the grinding of corn, and he and his heirs and assigns were to maintain said mill forever, and on the other part it was agreed that there was to be no other corn-mill built in town without the consent of said Thomas Sawin, his heirs and assigns. Said mill remained in possession of said Thomas Sawin and his descendants from 1685 to 1833—one hundred and forty-eight years. Said Moses Sawin possessed and carefully preserved through life the curious old deed, signed and sealed by the Indian chiefs of whom his said ancestor purchased the land. They are now in possession of said C. B. Sawin, at the old homestead, where antiquarians and others interested in curious legal documents can examine them.

Moses Sawin was thrice married. In 1820 he married Joanna T. Lane, of whom he had one child, Joanna L. Sawin. In 1823 he married Mary B. Morse, of whom he had eight children, viz.: John B., Mary B., Sarah C., Maria A., Moses M., Lucy A., Charles B. and James H. Two of these passed over the dark river in early childhood, viz.: Lucy A. and James H. Sarah C. died in early womanhood, August 9, 1853. Joanna L. (Mrs. Libby) died November 15, 1860. The other five children are still living, and earnestly laboring to carry forward the great principles of progress and reform, which their father labored so assiduously to promote. In 1852 said Moses Sawin married Mrs. Catharine A. Rice, who still survives him and is loved and cherished, as a good mother should be, by all his children. Mr. Sawin was an active and excellent citizen. He took a lively interest in town affairs, was a faithful member of the Board of Overseers of the Poor for many years, and was enthusiastic in promoting the best interests of the town. He was very active in aiding the great temperance reform. When the clarion notes of William Lloyd Garrison rang through the land calling the nation to repentance for supporting and maintaining chattel slavery, Mr. Sawin did not hesitate to enlist in the great cause of humanity. He was convinced it was a sin against God and a crime against his brother man.

He had the courage to ask the members of the church to which he belonged to testify against the sin; when his request was rejected he refused to commune with them as a church of Christ, and when, for this refusal, they cast him out of the church, he exultantly quoted to them the words of Christ, viz.: "Inasmuch as ye did it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye did it unto me." He was especially gratified that he had lived to see slavery entirely abolished; it was what he had long labored for and sought. But the crowning glory of his latter days was in hearing his former opponents acknowledge the righteousness of his cause, and labor earnestly with him in the overthrow of American slavery.

Mr. Sawin lived to a good old age (seventy-six) and died February 7, 1871, of rheumatism, after long and patient suffering.

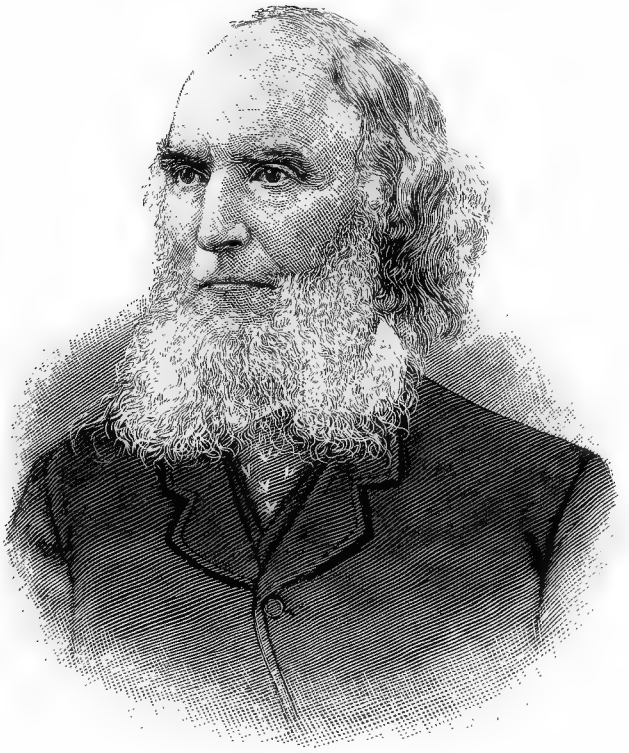
John Thomas Cotton was the son of Rev. Ward Cotton and his wife, Rebekah (Jackson), and one of the numerous descendants of John Cotton, first minister of Boston. Said John Thomas Cotton was the oldest of six children, born in Boylston, Mass., February 25, 1801. In youth and early manhood he had a long and severe sickness, which left him in a feeble condition, and although he lived to a great age, he never enjoyed good health. He was a very conscientious man, firm in his convictions, and was greatly beloved by his fellow-citizens. He served as representative to the General Court for several years, and long held the office of town clerk of said Boylston. In consequence of the failing health of his mother, to whom he was entirely devoted, he was induced to give up all public employment. His mother died October 11, 1854, after which he purchased a small place for a home and sold the old homestead in Boylston. He lived in Southborough in great contentment and comfort, near his sister (Mrs. Hannah S. P. Whitney), for near a quarter of a century. Though he lived alone, he was no recluse, but was very sociable and very fond of his neighbors and flowers. He spent his last days with his sister, and passed over the dark river to beloved ones beyond, October 17, 1884.

Peter Fay, Esq., was born in Southborough, October 15, 1807. He married Roxanna Whipple, December 29, 1829. She died November 28, 1853. March 15, 1858, he married Dolly Collins. By his first wife he had six children—two girls and four boys. He lived on the old homestead formerly owned by his father, Peter Fay—and which is now owned and occupied by Charles F. Choate, Esq., president of the Old Colony Railroad Company—until March 1, 1855, having previously sold the same to Henry H. Peters, Esq. He then bought the Parker farm, which for many years was owned and occupied by the former ministers of the First Parish Society. He lived there about two years. He built the fine house in which he now lives in 1857. He has held many of the highest offices in town, and has received many honors from the citizens thereof. He represented the town at the General Court in 1845. He has served as selectman some nine years. He was very active, during the late war, in obtaining men to fill this town's quota under every call made by President Lincoln. He served on the Board of School Committee about nine years; assessor, one year; overseer of the poor, nine years; deacon of the Pilgrim Evangelical Church for about fifteen years. He settled the estate of his sister, Mrs. Dolly Bond, late of Shrewsbury, deceased. This estate amounted to over $100,000. He received great credit for his faithfulness and energy concerning the settlement thereof.

On the old homestead he kept some forty head of cattle, and he took great pride in having extra nice ones. He made butter until 1840, and was the first farmer but two in town who sold milk to go into Boston. He had fine apple orchards on his farm, which often yielded him one thousand barrels in a year. He was president of the first temperance society of Southborough for fifteen years.

Daniel S. Whitney was born at Danvers (now Peabody) on February 4, 1810. He is one of the many descendants of John and Elenor Whitney, of Watertown, and the eighth in descent from the original stock. Mr. Whitney was early engaged in the great reforms of the century. In 1830, at the age of twenty, after listening to an address by the celebrated Dr. Pierson, of Salem, he signed a pledge to abstain entirely from ardent spirits as a beverage, and from that time he has labored on through all the phases of the great temperance reform abstaining from all

Peter Fay



D. S. Whitney

intoxicating liquors as a beverage. He still works on, hoping for and believing in the final triumph of this great cause of human progress.

In 1836, while keeping school on the Marblehead coast, he first listened to the Gospel according to anti-slavery. Samuel J. May was the heavenly-tongued apostle on that occasion in the Branch Church of Salem, and from that lecture dates his interest in the great anti-slavery agitation begun three or four years before by William Lloyd Garrison. In the ranks of that grand army of freedom he was ever happy to be found. He was ordained as evangelist by the Massachusetts Association of Restorationists, and occupied pulpits as a supply for a few years. While thus engaged he became deeply interested in the undertaking of Rev. Adin Ballou, at Hopedale, Milford, Mass. This attempt to realize in actual life our highest conceptions of Christian principles was entered upon with great enthusiasm, and for eight years under several changes of business arrangements he joyfully labored on at the great moral problem. He still clings to the hope that under more favorable surroundings, and profiting by past experiences, what was there attempted will yet be accomplished. All the great reforms of the age—temperance, anti-slavery, peace, the equal rights of women with men, and the golden rule as the law of intercourse and labor—constituted the policy of this attempt to realize the ideal of the great Master. The weakness of the undertaking, was found in the joint stock property of the undertaking which placed the continuance of the experiment in a few hands, and so brought it to a premature end. But while it lasted it formed a grand standpoint for living souls to utter and live their highest convictions.

Mr. Whitney married, in 1842, Miss Hannah S. P. Cotton, youngest child of Rev. Ward Cottton, of Boylston. Three children were born to them—Daniel Cotton, who left them at the age of seven years; Mary P. C. (Billings), and Alice G. C. (Burton).

After leaving Hopedale in 1850 Mr. Whitney spent one year in Beverly and two years in Boylston. In 1853 he was chosen delegate from Boylston to amend the Constitution of Massachusetts, and removed to Southborough, that he might return daily to his family while attending on that convention. The conservative Whigs managed to quash the proposed amendments before the people, but Mr. Whitney had the satisfaction of voting to leave the term "male" out of the amended Constitution. The conservatives of that day looked upon the proposition as the wildest of political dreams; but the thirty-five years since that convention has brought it near even to our doors here in Massachusetts.

During the years of darkness and violence following the enactment of the Fugitive Slave Law, Mr. Whitney was ever ready and glad to do duty in the ranks of the Garrisonian Abolitionists. The flying fugitives were ever welcome to his home, and the sharp encounters with his pro-slavery neighbors were frequent. On a town-meeting day a zealot in a bad cause addressed him with, "Mr. Whitney, you have nigger on the brain." "Oh, no, Mr. B., you have nigger on the brain; I have negro on the heart," was his reply.

When the final crash of arms came it was not difficult to see that the end of slavery was near. Mr. Whitney, during the last year of the war, labored in the Sanitary Commission at City Point, and was greatly pleased with the magnanimity of the Northern soldiers, and the absence of all disposition to take vengeance on the fallen traitors, as is common with other nations.

He was delighted when the great silent man, who brought the Rebellion to grief, brought our mother, England, who treated us very shabbily during the war, to a sense of her duty, or interest to pay the damages. And since that day every effort and every advance towards a permanent arrangement between the two great English-speaking nations to settle all their differences by arbitration, instead of the sword, has given him the liveliest pleasure.

He believes in the good time coming, when nations shall have outgrown the barbarism of war, and the injustice, oppression and ignorance which constitutes a chronic state of war. And he believes, further, that this good time is to come through the instrumentality of his beloved country. He knows that he must pass over the dark river before these great events transpire, but a firm faith of the final triumph of righteousness on earth and beyond the earth makes the evening of life joyful.

Curtis Newton was born in Fayville, November 13, 1803. He married Lydia Ball Smith. He died October 11, 1880. In early life he was much interested in military matters; was Captain of the Rifle Company for several years, and was chosen major, but declined to serve. He represented his district to the General Court, was many years assessor, was selectman fourteen years, deputy sheriff, auctioneer for more than twenty years, was moderator of town-meetings several years, justice of the Peace.

At the annual town-meeting in March, 1881, the following resolutions were unanimously passed, viz.:

Resolved, That in the death of our late townsman, Curtis Newton, Esq., which occurred on the 11th day of October last, we realize that the town has lost a beloved citizen, a man who has filled many of its highest offices, represented it in the General Court, and has ever performed the duties intrusted to him in a manner and with a degree of fidelity that has done himself honor and has given satisfaction to his constituents. He has contributed liberally in many ways to the cause of freedom, and has always manifested a great love for the prosperity of this, his native town.

Resolved, That as a mark of respect due to so faithful a servant, we direct our town clerk to record these resolutions on the town book of records, and send an attested copy thereof to the widow of said deceased.

Dexter Newton was born in Fayville, January 13, 1823. He married Arathusa A. Brigham, December 9, 1846. In early life he was engaged in the provision business. He taught achool in this town three winters.

He received his education in the common and high schools in Southborough and in the academy in Westfield, Mass. He was station agent at Fayville and Cordaville about eleven years; kept store in Cordaville about three years; has been postmaster in Fayville since July, 1869; United States assistant assessor of internal revenue about five years; represented the district in the General Court in 1861 and 1877; has been auctioneer about twenty years, selectman ten years, served on the Board of School Committee ten years, assessor twenty-seven years, overseer of the poor five years, moderator of town-meetings over thirty years, land surveyor, justice of the peace, notary public, and has been justice of the First District Court of Eastern Worcester since June, 1879; has dealt largely in real estate, has built nine houses and has settled and helped to settle over two hundred estates of deceased persons. He has zealously advocated the principal reforms of his time.

Jonas Fay, Esq., a native of Southborough, was twice married. He was selectman, assessor and member of School Committee for many years. Was a school teacher when young; represented the town in General Court; deacon of the Pilgrim Evangelical Church; settled many estates of deceased persons and was active in town affairs.

Deacon Francis Fisher was twice married; held the office of selectman; represented the district in General Court; in his younger days was a seafaring man, and for a number of years a sea captain.

Ezekiel D. Rockwood was twice married; was a very prominent man; served as selectman, overseer of poor for many years, and represented the district in the General Court. He was very liberal in his donations for the cause of freedom and temperance.

Harvey Newton, Esq., son of Hezekiah Newton, was born September 26, 1819, married Ann S. Gamage, July 30, 1844; served as selectman one year. Was once chosen to represent the district in the General Court, but declined to serve—a very remarkable case. He manufactured boots and shoes with John Hartt, in Southville, some seventeen years, and afterwards carried on the business alone about eight years. He built and now owns the shoe factories in that village, and has contributed largely towards building up said village. He was never blessed with children, but has been highly blessed in many things.

James Henry Robinson, M.D., born February 9, 1831, married Charlotte K. Rice, November 9, 1857. He graduated from Albany Medical College in 1856, and commenced practice as physician at Deer Island the same year. He practiced also in Kansas, and while there was the family physician of the famous John Brown. Since that time he has practiced in Southborough and vicinity. He has represented the district in the General Court.

William H. Buck, Esq., born August 26, 1813. He married Sally Maria Brigham, June 20, 1850. He was in the meat business some four years, and for many years has been a cattle broker. He served as selectman eight years, and has held various other important offices in town. He represented the district in the General Court one year.

Benjamin F. Prentiss, Esq., born July 25, 1820; married, July, 1850, to Susan S. Johnson, of whom he had five children. He has held the office of selectman eight years, overseer of the poor eleven years; is a master-builder by trade, and has erected nearly three hundred buildings.

Sylvester C. Fay was born May 23, 1825. He married Eliza Bell Burnett, daughter of Dr. Joel Burnett, February 16, 1858. He kept store in Fayville with his father and brothers many years. Lately he has been engaged in the manufacture of corsets. He is a man of much energy; has served as selectman. He has long been engaged in the temperance cause and other reforms. His wife and her sister, Harriet Burnett, have caused to be erected a large schoolhouse, in which is kept by them a school for about thirty-five small boys, who are here prepared for entrance to the St. Mark's and other classical schools.

Leander W. Newton was born in Southborough November 26, 1838. He married Emma M. Muzzy February 27, 1861. He has served as overseer of the poor ten years, and as collector nine years. He has represented the district in General Court. He is an active business man.

Horace F. Webster was born January 22, 1829. He married Ann M. Fox February 13, 1852. He has been town treasurer six years. He also represented the district in General Court one year.

CHAPTER XVI.

STURBRIDGE.

BY LEVI B. CHASE.

STURBRIDGE is located in the southwest corner of Worcester County, bordering south upon the Connecticut line, and west upon the county of Hampden.

The surface is made up of long parallel ridges, more rounded hills, and corresponding valleys.

The upheaval of rock is mostly of the gneiss formation, the dip of the strata in some instances, as at the lead-mine, being almost perpendicular. Laterally, the trend of the strata is invariably northeasterly and southwesterly. The ridges have their uniformity broken up by differences in height, and the rounding and excoriating action of the glacial period.

Right across these formidable barriers, and from its entrance at the west to its outgo at the east line of the original town, nearly—if it held a direct course—at right angles with the rock system, the Quinebaug has its way, dividing the territory into two nearly equal portions.

The streams affluent to the Quinebaug take the water-shed from both directions, their general course being governed by the same rule as the rock formation.

In the present town we have Breakneck Brook and Hamant Brook from the south, the former discharging at the south bend of the river, the other higher up, near the centre of the valley. On the north side is Hobbs, or Sugar Brook, which takes the flow from Walker Pond, passes near the Common, and with its long series of meadows forms a large portion and the lowest level of the Central Valley.

Cedar Pond Brook, near the Fair Grounds, and Long Pond Brook, near the western border, discharge the water of the respective reservoirs of the same name into the Quinebaug.

Allum Pond is a notable natural body of water situated about two miles northerly of Fiskdale Village. It is about one mile long and half a mile wide. It has Mount Toby upon the west of it, and is bordered by elevated land. The water is held in a rocky basin above the surrounding country. Fed by springs, its clear water abounding in fish, the salubrity of the air and the romantic scenery has given the shores of this pond a local reputation as a camping-ground.

Walker Pond, in old times called Salstonstal's Pond, is noted as a pleasure resort. Here the country road skirts the eastern border beneath tall trees, while upon the opposite side of the pond rises the abrupt precipices of Walker Mountain, over which winds the "mountain road," making up a drive which is highly appreciated by the people in the vicinity.

Lead-mine, Long and Cedar Ponds, have each their peculiar attractions.

Shumway Hill throws out its northern point as if to stop the Quinebaug about two miles from the western border of the town. The river is forced to turn and go around the hill close under the northern slope. Along the northern bank of the river, just where it curves, are situated the factories and the village of Fiskdale. From the opposite slope of Shumway Hill the view of this village is enchanting. From the pinnacle of the hill very fine views of rural scenery are obtained in every direction except the southward, where lie the wooded hills and rocky ridges that environ the lead-mine region. To the eastward lies the central valley of the town, and beyond the noted Fisk Hill.

From Fisk Hill one has an extensive and delightful view in every direction.

Looking westward across the valley, the Quinebaug is seen emerging from Fiskdale along the base of Shumway Hill, and seems to loiter idly along by grassy meadows and cultivated fields, winding about in many a romantic nook and charming retreat—a blending of water, meadow and forest scenery seldom surpassed.

All along the valley it is the quiet Quinebaug. Turned aside at Fisk Hill, it takes a southerly course, going a little more hurriedly until it turns and plunges eastward between high, rocky hills, and then turns again to the northward, washing the opposite side of the hill which turned it from its former course. The river is again turned eastward by a high, rocky precipice and by this time charged with power, which is utilized for the purposes of man along the villages of Southbridge.

The quiet central valley is seen to the best advantage from Fisk Hill, presenting many points of rural beauty.

To the inhabitants of this town this valley has the additional charm of ancestral and historic associations—of being where are clustered the religious and secular institutions of civilization which gives value to life, and of being the resting-place of departed and loved ones. To those who have their *home* here it is the very centre of the world.

TANTOUSQUE IN NIPNET.—In September, 1633, John Oldham, with three companions, passed through Nipnet to the Connecticut River, "lodging at Indian towns all the way."

While being entertained by the Indians at Tantousque, he was shown some specimens of what proved to be plumbago, or black-lead, and was shown, or told, where the substance was to be found in large quantities, near a pond called by the Indians Quassink. That this took place in the valley of the Quinebaug, in Sturbridge, is probable from following circumstances.

A path to the Connecticut River passed through here, and there could have been none south of it until beyond the abrupt ridges of the Breakneck region; the extent of which tract would carry any southern route nearer, and probably south of the deposit of plumbago at the hill of Ocquebituque, "near the cornfield where one Namaswhat lives."

The last-mentioned lead-mine was known to John Pynchon some ten years later, but appears not to have been discovered by John Oldham in 1633. The hill of Ocquebituque is situated near the south line of Union, Connecticut, six miles or more from the Sturbridge mine. Hence, clearly John Oldham went by the Quinebaug Valley path through this town, about two miles north of the Sturbridge lead-mine, and about ten miles from the cornfield where Namaswhat lived.

William Pynchon established a trading-post for furs at Agawam (Springfield) in 1635.[1] He had a monopoly of the trade over a large territory, and for a number of years the profits were considerable. One of his first enterprises was opening a road to the Bay settlements.

Preserved in the archives of Sturbridge are records of roads which were used before the settlement, and afterwards until the town was incorporated. By plotting the town according to the original survey and

[1] Hon. George Sheldon.

distribution of lots, these isolated items of record about the old paths have become available, and their location known.

The one that will be described was called, upon the records, "The road from Brimfield to Oxford." From the west line of the town to Fiskdale there is no record; from a point back of Bacon & Bates' store to No. 2 School-house; from there to the lower crossing over Cedar Brook, near the residence of Mr. Geo. Wight, it was identical in location with the present road; passed the south side of Mr. Wight's house, and a small pond-hole near Mrs. Ransom's, then across the present highway, and to where Mr. C. D. Russell now resides; then across to near Mr. W. T. Lamb's, and along there with the present road to Mrs. H. Plimpton's; then crossed Sugar Brook, where N. D. Ladd & Son's mill-dam now is, on over a field; then through pasture and woodland (where the tracks are still to be seen) to the northwest mowing lot, on Mr. J. H. Lyon's farm; thence through the north part of his farm, passing Mr. N. Eggleston's, to the southeast corner of Mrs. McGilpin's farm, to where there was a fordway over McKinstry Brook by old Oxford line, and may be traced in the direction of Dudley. It was the road used by the first settlers of Sturbridge when they moved from Medfield, Watertown and other places.

It is here suggested that this may be the exact location of a section of the road opened by William Pynchon, about 1635–38, and that it then followed the general course of a previous Indian trail, which, in its course westward, doubtless passed a little north of Fiskdale, near the wigwams of the Putikookuppogg Indians, and on to Ashquoash, in the north part of Brimfield.

Ten years later, 1648, Gov. John Winthrop writes in his journal (ii. 325): "This year a *new way* was found out to Connecticut, by Nashaway (Lancaster), which avoids much of the hill way." This new way is described by Mr. Temple ("Hist. North Brookfield") as passing down the valley of the Quaboag, and "struck the south trail east of Steerage Rock," in Brimfield. Other evidences of record furnish satisfactory proof that we have here the "Bay-Path" of Dr. J. G. Holland's admirable historical novel with that title.

Two important Indian paths, one from Providence and another from Norwich, united at Woodstock, and continued as one path through Sturbridge to Brookfield. The course was quite direct from Lebanon Hill to Fisk Hill, thence over Walker Mountain, south of the pond and onward to South Pond, a branch passing up the east shore to the ancient village of Quobagud, while the more important route skirted the west side of the pond, going on to Wickaboag (now West Brookfield). It will be again noticed farther along, when opened for an Englishman's road, about 1680–90.

Gov. Winthrop sent Stephen Day, a printer, to Tantousque, in Nipnet, in 1644, to examine the deposits of black lead, and also to search for other minerals.

The 13th of November, the same year, the General Court granted to John Winthrop, Jr., "y^{e} hill at Tantousque, about sixty miles westward, in which the black lead is, and liberty to purchase some land of the Indians." (Winthrop by Savage, vol. ii. p. 213.) He purchased some land of the Indians, as it appears.

A plot of land containing ten thousand two hundred and forty acres was surveyed for Major-General Waitstill Winthrop in 1715. Its east line ran across Saltonstal's two thousand acres, which had been surveyed the previous year, taking off nearly one-third. A reasonable inference is, that there was a prior claim, based upon a bargain between the ancestor, John Winthrop, Jr., and the Indians. In this town the bounds were by natural features, Indian style: from a rock in a meadow south of Leadmine Pond, to an angle in Quinebaug River, north of Geo. Wight's mills; then northward on the west side of Cedar Pond to a point against the north end of the original pond; then west and onward, covering the site of Brimfield Centre; then southeastward to the rock in the meadow.

The bounds of the tract were located with the evident design of taking in the valuable lands along the "Old Springfield Road," and, if fixed in 1644, or in the days of John Winthrop, Jr., may be taken as evidence of the antiquity of said road.

The lead-mine was being operated in March, 1658, by employés of William Paine and Thomas Clark, of Boston. The gentleman last named, it is supposed, was the Captain Thomas Clark who, the latter part of the same year, obtained a grant of the southern mine of plumbago, or the hill of Acquebituque. It appears that the Boston merchants carried on the works at Tantousque for a share of the products, it being included in the bargain that they should have the owners' share at a stated price. A path was opened from the lead-mine, passing a little south of the house formerly owned by the late Otis Davis, through Holland and Brimfield to the Springfield road.

Richard Fellows kept a tavern, the site of which is in the northeast part of Monson, and he was "very willing to undertake to haul the lead to the waterside," past his own door, to Connecticut River.

In the great war of 1675–76, known as "King Philip's War," the Quabaugs were among the first to take arms against the English. The Quinebaug flowed between the land of the Wabbaquassets and that owned by the Quabaugs.

No notable historical event occurred in Tantousque; its paths, however, were used by parties of both English and Indians.

Philip and his warriors were driven from Mount Hope, and about the last of July, 1675, forced to flee

from Pocasset Neck, passed through Woodstock and Tantousque to Quabaug Old Fort. They were at that time pursued by Captain Henchman, aided by Oneko, son of Uncas, with fifty Mohegan warriors.

The fugitives crossed the Quinebaug and skurried up the forest-covered slope of what is now known as Fisk Hill, in the land of their allies, the Quabaugs. Their English pursuers, looking up the broad expanse stretching away to the northward, knew that beyond were the Quabaug Ponds, and that somewhere about there were collected, in large numbers, their savage foes. Captain Henchman here ordered the pursuit to cease, and turned toward Boston.

Philip being reduced to a feeble following of forty men, and "women and children many more," was unwilling to advance in the direction of the English forces at Brookfield, and at Tantousque passed on to the Old Springfield Road, and arrived at Quabaug Old Fort on the 6th of August. Quabaug Old Fort, called by the Indians Ashquoach, was situated just north of Sherman's Pond in Brimfield. A few days later another party of Wampanoags, endeavoring to get on the Nipmuck path to follow their chief, was intercepted before it reached the Quinebaug River, and one hundred and eleven men, women and children were taken and delivered over to the English.

The same path was used by the fugitives who escaped from the great battle of Narragansett Fort, December 19, 1775.

The spring of 1676 came on with smiling sunshine, awakening vegetation and the song of birds; but among the colonists was a feeling of gloom and discouragement. The Indians had been successful at every point.

A change, however, was approaching. About the middle of March the Indians were repulsed at Westfield, Northampton and Hatfield—a grievous disappointment. Many of them became tired of the war, and returned to their fishing-places and hunting-grounds. Admonished by recent suffering from scarcity of food, many a sunny slope was being planted with corn, beans and other crops. The old wigwam was patched up, and their desire was for peace.

But that was not to be; they had carried the torch, the tomahawk and the scalping-knife to many a home of the white man, had commenced a war of extermination, had sown the wind,—the whirlwind was upon them.

Into the valley of the Quinebaug, beneath the green foliage, in the first week in June, 1676, came Major John Talcott, of Connecticut, with two hundred and fifty mounted Englishmen, accompanied by Oneko, son of Uncas, with two hundred Mohegan warriors. They crossed the river in Dudley and coming up the Springfield Road, rushed in every direction upon the surprised inhabitants. Along the Quinebaug, by the shores of our ponds, or wherever the dwelling of a Quabaug might be, the Mohegans hunted them out, pursued upon the track of those who attempted to escape, and killed or captured them.

When the war was over some of the hostile Indians who had escaped drifted away in small parties and became absorbed into other tribes. Some went towards Maine, some to Canada, and some to the westward, near Albany.

Their corn-fields, whether on the hillside or upon the plain by the river, were quickly seeded to pines, and thereon were standing when the settlers came here forests of fifty years' growth. Their wigwams entirely disappeared. Stone implements alone speak of former inhabitants.

Depopulated Tantousque was included in a tract of the Nipmuck country, which a remnant of the Indians, the former owners, made over to the Massachusetts government, February 10, 1681, for the sum of fifty pounds and a reservation of land five miles square, which is now in Dudley and Webster.

After the settlement of Woodstock, in 1656, and the second settlement of Brookfield, about the same time, a road from one place to the other, in their isolated and feeble condition, became a necessity, and was doubtless opened between these nearest neighbors at an early period. The Brookfield and Woodstock path came down on the west side of South Pond, and was essentially the "New Boston Road," so called, as far as Mr. C. D. Russell's, where it united with the Old Springfield Road, and followed that about a mile and a half to the old camping-grounds, now the northwest mowing lot on Mr. J. H. Lyon's farm. Turning southward past where stands the Levins Fisk house, then by Hosea Cutting's house and into the present road west of Mrs. Emmon's house; then down the hill and across by Mr. P. Bond's house, over by Mrs. Malcom Ammidown's residence, and down the slope by the brick-yard to the river, where a bridge was built of logs.

This was also near the fording-place of the old Indian trail. The path is traced by record southward from the river to near the residence of Mr. Lewis Morse. The present Woodstock road by the "Brown brick-yard," so called, was laid across this old path, not far from where Mr. Henry H. Wells' lane intersects it, and may have passed from there over Lebanon Hill.

This Brookfield and Woodstock path followed in a general way the previous Indian trail. Massachusetts acquired the title to these lands, with power to grant the same, in 1681, as has been stated.

Tracts of land, of whatever size, granted to an individual were called farms,—a name distinguishing such lands from grants made for towns. Individual ownership of land in Tantousque was established for the first time by lines and bounds November 24, 1714, the date of the survey of the Saltonstal farm. At an early date in the history of the colony the province of Massachusetts Bay gave to Sir Richard Salstonstal, Knight, one of the patentees named in the old charter, a tract of two thousand acres on the

banks of Connecticut River. This property was handed down among his descendants, and was owned in 1713 by his great-grandson, Rev. Gurdon Salstonstal, of Norwich, Connecticut.

An agreement entered into by the province of Massachusetts and the colony of Connecticut in the year 1713 established a new division line, south of which was found to be Mr. Saltonstal's two thousand acres, as well as many other grants of Massachusetts along this border. In accordance with the terms of the agreement, Massachusetts paid to Connecticut, for these former grants, an equal number of acres of land by other grants within her now undisputed territory; and these new grants took the name, and for many years were known as, "equivalent lands."

The following year Rev. Gurdon Salstonstal, then Governor of Connecticut, agreed and accepted of the General Assembly of the colony the right to "take up to his own use the said quantity of acres, among the equivalents allowed to this Colony, where it shall best suit him, provided that the tract be taken up in one entire piece," May, A.D. 1714.

It suited His Excellency to select the tract now called the central Valley of Sturbridge. He obtained his first view of the valley upon his arrival at the camping-ground, where the Woodstock road united with the Old Springfield. He made that point the eastern limit of his farm, the top of Shumway Hill the western extreme; the bend of the river near Mr. A. J. Morse's was made a southern angle, and the north line of the old Bullock place, Mrs. Luther Hamant's and J. J. Shepard's, defines the northern bounds. It was called by his children Pineland.

THE DEMICK FARM was west of and adjoined Salstonstal's farm. The origin of this grant is unknown. The most part of the village of Fiskdale is built upon this tract.

THE ELIOT FARM.—In "Ancient Plans," i. 285, is found a plot of John Eliot's one thousand acres, endorsed: "Purchased by Rev. John Eliot the 27th of September, 1655, of Wattaloowekin and Nakin, Indians—said 1000 acres of land lies Southward of, and contiguous to the township of Brookfield *alias* Quabaug, at a place called Pookookappog Ponds."

December 5, 1715, the title to this land was confirmed to the heirs of Mr. Eliot by the General Court. About eight hundred acres of the tract lie within the bounds of Sturbridge, owned by the following parties, viz.: Heirs of Mr. Austin Allen, Mr. G. H. Adams, Mr. Monahan, Mr. Griffin and Mr. S. F. Bemis.

Mr. Eliot petitioned the General Court in 1664, in ". . . behalf of the Indians of Putikookuppogg, . ." and was granted ". . . a plant tion to the Indians not to exceed fower thousand acres . . ." It was not to interfere with any former grant, and the Indians were not to convey it away, or any part of it, without the consent of the General Court. This grant was in view of Rev. Apostle Eliot's plan of establishing a "praying town here, after the model of that at Natick." The consummation of this enterprise was prevented by the breaking out of King Philip's War, and the removal from this vicinity of the Putikookuppogg Indians. No survey of the laying out of this grant has been found.

THE WINTHROP FARM.—The form and position of this farm, as first surveyed, has already been described on a preceding page.

Judge Wait Winthrop, who inherited this property from his father, died 1718, intestate. He left two children—John Winthrop, of New London, Conn., and Ann, the wife of Thomas Lechmere, of Boston.

The son's claim under English law, that the real estate was entirely his own, and the claim of Mr. Lechmere, in behalf of his wife, under the colonial law, occasioned a suit which continued ten years or more, being finally decided according to the colonial law.

The settlement of Brimfield was "hindered by the extent and uncertain tenure" of the Winthrop farm, and the committee for laying out the town petitioned the General Court in 1723 for a reform of the survey. This petition was refused. But it was renewed in 1727, accompanied by one bearing the same request from Mr. Lechmere. The result was a new survey, which was accomplished and accepted by the General Court December 18, 1728. It was in a square form, four miles each way, with the Connecticut line for the southern boundary. The farm formerly owned by Mr. Lyman Janes occupies the northeast corner; the road by the residence of Mr. John Hamilton is on the east line. The farm extends into Holland one and a half miles, the north line of that town being identical with that of the farm.

It is presumed that the position and "uncertain tenure" of the Winthrop farm may have postponed decisive action of the General Court upon "The petition of several of the inhabitants of Medfield and sundry others," . . . "for a Grant of the Province Land between Oxford, Brimfield and Brookfield."

The first petition of 1725 called out the action of the court, in so far as to order, June 2, 1725, the lands to be surveyed. The report, one year later, was made by John Chandler, Jr. The survey was made the 11th, 12th and 13th of May, 1726—Wm. Ward, surveyor; Ebenezer Learned and Joseph Plimpton, chairmen. The report gives thirteen thousand seven hundred and thirty-two acres as the amount of province land, exclusive of the farms which have been described. The subsequent re-location of the Winthrop farm diminished that amount to the extent of about three thousand acres.

The second petition, with twenty-seven names, came up June 13, 1728, and was ordered to be referred to the next full session; in the mean time a committee was sent to view the land and estimate the value, who reported it to be worth one thousand pounds.

A third petition, with fifteen more names added, in all forty-two, came up in the General Court July 4,

1729. The prayer of the petitioners was granted by a vote of the House, but the Council failed to concur.

September 3, 1729, William Ward, Esq., and Joshua Morse, by petition to the General Court in behalf of themselves and associates, obtained the object of several years of persistent effort,—the grant for

A NEW TOWNSHIP.—The evidence does not appear that the one thousand pounds were exacted by the General Court, but the grantees were put under certain obligations instead. They were "obliged in seven years' time from this date to settle, and to have actually on the spot fifty families, each of which to build a house of eighteen feet square at least, to break up and bring to fit for plowing and mowing,—and what is not fit for plowing, to be well-stocked with English grass—seven acres of land; to settle a learned orthodox minister and lay out to him a house-lot, equal to the other house-lots, which house-lot shall draw a fiftieth part of the province land now granted, and to be accounted as one of the fifty that shall be settled." Following were suitable regulations for managing the business of the association.

Building a meeting-house was not among the court's requirements.

PROPRIETARY HISTORY.—The following are names of the grantees in the order by them established. Most of those whose residence is not here given were of Medfield.

Meletiah Bourne.	Timothy Hamant.
William Ward, of Southborough.	William Plimpton.
Ezra Bourne.	Ephraim Partridge.
Shubael Goram.	Abraham Harding.
Thomas Learned, of Oxford.	Moses Harding.
Nathan Fisk, of Watertown.	Josiah Ellis.
Henry Fisk, of Watertown.	Peter Balch.
Ebenezer Learned, of Oxford.	Ezra Clark.
Nahum Ward, of Southborough.	Samuel Ellis.
Gershom Keyes, of Boston.	David Ellis.
Zerobabel Eager.	Francis Moquet, of Framingham.
John Shearman, of Marlborough.	Henry Adams.
Joseph Baker.	Ichabod Harding.
Jonas Houghton, of Lancaster.	John Plimpton.[1]
Thomas Gleason.	Josiah Cheney.[1]
Moses Gleason.	John Dwight.
Jonas Gleason.	Jonathan Boyden.[1]
Joshua Morse.	Joseph Clark, of Medfield.
Joseph Plimpton.	Nathaniel Morse.
Nathaniel Smith, of Dedham.	James Denison.
Solomon Clark.	Joseph Marsh.

Minister's right.

Seven supernumerous shares were sold for seventy-five pounds each to:

Gershom Keyes.	James Denison.
Abraham Harding.	Moses Allen.
Nehemiah Allen.	Seth Wight.

David Morse.

Twelve at least of these became inhabitants of the new plantation. Many others of the Medfield proprietors sent their children and grandchildren. So many came from that town, that after calling the place Dumer in 1731, it became known as New Medfield.

Several early settlers became proprietors by purchase. Ezekiel Upham bought of John Shearman; David Shumway of Ebenezer Learned; Hinsdale Clark one of the shares of James Denison; John Harding had one of the shares of his "father, Abraham;" Edward Foster bought of Joseph Plimpton; Moses Marcy becoming acting proprietor in November, 1735, by power of attorney from absent members. Abraham Harding, of Medfield, served as clerk for the proprietors for many years.

At the first meeting, November 6, 1729, a committee of five, viz.: William Ward, Esq., Joshua Morse, Capt. Ebenezer Learned, Capt. John Dwight and Abraham Harding, were empowered to act in all the affairs of the proprietors for the year ensuing.

They were "directed to lay out one hundred lots in the best of our land, adding to the poorest lots a quantity of acres according to the best of their judgment to make them as equal in value to the best as they can." "None of the one hundred lots to be less than fifty acres." "And then to couple two lots together and make them as equal in value, each couple or pair as they can." This was accomplished, and the drawing was carried out "July y^e^ 9th, 1730."

This first division comprised nearly all the proprietors' lands north of Quinebaug River; also south of the river the west side of Shumway Hill, and several lots where now are situated Globe Village and the centre village of Southbridge.

The second division, which was made in 1733, comprised the most part of the town now in Southbridge.

Most of the remaining lands were divided in 1740; and again some small remnants in 1761.

As early as June, 1730, the "Committee of Affairs" received a letter from the heirs of Governor Salstonstal containing proposals for locating the meeting-house on their land. In the following November, Jonas Houghton, of Lancaster, and Ebenezer Learned, of Oxford, in behalf of the proprietors, obtained a deed—free gift—of ". . . " six acres of land to set a meeting-house upon, out of a farm or tract of land containing two thousand acres, lately granted to the Hon. Gurdon Salstonstal, deceased, by the General Assembly of y^e^ said Province, lying in Pine-land, near or upon where y^e^ road which runs from Brookfield to Woodstock meets with the road now used from Brimfield to Oxford." Land was given for highways four rods in width through their lands where most convenient, east and west, north and south.

This deed contained no description of bounds, and the location within certain limits was left to the proprietors. This was well; and the names of William Ward, Esq., of Southborough, Jonas Houghton, of Lancaster, Joseph Plimpton, Joshua Morse and Abraham Harding (last three of Medfield), who located the meeting-house, the common, and planned the sys-

[1] Died before the first division of land.

tem of roads which diverge therefrom, should be held in remembrance. The suitable place was found about one-fourth of a mile southeast of where the road from Brookfield united with the road, as then used, from Brimfield to Oxford.

The heirs of Governor Salstonstal were four daughters, viz.: Elizabeth, wife of Richard Christopher; Mary, wife of Jeremiah Miller; Sarah, wife of Samuel Davis (all of New London, Conn.); and Catherine, wife of William Brattle, of Cambridge. The farm was divided, and Mrs. Christopher and Mrs. Miller had the eastern half, one thousand acres, which they sold, in 1732, to William Ward, Esq., who had been for two years preceding chairman of the committee for forwarding the settlement. He built a saw-mill on Sugar or Hobb's Brook, and the large pine trees found standing near by, perhaps on what is now Sturbridge Common, were cut and sawed into lumber, which was used in building the meeting-house in 1733–34. The meeting-house was built by John Comins, Jr., of Oxford, after a plan of one at Grafton. The first meeting-house stood upon the site now occupied by No. 1 School and public library building.

The money, five hundred and twenty-five pounds, received for the seven supernumerous shares sold was, by vote, donated to the purpose of building the meeting-house. Twenty pounds were raised in November, 1733, "for y^e^ completing and finishing y^e^ meeting-house at New Medfield (so-called)." In January, 1734, it was not finished, but meetings were held the latter part of that year. A Mr. Cowell was paid twenty-eight pounds, and eight pounds for board. Ninety-eight pounds were raised for preaching in 1735, and a like sum for 1736. It was an assessment of forty shillings to each share per year.

The settlers in New Medfield made choice, in March, 1736, of Rev. Caleb Rice, who was accordingly "called" to be their minister. Preliminaries being arranged, Mr. Rice accepted the call in August, was ordained September 29th, and installed pastor of a church formed at that time.

The installment of a pastor released the proprietors from any further care or expense about preaching in New Medfield.

In the matter of roads and bridges nothing whatever was done during the eight years that the public charges were paid by the proprietors. The members of the association, who were settlers, were a minority. From time to time—nearly every meeting—articles were inserted in the warrants asking for action about roads and bridges. A piece of road was laid out by the proprietors in 1736, and nothing expended upon its construction. A committee was appointed in 1731 to select the most necessary and convenient place or places for a bridge or bridges over Quinebaug River.

There is no record of any report of that committee. At a meeting of the proprietors, May 31, 1738, it was "Voted: That Joshua Morse shall have £1 : 16 : 0, for a journey to New Medfield in y^e^ year 1736, to a proprietors' meeting to prevent Building Bridges over Quinebaug river in s^d^ town."

This policy of the association occasioned much inconvenience and hardship to the settlers. The Old Springfield Road and the Brookfield and Woodstock were the only ways of ingress and egress, and, besides those, such paths as individuals made for themselves.

The time specified in the grant of the township expired in 1737. The court's requirement in every respect having been fulfilled, the "Committee of Affairs" elected November 9, 1737, were instructed, by vote, "to petition y^e^ General Court at their next session, that the settlers or inhabitants of New Medfield (so called) be invested with such privileges as other towns in this province by law Injoy."

The response of the Legislature, in May, 1738, was an "Act of Incorporation," entitled "An Act for Erecting a New Town in the County of Worcester, at a Plantation called 'New Medfield,' by the Name of Sturbridge."

The settlement having arrived at the dignity of a municipality, with the same privileges and rights of other towns in the province, the proprietors had no longer any official power in her affairs.

All the lands which had been received from the heirs of Hon. Gurdon Salstonstal, also the meeting-house, were given to be the property of the town, "for the use and benefit of the town of Sturbridge forever." This was voted at a meeting of the proprietors, April 10, 1740.

The proprietary association existed until 1788, when the book of records was closed. Job Hamant was the last clerk.

One of the original grantees, Henry Fisk, outlived the association. He died in 1790, aged eighty-three.

STURBRIDGE.—When first incorporated, no portion of "The Country Gore" was included. This was a tract of ten thousand acres, in the form of a gore, left between Oxford and Leicester, when the latter town was set off, which extended westward to a line running through Walker and South Ponds, the wide end of the gore.

In answer to a petition of John Davis, Caleb Child and others of the inhabitants, in 1741, the General Court annexed about one-third of the tract to this town. "Brookfield 500 acres" was annexed to that town in 1717, as compensation for the same amount previously laid out to Col. John Pynchon, on Coy's Hill, and occasioned the peculiar form of the lines between said town and Sturbridge.

Including what was called "The Neck," lying between Oxford or Dudley and Woodstock, the southern bounds of the original town extended east as far as Southbridge now does on the Connecticut line.

Those settlers who were inhabitants of New Medfield (so called), fulfilling the "Court's requirements" before the incorporation of the town, also the homesteads which they originated, are the following:

Aaron Allen (Joseph, Joseph, James), born 1715; wife Hannah ———; came from Dedham, originally from Medfield. His house is still standing, now owned by Mr. Nelson Bennett.

Moses Allen (brother of the preceding), born 1708. He was a proprietor. He began on the next lot north of his brother, now Henry Weld's. He had no family here, and removed from the town after a few years.

Joseph Allen, with the preceding, were the three sons of widow Miriam (Wight) Allen, who came with them from Medfield. He was born 1702; married, first, Abigail Gold; second, Sarah Parker; began the homestead long known as the "Squire Jabez Harding place." He and his family left the town after a few years.

Nehemiah Allen (Joseph, James) born 1699; married Mary Parker. He came from Sherborn and settled the site called the "Old Allen Place," north of the Baptist Church in Fiskdale. He was a proprietor.

Joseph Baker, from Dedham, probably (wife Keziah); was a grantee, and settled lot 47, his own right. The homestead is abandoned, and now included in the farm of Mr. C. G. Allen.

David Bishop; wife Hannah; on the Holland road, now known as the Deacon Jonathan Lyon place.

Nathaniel Bond; house site the east side of the road in the south part of the farm of Mr. T. E. Arnold.

Hinsdale Clark (Nathaniel, Joseph), born 1710; married Anne Partridge; house site near where Harvey Newell now resides in Globe Village.

Joseph Cheney (Josiah, Joseph), from Medfield; born 1709; married Margery Mason; settled the Cheney place on Shumway Hill; now abandoned.

Phinehas Collar, from Medfield; born 1702; wife Hannah; settled on the next lot east T. E. Arnold's farm; now abandoned.

Ebenezer Davis; wife Mary; settled where Mr. Hayer lives, near the turnpike school-house.

James Denison, a native of Scotland; wife Experience; located where Lewis Morse resides in Southbridge. He was a grantee.

Ebenezer Fay; married Thankful Hyde; located next north of Eliot's farm; known as the Cyrus Fay place.

Henry Fiske (Nathan, Nathan, Nathan), from Watertown; born 1707; married Mary Stone; house site upon E. T. Brooks' farm on Fiske Hill. He was a grantee.

Daniel Fiske, brother of the preceding; born 1709; married, first, Dilliverance Brown; second, Jemima Shaw; located next north of his brother.

Samuel Freeman; wife Mary; house site on Elm Street, Southbridge.

Jonathan Fosket; wife Hannah; settled where now Melvin Shepard resides.

Edward Foster; site now occupied by Alonzo Marcy, Southbridge.

Joseph Hatch; site of the Pauper Asylum, Southbridge.

Henry Hooker (Henry), from Medfield; married, 1733, Mary Parker, of Needham; first settler on the Brackett place; site now owned by Mrs. F. W. Emmons.

John Harding (Abraham, John, Abraham), born 1713; married Vashti Rice; settled where Mr. C. G. Allen now resides.

Caleb Harding, brother of preceding; born 1714; married Hannah Weld; settled the place now Edward Nichols'.

James Johnson; wife Susanna; settled the farm called the Merrick place, west of Fiskdale.

Ebenezer Knapp, of Medfield; married Elizabeth Mason.

Samuel Leach, from Boston; married, 1736, Lydia Mason, of Medfield; began where Ezekiel Cooper now lives.

Joseph Marsh, of Medfield; wife Sarah; originated the homestead now the residence of S. F. Bemis.

Aaron Martin; wife Sarah; began the homestead now Horatio Carpenter's, on Fiske Hill.

Moses Marcy, from Woodstock, Conn.; born 1702; married, 1723, Prudence Morris. His house is the residence of Andrew Marcy, in Southbridge.

Jonathan Mason, married, 1739, Hepzibah Morse, both of Dedham; settled where the late Oliver Mason resided in Southbridge.

Noah Mason, his brother, married, 1736, Keziah Muscraft; settled where the late Lyman Chamberlain resided, in Southbridge.

Joseph Morse (Joseph, Joseph), married Experience Morse, both of Medway; located where A. H. Morse now resides, in Southbridge.

David Morse (David, Ezra, John, Samuel), born 1710; wife Jerusha Smith; the homestead of A. J. Morse.

John Morse, his brother, born 1717; settled where Thomas Mack now lives, northwest of Fiskdale.

Joseph Moffett; wife Mary; the "Old Holbrook Place."

Josiah Perry; wife Hannah; homestead of the late T. N. Harding, in Southbridge.

Onesiphorus Pike; now Mrs. Luther Hamant.

Solomon Rood; wife Sarah; Jason Smith's or near there.

Rev. Caleb Rice; wife Priscilla; at the parsonage, now Wm. Whittemore's.

Richard Rogers; where W. H. H. Ormsby resides.

John Streeter.

Joseph Smith (Nathaniel, Samuel, Henry), born 1707; married Abiel Hamant. He was the first who stayed through a winter in this town, probably 1730–31. His location was between W. H. H. Ormsby's on the north and the George Plimpton place on the south.

Joseph Scott, settled on Moses Marcy's mill-grant. The house site is near the residence of Mr. David G. Whittemore.

Isaac Newell (Isaac, Isaac, Abraham), from Needham; born 1688; married, 1715, Abigail ——; settled first east of Cedar Pond.

John Stacy; wife Sarah ——; on the site of the residence of Mr. Melvin Haynes; kept tavern there.

Samuel Shumway, from Oxford; wife Sarah; farm now occupied by William H. Shumway, his great-grandson.

David Shumway, from Oxford; wife Esther; the S. M. Streeter farm, now owned by Fiskdale Mills Company.

Ebenezer Stearns; the Leonard place, now Mrs. Malcom Ammidown's.

Daniel Thurston (Daniel, Daniel, John), born Medfield, 1702; was in Marlborough 1732, in New Medfield (Sturbridge) in 1737; wife Miriam ——.

Rowland Taylor, from Leicester; house site where L. B. Chase now lives.

George Watkins; wife Dilliverance; the George Weld place.

Hezekiah Ward, son of William, of Southborough, married Sarah Green, of Leicester; site of the residence of S. H. Hobbs.

Charles Ward, his brother; wife Abigail; where J. H. Lyon now resides, on Fiske Hill.

Ezekiel Upham was of Dorchester, in 1726; born 1700; wife Hannah; his homestead has continued in the name, now Nathaniel Upham.

From items of record, gathered here and there, the foregoing are known to have been here before the town was incorporated. They constituted the main portion of those who fulfilled the court's requirements.

There were a few more, probably, on the ground, whose names cannot now be given. The number of families were increased to over one hundred in about twenty years, and after that, by the formation of new families by the sons and daughters of the early settlers, the town continued rapidly to increase in population during the period previous to the Revolution.

Many new names appeared. As founders of well-known families here, the following may be mentioned: John Weld, Nathaniel Walker and Jabez Nichols were brought into our limits by the annexation of over three thousand acres of the "Country Gore," in 1741 or '42. Rowland Clark, Benjamin Hyde, John Marsh, Benjamin Robbins, Jeremiah Streeter, Nathaniel Smith and Daniel Plimpton were here 1745. Ralph Wheelock, William McKinstry and Jabez Harding in 1755; Gershom Plimpton, 1759; James Plimpton, 1764. James Gibbs and the Howards settled in the lead-mine district before 1770. David Wight moved here in 1774.

The first meeting for the choice of officers for the organization of this town was held the 18th of September, 1738. The freeholders and other inhabitants qualified to vote in town affairs were assembled at the meeting-house, which was new and unpainted. The house was fifty feet long, forty wide, and twenty feet between sills and plates. It had three doors, east, west and south; and galleries along the same three sides; the north side of the hall being occupied by the pulpit. The pews had not at this time been made. The house stood on a knoll, and all about the slopes and the small plain to the eastward were the stumps, half-trimmed logs, broken snags, bushes, and the usual appearances of a recent clearing; beyond which was a small saw-mill on the brook, and two or three houses and some cleared land along the slope of the rising hill farther on. For two miles westward, and about one mile north and south, lay an unbroken forest—Salstonstal's Farm, held for rise in value. There were no highways. A path cut through the woods northward by where the cemetery now is to the "Old Springfield Road," and such ways as individuals made for themselves, was all that appeared.

Those who emerged from the woods and gathered at the meeting-house, upon the day above mentioned, were all young men, sanguine, full of the romance of life and the excitement and novelty of their position. They, upon that day, organized a municipal government, and began the following list of officers, reaching down to our time.

The names of moderators, town clerks, treasurers, selectmen and representatives will here be given. Other officers elected by the town have been: Assessors, constables and collectors of taxes, wardians—an office of ecclesiastical character, ranking in secular authority next after the minister. They were first elected in this town in 1762, and dropped after 1790. Two, sometimes three or four, were chosen each year. "Informers of the breaches of the law for the preservation of Deer," called later deer-reeves, were elected annually as late as 1825. Tythingmen were elected until 1840 or later, "Clerk of the Market," until 1775, after that called sealer of weights and measures. Haywards were elected at first, and the office was continued under the name of field-driver. Surveyors of highways, fence-viewers, hog-reeves, sealers of leather, surveyors of lumber, measurers of wood and bark.

It is designed in the following town officer lists that no individual should appear more than once under the same office, the name of each citizen being followed (1) by the first and last years of his election to that office; and (2) by the total number of times elected for annual terms of service during the intervening years. The first years after each name, reading downwards, show the order of elections in regular sequence.

Moderators.—Moses Marcy (Col.), 1738, 1773; 118. Isaac Newell (Dea.), 1739; 1. Edward Foster (Dea.), 1756; 1. Joseph Baker (Dea.), 1758; 1. Nathaniel Walker (Capt.), 1762, 1774; 14. Samuel Freeman, 1763, 1764; 2. Joshua Harding (Dea.), 1764, 1791; 13. Daniel Fisze (Dea.), 1766, 1773; 4. Moses Weld (Dea.), 1773, 1790; 31. Ebenezer Crafts (Col.), 1779, 1789; 11. Timothy Newell (Gen.), 1780, 1814; 24. Timothy Parker (Capt.), 1784, 1791; 9. Josiah Walker, 1787, 1800; 2. Oliver Plimpton, 1791, 1812; 37. Stephen Harding (Maj.),1793, 1797; 3. Erasmus Babbitt, Jr., 1797, 1799; 2. Joshua Harding, 1789; 1. Thomas Babbitt (Dr.), 1799; 2. Thomas Upham, 1802, 1818; 4. John

Paine, 1806; 1. Gershom Plimpton, 1809, 1815; 15. David Wight, Jr., 1813; 1. Simeon Fiske (Capt.), 1813, 1815; 2. Edward Phillips (Col.), 1816, 1855; 50. Sylvester Watkins, 1817, 1824; 4. Simeon Burt, 1818; 1. George Davis, Esq., 1819, 1821; 3. Roswell Warner, 1819, 1847; 5. Hiram Wheelock (Col.), 1826; 1. Avery P. Taylor, 1827, 1870; 14. Gardner Watkins, 1832; 1. Pliny Freeman (Capt.), 1833, 1837; 5. David Wight (Col.), 1834, 1841; 2. Thomas Merrick, 1837; 1. Caleb Weld, Jr. (Capt.), 1840, 1849; 9. Benj. D. Hyde, Esq., 1849, 1856; 12. David Wight (Capt.), 1845, 1867; 7. David K. Porter, 1847; 1. William H. Sanders (Dr.), 1850; 1. Truman Charles, 1851, 1852; 3. Simeon A. Drake, 1851, 1861; 14. Nelson Bennett, 1853, 1870; 6. Simeon F. Marsh, 1853, 1883; 47. Alpheus Shumway, 1855; 2. Henry Haynes, Jr., 1862, 1877; 8. Emerson Johnson, 1863, 1865; 3. Henry E. Hitchcock, 1866, 1879; 2. Noah D. Ladd, 1868, 1888; 9. Edmond Nichols, 1869; 1. A. B. Chamberlain, 1875; 1. John A. Gould, 1878; 1. Clarence Fowler (Rev.), 1879; 1. Arthur C. Moore, 1881; 1. C. B. Carpenter, 1882; 1. Frank H. Gleason, 1883; 1. Henry D. Haynes, 1884, 1. H. C. Wales, 1885; 2.

Town Clerks.—Daniel Fiske (Dea.), 1738. '42; 4. Isaac Newell (Dea.), 1739; 1. Moses Marcy (Col.), 1743, '61; 18. Joshua Harding (Dea.); 1759, '82; 22. Joshua Harding, Jr., 1783, '90; 7. Isaac Clark, 1785; 1. David Wight, Jr., 1791, 1808; 13. Jacob Corey (Dr.), 1809, '19; 8. Samuel Freeman, 1815, '17; 3. Benj. Bullock, 1833, '34; 2. Alfred M. Merrick, 1835, '36; 2. Jacob Corey, Jr., 1837, '41; 5. Truman Charles, 1842, '43; 2. George V. Corey, 1844; 1. George Davis (Esq., Dea.), 1845, '49; 5. David K. Porter (Dea.), 1850, '59; 10. Samuel H. Hobbs, 1860, '62; 3. Henry Haynes (Dea.), 1863, '65; 3. Emery L. Bates, 1866, '69; 4. Amasa C. Morse, 1870, '79; 9. Henry D. Haynes, 1873; 1. Alvin B. Chamberlain, 1880, '88; 9.

Town Treasurers.—Daniel Fiske (Dea.), 1738, '42; 5. Moses Marcy (Col.), 1743, '50; 8. Joseph Baker (Dea.), 1751, '57; 5. George Watkins, 1753, '54; 2. Joshua Harding (Dea.), 1758, '61; 4. Ralph Wheelock (Capt.), 1762, '81; 20. Samuel Hobbs, 1782; 1. Moses Weld (Dea.), 1783, '86; 4. Erasmus Babbitt (Dr.), 1787, '89; 3. David Wight, Jr., 1792, '08; 17. Jacob Corey (Dr.), 1809, '19; 8. Simeon Fiske (Capt.), 1816, '17; 2. Simeon Burt, 1818; 1. David Wight (Col.), 1820 '34; 15. Alfred M. Merrick, 1835, '36; 2. Jacob Corey, Jr. (Dr.), 1831, '41; 5. Truman Charles, 1842, '44; 3. George Davis (Esq., Dea.), 1845, '49; 5. David K. Porter (Dea.), 1850, '59; 10. Samuel H. Hobbs, 1860, '61; 2. Elisha Southwick, 1862, '74; 13. Emery L. Bates, 1875, '85; 11. G. Norval Bacon, 1884, '88; 3.

Selectmen.—Daniel Fiske (Dea.), 1738, '78; 21. Moses Marcy (Col.), 1738, '73; 34. Henry Fiske (Lieut.), 1738, '80; 5. Isaac Newell (Dea.), 1739, '48; 3. Joseph Cheney, 1739, '71; 14. Rowland Taylor, 1740, '54; 6. Hezekiah Ward, 1740; 1. James Denison, 1740, '58; 17. Joseph Baker (Dea.), 1741, '59; 5. David Shumway, 1742, '68; 11. Moses Allen, 1743; 1. Edward Foster (Dea.), 1743, '44; 2. Nehemiah Allen, 1747, '49; 2. John Morse, 1747, '62; 12. Jonathan Perry, 1747; 1. John Harding, 1748, '54; 4. Ezekiel Upham (Capt.), 1750, '65; 6. Nathaniel Walker (Capt.), 1752, '74; 5. John Weld, 1755; 1. Aaron Allen, 1758, '80; 3. Samuel Freeman, 1759, '69; 7. Moses Weld (Dea.), 1760, '81; 18. Daniel Plimpton (Col.), 1760, '76; 4. Joshua Harding (Dea.), 1761, '89; 4. James Johnson (Ensign), 1761, '74; 10. Abijah Shumway, 1772; 1. John Holbrook, 1772, '87; 8. Erasmus Babbitt (Dr.), 1773; 1. John Tarbel, 1774; 1. Samuel Ellis, 1774, '89; 5. Daniel Faulkner, 1775, '76; 2. Ralph Wheelock (Capt.), 1777, '81; 5. Samuel Hamant (Capt.), 1777, '79; 3. David Wight, 1781; 1. Timothy Newell (Gen.), 1781, 1803; 9. Lemuel Sanders, 1781, '98; 5. Ebenezer Crafts (Col.), 1782, '84; 2. Jonathan Gould, 1782; 1. Eli Towne, 1782, '84; 3. Benjamin Freeman (Col.), 1782, '96; 8. Jacob Allen (Capt.), 1782, '90; 6. Henry Fiske, Jr. (Dea.), 1783, 1808; 10. John Boyden (Capt.), 1785, 1830; 4. Stephen Harding (Maj.), 1786, 1806; 9. Jonathan Phillips (Dea.), 1786; 1. John Salmon (Lieut.), 1787; 1. Isaac Upham, 1787, '94; 5. Josiah Walker, 1788, 1805; 15. "Jeddidiah" Marcy, 1790; 1. Simeon Fiske (Capt.), 1790, '92; 3. Simeon Allen, 1790; 1. David Richards, 1791, '94; 4. Abel Mason (Capt.), 1792, 1801; 5. Eleazer Hibbard (Dea.), 1795, '96; 2. Comfort Johnson, 1796, 1810; 5. Stephen Geroud (Capt.), 1796, '99; 4. Oliver Plimpton (Esq.), 1797, 1808; 10. Samuel Hobbs, 1797, 1809; 9. Samuel Hooker (Maj.), 1798; 1. Elijah Shumway, 1800; 1. David Fiske, 1800, '03; 4. John Holbrook, 1801; 1. Nathan Fiske, 1804; 1. Perez Walker, 1806, '17; 5. John Watson, 1807, '08; 2. Gershom Plimpton, 1809, '15; 7. John Phillips (Dea.), 1809, '17; 6. Jered Lamb, 1810, '12; 3. Jonathan P. Curtis, 1811, '37; 3. Sylvester Watkins (Capt.), 1811, '25; 12. John Plimpton (Lieut.), 1812; 1. John Taylor (Lieut.), 1813, '15; 3. Ebenezer Cutting, 1813, '15; 3. Oliver Hooker (Maj.), 1813, '15; 3. Jabez Harding, 1816, '17; 2. Stephen Newell, 1816; 1. David Wight (Col.), 1817, '42; 6. Penuel Belknap, 1818, '29; 4. Jonathan Lyon, 1818, '37; 6. Ephraim M. Lyon, 1818, '19; 2. Penuel Cheney, 1818, '19; 2. Edward Phillips (Col.), 1820, '36; 8. Amasa Child (Capt.), 1820, '22; 3. David K. Porter (Dea.), 1821, '23; 3. Peter Belknap (Capt.), 1821, '45; 7. Hezekiah Allen, 1823, '25; 3. William Dwight, Jr., 1823, '24; 2. James Johnson, 1823, '30; 3. Cyrus Merrick, 1824; 1. Abijah Prouty, 1824, '34; 2. Zenas Dunton, 1825, '26; 2. Daniel Fiske, Jr., 1825, '39; 4. Nathaniel Walker, 1826, '36; 3. Pliny Freeman, 1827, '35; 3. George Watkins, 1827, '28; 2. Richard Arnold, 1827, '28; 2. Philemon Shepard, 1827, '29; 3. Thomas Merrick, 1828, '40; 5. Samuel Hobbs, 1829, '45; 3. Jeptha Plimpton, 1830, '42; 3. Lemuel Hooker, 1831, '35; 5. Benjamin Bullock, 1831, '39; 5. Festus Wight, 1831; 1. Jacob Upham, 1832, '49; 3. Ziba Plimpton, 1833, '34; 2. Daniel Mason (Dr.), 1833, '34; 2. Simeon Allen, 1833; 1. Alpheus Wight, 1834; 1. Erasmus Holbrook (Gen.), 1834; 1. Caleb Weld, Jr., 1835, '46; 5. John Plimpton, 1835; 1. Hiel Nichols, 1835, '42; 2. Edward Richardson, 1836; 1. Lyman Morse, 1837, '43; 2. Chester Stone, 1838, '39; 2. John Fay, 1838, '39; 2. Jonah Gifford, 1840; 1. Prince Bracket, 1840, '44; 2. Cheney P. Sheddon, 1841; 1. Livingston Shumway, 1841, '51; 3. Simeon F. Marsh, 1841, '79; 6. Elisha Southwick, 1841, '65; 8. Benjamin D. Hyde, 1842, '56; 2. Simeon Hooker (Capt.), 1843, '44; 2. John Smith, 1843; 1. Liberty Allen, 1843, '55; 3. James M. Belknap, 1844, '48; 4. Dwight P. Johnson, 1844; 1. James Batchelor, 1844; 1. Freedom Nichols, 1845; 1. Charles G. Allen, 1846, '50; 3. Aretas Hooker, 1846, '47; 2. Simeon A. Drake, 1847, '48; 2. Liberty Nichols, 1848, '49; 2. Abiel D. Williams, 1848; 1. Henry Haynes, Jr., 1848, '85; 6. Lewis W. Marsh, 1849, '50; 2. Ethan Allen, 1849, '76; 9. David Wight (Capt.), 1850; 1. Jabez Harding, 1850, '72; 8. Linus L. Belknap, 1850; 1. William H. Sanders, 1851; 1. Estes Bond, 1851; 1. George Davis, Esq., 1852; 1. Eliakim Chamberlain, 1852, '65; 6. Dexter Nichols, 1852, '53; 2. John W. Draper, 1852, '69; 3. Amos Munroe, 1854; 1. Winthrop Nichols, 1854; 1. Francis V. Plimpton, 1854, '55; 2. Melville Snell, 1855, '57; 2. Chester Walker, 1855; 1. Avery P. Taylor, 1856, '58; 2. Linus Leonard, 1856; 1. Aaron Lyon, 1857; 1. Penuel Plimpton, 1859, 1869; 5. Nathaniel Upham, 1859, '78; 8. Emery L. Bates, 1862, '65; 4. Lorenzo Plimpton, 1862; 1. Edmund Nichols, 1866, '69; 3. Amasa C. Morse, 1867; 1. William Wight, 1868; 1. Noah D. Ladd, 1870, '88; 7. Thomas Talbot, 1870; 1. Samuel F. Bemis, 1870, '78; 2. Samuel M. Edgerton, 1873, '74; 2. Melvin Haynes, 1873; 1. Charles Anderson, 1874, '75; 2. Marvin Clark, 1875, '77; 3. Elias M. Gifford, 1876; 1. Henry W. Nichols, 1877, '80; 2. Charles H. Allen, 1877, '79; 3. William Whittemore, 1879; 1. William H. Shumway, 1880, '88; 4. Edward Nichols, 1881, '82; 2. P. S. Callahan, 1883, '87; 4. David B. Wight, 1883, '84; 2. Elihu W. Moffit, 1885, '86; 2. Charles V. Corey, 1885, '87; 3. George N. Bacon, 1887; 1. James Nolan, 1888; 1.

There were five selectmen elected annually until 1835; since then three members have constituted the board.

In reference to Representatives previous to 1771, particular record has not been found. It is believed that Moses Marcy, Esq. (Capt., Col.), served in that capacity anterior to that time. The dates given in the following list are the years in which the election occurred:

Daniel Fiske, 1771; Timothy Parker, 1775; Joshua Harding, Jr., 1787, '88; Josiah Walker, 1789–97, and 1800–02; Frederick Plimpton, 1798; Thomas Babbitt (Dr.), 1799; Thomas Upham, 1803, '04; Oliver Plimpton, 1805–07, David Wight, Jr., 1806, '13; Rev. Zenas L. Leonard, 1808–12; Gershom Plimpton, 1809–12; John Phillips, 1814–16; Samuel Freeman, 1816; Sylvester Watkins, 1817, '18, '20, and in 1825.[1] None sent 1819, '21 and '23. Cyrus Merrick, 1824; Amasa Child, 1826, '27; Penuel Belknap, 1829; James Johnson, 1830–32; Roswell Warner, 1831; Thomas Merrick, 1832; David Wight, 1833; Edward Phillips, 1822, '28, '33, '38; Jared Lamb, 1835; David K. Porter, 1835–55; Jonathan P. Curtis, 1836, '87; Lemuel Hooker, 1836, '39; Abijah Prouty, 1838; Cromwell Bullard, 1839; Caleb Weld, 1840; Nathaniel Walker, 1841; Benjamin D. Hyde, 1842; Hezekiah Allen, 1843; Prince Bracket, 1844 and 1849; Simeon Hooker, 1845; George V. Corey, 1846; Francis W. Emmons, 1847; Dwight P. Johnson, 1848; Emerson Johnson, 1850; Seneca Richardson, 1851; Jabez Harding,

[1] Not to attend unless so instructed by the town.

1852; Hiel Nichols, 1853; Simeon F. Marsh, 1854; Vincent B. Newland, 1856. From Twenty-fourth Worcester District.— Henry Haynes, 1858; James M. Belknap, 1860; Elisha Southwick, 1862; Emery L. Bates, 1864 and 1882. From Eighteenth District of Worcester County.—Amasa C. Morse, 1867; Rev. Martin L. Richardson, 1870; Noah D. Ladd, 1872; George T. Lincoln, 1874; Charles Fuller, 1875; Alvan B. Chamberlain, 1877; G. Norval Bacon, 1879; David B. Wight, 1884. From Fifth Worcester Representative District.—Henry D. Haynes, 1887.

Senators.—General Timothy Newell, also member of the Governor's Council; Hon. Emery L. Bates, 1874, Third Worcester District.

Population in 1765, 896; 1776, 1374; 1790, 1740; 1800, 1846; 1810, 1927. Territory and inhabitants taken to be a part of the new town of Southbridge in 1816. Sturbridge population in 1820, 1633; 1830, 1688; 1840, 2005; 1850, 2119; 1860, 2291; 1865, 1992; 1870, 2101; 1875, 2213.

Town appropriations for highways and bridges: 1739, £200 (old tenor), "ten shillings a day allowed for each man;" 1756, £20, or allowing 2*s.* per day; 1770, £150, allowing 3*s.* per day in June, or 2*s.* in September; 1800, $1,000, $1.00 a day in June, or 67 cents in September; 1820, $700; 1840, $600; 1870, $1,000; 1888, $3,300.

Schools: 1742, £20; 1756, £16; 1770, £40; 1777, £60 (L. M.); 1793, £120; 1810, $600; 1831, $800; 1860, $1,500; 1871, $3,500; 1888, $3,200.

Total appropriation: 1800, $2,300; 1820, $1,900; 1840, $3,600; 1860, $4,907.08; 1865, $15,588.94; 1870, $14,300; 1880, $13,580; 1888, $11,575.

The total valuation of the town in 1815 was $325,233, deducting that part taken for Southbridge, $83,783. Sturbridge valuation in 1816 was $241,450. In 1860, $815,850; in 1871, $992,547; 1888, $975,107. The town is now out of debt, and owning property valued at $33,612.

Thirty-five years after the incorporation of this new town the central valley was still, for the most part, wild, unoccupied land. Five hundred acres adjoining Sturbridge Common on the northeast and northwest sides, extending to the brow of Fisk Hill on the one hand, and to the fair grounds on the other, and northward to the "Old Pauper farm" and Mrs. Hamant's, was owned by Dr. Francis Borland, of Boston, and so remained for fifteen years afterwards. West of that, and southward, was one thousand acres of unoccupied land owned by Mr. William Brattle, of Cambridge, which was purchased in 1774 by Mr. David Wight.

Good roads had been made each way through this central valley, and in all other parts of the town highways had been constructed, all tending toward the meeting-house, or the "great road." Large and productive farms had been wrought from the wild land, and more than a hundred homesteads, many of them commodious and substantial, had been built.

Two hundred times had sympathizing neighbors gathered at the house of mourning. The story of hardship and privation is told by the records of mortality among women and children.

Of the seventy early settlers mentioned on a preceding page, ten only had passed away. These were: Adam Martin, Noah Mason, Solomon Rood, John Streeter, Rev. Caleb Rice, Deacon Isaac Newell, Nathaniel Bond, Samuel Freeman, George Watkins and Jonathan Mason. Most of the first settlers who, when young men, had organized the municipality, were still active in the affairs of the town.

Their early assumption of responsibilities without the presence and support of elder men, their practical and long experience in the affairs of social government, bred self-reliance and a positive and strong feeling repellant of all foreign intervention.

The spirit and the enlarged view taken here upon the affairs of the public in the time of the Revolution are abundantly shown by the following extracts from the records. At a meeting called by the selectmen "y^{e} 27th day June, 1774, to consider of some measures proper to be adopted for the safety and defence of the Province in this distressed condition by reason of several late Acts of the British Parliament." After solemn prayer to God for direction, they proceeded after this manner, the selectmen to preside in the meeting —Deacon Daniel Fisk, speaker. "After considerable debate . . ." it appeared to be the mind of the town, universally, "not to purchase anything which shall be imported from Great Britain after the time stipulated and agreed to." "After making some small alterations" in the Worcester and Berkshire covenants, both were at that time signed, "universally."

September 28, 1774, in accordance with an article in the warrant, the town chose "military officers for the companies, and for their movements," viz.: Daniel Plimpton was chosen major; Timothy Parker, Timothy Newell and Ebenezer Crafts were chosen captains. The same day the town voted to provide four half-barrels of powder, five hundred pounds of lead and five hundred flints. Also a committee of seven, viz.: Ensign James Johnson, Captain Joseph Cheney, Lieutenant Henry Fiske, Mr. Hinsdale Clark, Captain Ezekiel Upham, Mr. Stephen Gerould and John Marsh, were appointed to make provision for the men in case they should be called into the service, and a vote was passed "by a great majority," to pay the men, if called, for the service rendered.

Voted, November 17, 1774, unanimously, "that the constibles of this town pay the Province tax to Henry Gardner, Esq., of Stowe; and his receipt therefor shall ever hereafter opperate as an effectual discharge to them for the same."

The November meeting was adjourned "to Monday, December 1st, at ten o'clock A. M., with the request that all the men in town, from sixteen years old and upwards, then assemble at the meeting-house with arms and ammunition, in order for reviewing." The old men formed a company of "alarm men." The young men were organized in companies called "minute men." They were marshaled and marched into the meeting-house in military order. After ap-

propriate exercises, conducted by Rev. Joshua Paine, business was resumed.

The alarm men, to the number of one hundred and three, some sixty and some over seventy years old, were, many of them, found to be deficient in equipments. The clerks of the other companies reported most of them present and generally equipped, or would be soon. Captain Crafts reported his company of cavalry well equipped and prepared. A few men belonging to the alarm list, who did not make their appearance at the review, were visited by a committee, who took their names and an exact account of their preparations. Report being made, the town voted: "It is the sense of this meeting that every man in town able to furnish himself with arms and ammunition do forthwith fix himself complete; and be it further recommended in the strongest terms to all in town unprepared to defend our just rights and privileges, and all that is dear to us, in this time of great danger and distress, to exert themselves to the utmost to be prepared immediately."

A committee of one from each school district was appointed to obtain signatures to the "Articles of Association," and a pledge for the strict observance of the laws and resolves of Congress.

Agreeable to the advice of the General Congress, the town chose, January 20, 1775, the following Committee of Inspection: Deacon Daniel Fiske, Deacon Joshua Harding, William McKinstry, Major Daniel Plimpton, Aaron Allen, Benjamin Freeman and Deacon Moses Weld.

Deacon Daniel Fiske, Major Timothy Newell and Colonel Daniel Plimpton were appointed a committee to prepare instructions for Captain Timothy Parker, the delegate to the Provincial Congress, which were presented to the town and adopted May 29, 1775. The first article was:

"1st. Respecting civil government (in case the petition or address to his majesty should be rejected), we think it highly necessary to assume government by and with the advice of our sister colonies as soon as may be."

At a special town-meeting, June 27, 1776 (the selectmen presiding), "being duely warned to know the minds of the town respecting Independence, &c.; after the resolve of the late house being read, & some debate thereon: The question was put, whether, should the Honorable Congress, for the safety of the colonies, declare them Independent of the Kingdom of Great Britaln, the inhabitants of this town will solemnly engage with their Lives & Fortunes to support them in the measure:—past in the affirmative by a great majority."[1]

For the year 1776 the Committee of Inspection and Safety was: Major Timothy Newell, Captain Ralph Wheelock, Benjamin Freeman, John Salmon, Isaac Stacy, William McKinstry and Nathaniel Walker.

[1] Town Records.

the present House of Representatives, Council, &c., should form and ratify a plan of government as proposed in a late Hand Bill: & it passed in the negative without one dissentant."

A committee was chosen to "draw up some reasons for their so voting;" viz., Dea. Daniel Fiske, Dea. Moses Weld, Col. Daniel Plimpton, Mr. John Holbrook and Lieut. Henry Fiske.

At an adjourned meeting, the first Monday in November, the committee laid before the town their report, from which the following is quoted: "As the end of government is the happiness of the people, so the sole right and power of forming and establishing a plan thereof is in the people; consequently, we think it unadvisable and irrational to consent that any set of men should form and ratify a constitution of government for us, before we know what it is. . . ." "Also, we look upon the present House of Representatives to be a very unequal representation of the State." The reasons being repeatedly and distinctly read, were approved by a vote of the town.

Committee on Inspection and Safety (1777): Major Timothy Newell, Col. Daniel Plimpton, William McKinstry, Capt. Abel Mason, Lieut. Benjamin Freeman, Lieut. John Salmon, Mr. Job Hamant.

"*Whereas*, the Continental Congress have formed and proposed to the Legislative Body of this State articles of Confederation and perpetual union between the States, therefore, voted: To instruct our representatives to use their influence that the confederation and perpetual union be ratified, & it past in the affirmative. January 26th, 1778."

The town had now taken its stand for independence and a "perpetual union between the United States,"—a position which has, first and last, cost so much in the blood and treasure of her citizens.

Colonel Daniel Plimpton died in June, 1777, and Deacon Daniel Fiske in March, 1778; and with them passed away something, it may be, of the "Spirit of '76," in this town. The enthusiasm and energy of Colonel Plimpton, the sterling character, superior education and easy command of language of Deacon Fiske, had done much to mold the sentiment and action of the town. Also died, October 9, 1777, "Moses Marcy, Esq.," who had in his day been one of the principal men of the town—to whom a generation of the inhabitants had looked for guidance, but of whom our records are silent after the opening of the Revolutionary struggle.

The town's financial efforts began 1775, April 27th, when the town, having ordered the constables having money in their hands, to pay it to Henry Gardner, Esq., of Stowe, appointed Deacon Daniel Fiske, Deacon Moses Weld and Major Daniel Plimpton a committee to see what money was in the hands of the constables and "to stir them up to their duty."

The town having voted in 1774 to pay the minutemen if called into service, a committee was chosen in January, 1777, consisting of Colonel Daniel Plimpton,

At a special town-meeting, October 14, 1776, the question was put: "Whether the town consent that Mr. Jonathan Gould, Ensign James Johnson, Mr. Job Hamant, Captain Ralph Wheelock, Captain Adam Martin and Captain Isaac Stacy, to "adjust or estimate the past services of Sturbridge soldiers in the present war, and to form some plan for the town to act or proceed."

The bounty was fixed at thirty pounds for each enlisted man for three years' service, and so remained through the years '77 and '78. In '79 one hundred pounds each was voted to nine months' men, forty pounds to be paid before they started. February, 1781, the town "voted to pay three hundred hard dollars to each man agreeing to serve three years," to pay one hundred at the time of marching, the remainder at the end of one and two years.

Clothing for the town's proportion of soldiers in the army was obtained mainly by voluntary contribution. The receipts from that source being short of the requirements in 1778, April 14th, the selectmen were directed by vote of the town to purchase shirts, shoes and stockings, which they did, and brought in their bill in May to the amount of £217 18*s.* 2*d.*

A large quantity of beef was furnished for the army, and when unable in 1780 to procure the amount called for (fifteen thousand nine hundred pounds), the town borrowed money and paid that instead to Colonel Davis' agent.

Names of soldiers of the Revolution from this town:

Abraham Allen, Caleb Allen, Eliphalet Allen, Joel Barrett, Justus Boyden, Amos Boyden, John Boyden, Thomas Boyden (also French War of '55), Nathan Brown, Asa Bullard, Asa Coburn, Pheneas Coburn, Zachariah Coburn, Edward Coburn, Henry Clark, Henry Clark, Jr., Rufus Clark, Lemuel Clark, Asahel Clark, Jepthah Clark, Elijah Carpenter (also French War of '55), Jacob Cleaveland, David Corey, John Corey, Joseph Cheney, Ebenezer Crafts, John Congdon, Stephen Draper, Benjamin Dix, Silas Dunton, John Dunton, James Dyer, Thomas Dyer, Robert Edwards, Cyrus Fay, Simeon Fiske, Nathan Fiske, Joshua Fiske, Benjamin Felton (also War of '55), Walter Freeman, John Goss, Abel Gunn, Joshua Hardiug, Hinsdale Hamant, Eleazer Howard (also War of '55), Benjamin Hobbs, John Holbrook, Benjamin Humphrey, Abijah Hyde, Joshua Hyde, Benjamin Hyde, John Hyde, Othniel Hyde, Samuel Hyde, James Johnson (also War of '55), Comfort Johnson, Thomas Janes, Marvel Jackson, Joshua Gerrold, William Leech, Abel Mason (also War of '55), Simeon Mason, Joshua Mason, Calvin Marsh, Silas Marsh, Duty Marsh, Aaron Marsh, Elijah Marcy, Adam Martin, Aaron Martin, Moses Martin, Ithamar Merrifield, Joseph Mills, Asa Morse, Samuel Morse, —— Morse, Daniel Morse, Jeremy Morse, Enos Morse, Timothy Newell, Samuel Newell, Stephen Newell, Timothy Parker, John Phillips, Ebenezer Philips, Elijah Plimpton, Elias Plimpton, Daniel Plimpton, Jr., John Plimpton, Oliver Plimpton, Moses Plimpton, Primus (colored man), Ichabod Robbins, Eli Robbins, Oliver Robbins, Nathan Rice, Jesse Sabin, Timothy Smith, Nathan Smith, Moses Smith, Nahum Smith, John Salmon, Joseph Shaw, Samuel Shumway, Abijah Shumway, Elijah Shumway, Mark Stacy, Amos Scott, William Simpson, Joseph Towne, Parmenas Thayer (was three years under Gen. Wayne in the Indian War of 1791), Isaac Upham, Jonathan Upham, Nathaniel Walker (also War of '55), Josiah Walker, Benjamin Walker, Obed Walker, Pheneas Walker, Isaac Warner, George Watkins, Thomas Wakefield, Mr. Welch, Charles West, Dennison Wheelock, Ralph Wheelock, Thomas Young, John Taylor.

The foregoing is the list collected by George Davis, Esq., and is found in his historical sketch of this town. The following names have been found by the writer upon our town records, and State Archives:

Abner Allen, Jacob Allen, Joseph Dunton, Benjamin Freeman Amos Gleason, Samuel Glover, Josiah Hicks, Asa Homer, Syriel Leech, Isaac Newell, Rev. Joshua Paine (chaplain), Josiah Partridge, Daniel Plimpton (also War of '55), Abner Plimpton, Samuel Richardson, Thomas Simpson.

We have here only the names of survivors, a few of whom moved into this town after the war. The Rev. Joseph S. Clark states, in his centennial address upon the history of this town, July 4, 1838, "that he had obtained the names of two hundred and thirty-nine men from this town that served in that war. Among this number was one colonel, one major, eight captains, eight lieutenants and two ensigns; besides, the Rev. Joshua Paine officiated two months as chaplain."

WAR OF 1812–15.—At a town-meeting in 1812, November 2d, on the question, "To see if the town will grant any additional pay to soldiers doing duty in defense of our country:" "Voted to pass the article by," is the only record upon our town's books referring to that war. It proves that Sturbridge men were at that time "doing duty in defence of our country." Their names, for the most part, are unknown. In 1840 there is mention upon our records of Levi Simmons having served in the War of 1812. In an old account-book kept by a trader of that period, an article of charge against Charles Coburn is written across "Settled by death in the Army." A trace of the foundation of a small house and a lilac bush mark the spot of Charles Coburn's humble home. He was a son of Edward Coburn, whose name is on the Revolutionary list.

The widows of Tilly Woodward and Captain Asa Fisk are drawing pensions for their husband's services in the War of 1812.

Captain Benjamin Bullock, a sea captain, whose home was on the site now occupied by the residence of the writer, was captured by a British armed vessel in 1812, he being on the route home from the East Indies in command of a vessel in the merchant service. He was subsequently exchanged and immediately entered the service of the United States and returned his compliments with much vigor and success. He was wounded in an engagement with the enemy, from the effects of which he died soon after reaching home.

WAR OF THE REBELLION.—The efforts of the town to aid and encourage men to enlist is about all that is found upon the records having reference to the war. From time to time money was raised to carry out the intention of all the acts of the Legislature relative to aiding the families, or those dependent on the volunteers on duty; also for the support of the widows and children of those that died while in the service. A bounty of one hundred dollars was offered by the town in 1862, August 28th, to those who volunteered and were mustered under the "Order of the President for a draft of three hundred thousand men." A bounty of one hundred and twenty-five dollars for volunteers was offered in 1864, May 31st. The real war history of this town, as well as all over the land, was

written in the hearts of brave men and loyal women — legible now only here and there—soon to be entirely obliterated.

On the occasion of choosing Presidential electors and State officers, November 8, 1864, there came into the town hall Dea. John Phillips, who was then one hundred and four years, four months and nine days old. He had been a soldier in the Revolutionary War, had served three terms as Representative in the State Legislature, and had frequently held other office in town affairs. He was a man of large frame, and a long, strong and intelligent physiognomy. A ticket of each of the great parties of that time was held in front of him, and he was asked to designate which he would deposit in the ballot-box. He said, in a voice audible throughout the hall, "I wish to vote for Abraham Lincoln." After that he requested that all the soldiers who had been in the service, who were present, should place themselves in a row in front of him, and then that each man be introduced. Thus comrades of the two great wars met and shook hands. He requested to be borne to his carriage by soldiers —*his comrades*—and the writer was one of the four selected to have that honor.

At the time the town preserved no list of Sturbridge soldiers in the war, and the one here presented is the result of much labor, yet may not be complete. They are as follows:

12*th Infantry.*—William L. Allen.

13*th Infantry.*—Charles A. Phillips.

15*th Infantry.*—Emery F. Baily, William L. Blood, killed at Antietam, September 17, '62; Abram Benjamin, William Carter, William H. Clark, died of wounds, October 1, '62, at Antietam, Md.; Lucian G. Lamb, Alexander Oakes, Charles M. Plummer, Alfred L. Russell, killed Sept. 17, '62, at Antietam; Charles E. Stone.

17*th Infantry.*—John B. Blodget, died Feb. 25, '65, at Newbern, N. C.; Henry Pepin, Albert Remington, Ezra Remington, Charles M. Whittemore, died April 25, '65, at Raleigh, N. C.; Simeon Young, his second enlistment.

19*th Infantry.*—Walter A. Learned, Arthur L. Walker, died Jan. 15, '65, at Andersonville Prison-pen, Ga.

21*st Infantry.*—George L. Bracket served three years, then re-enlisted; George Burr, John Crosby, re-enlisted; Curtis H. Dodge, Henry S. Edgerton, William H. Macomber, Ferdinand Rogers.

22*d Infantry.*—James Brigham, died of wounds, May 15, '64, at Laurel Hill, Va.; Jerome D. Childs, John B. Cooper, died July 18, '62, at Harrison's Landing, Va.; Edmund Mason, Henry G. Miller, John F. Moore, died of wounds, July —, '63; John Newton, Amasa Phetteplace, Isaac G. Plimpton, died of wounds, July 4, '62, at Malvern Hill, Va.; John A. Plimpton, Nathan L. Stone, killed June 27, '62, at Gaines' Mills, Va.; Ransom W. Towne, Jefferson Wellington, David Wilson, Alvi R. Woodward, Simeon Young.

25*th Infantry.*—George Burr, second enlistment; John Burns, Lewis W. Benson, Alfred Carpenter, Maurice Doran, Nathan E. Keash, William J. Stone, died of wounds, June 27, '64, at Washington, D. C.; Robert Young.

27*th Infantry.*—J. Arthur Johnson.

28*th Infantry.*—James King.

31*st Infantry.*—Thomas O'Harra, died Oct. 6, '62, at Jacksonville, La.

34th *Infantry.*—Waldo J. Allen, died Mar. 26, '65, at Sturbridge; George A. Blood, Michael Cleary, Asa F. Crosby, killed Sept. 19, '64, at Winchester, Va.; Patrick Gavin, died Aug. 27, '64, at Andersonville Prison-pen, Ga.; John Hilton, James Hurst, William King,[1] William W. Lombard, John Martin, Darius Moon, James Moon, Simeon G. Newton, died Oct. 7, '63, at Webster, Mass.; Richard Shannock, died of wounds, Nov. 30, '64, at Middletown, Va.; James Shepard.

40*th Infantry.*—Stephen Andrews, Francis A Cooper.

42*d Infantry.*—Albert H. Edgerton, Charles T. Fowler, Frank H. Gleason, second enlistment; Mark Heathcote, William Heathcote, James Nolan, Theodore Snell, John Stone, Albert L. Sykes, Levins R. Wight, Nelson Wright, died June 5, '63, at New Orleans, La.; George Wright.

45*th Infantry* —George P. Ladd.

51*st Infantry.*—Salem T. Adams, Albert Back, Levi B. Chase,[1] John Cobley, Frank H. Gleason, John P. Haynes, Henry E. Hitchcock, Everett C. Hooker, Lothrop L. Hooker, William H. Hooker, Edward E. Jaynes, John F. Kebler, Andrew J. Lee, Henry H. Lincoln, Franklin P. Lumbard, William D. Marsh, Albert Moon, Harlan L. Pepper, Levi W. Richards,[1] Henry H. Scarlborough,[1] Chester Scarborough,[1] Melvin Shepard,[1] Joseph S. Spencer, Edwin R. Spencer, Homer Smith, Merrick L. Streeter,[1] Reuben Walker, Harrison Wells, Henry H. Wells, Daniel W. Wight,[1] Delos Withey.

56*th Infantry.*—Andrew H. Barrett, Charles H. Brown, killed May 31, 1864, Cold Harbor, Va.; J. Arthur Johnson, second enlistment, died May 13, 1865, at Spottsylvania, Va., and his name is given to Post No. 173, Department Massachusetts, G. A. R.; William D. Marsh, second enlistment, died July 14, 1864, at Sturbridge; Homer Smith, second enlistment, killed May 24, 1864, at North Anna River, Va.

57*th Infantry.*—George C. McMaster, died in the service.

60*th Infantry.*—John M. Chick.

61*st Infantry* —Frank H. Gleason, third enlistment.

3*d Battalion Riflemen.*—Elias M. Gifford, Jr.

4*th Cavalry.*—Merrick Clark, George L. Marsh.

Veteran Reserve Corps.—William Amsden, Charles W. Smith.

11*th United States Colored Heavy Artillery.*—Abram B. Jackson.

23*d United States Colored Troops.*—Hiram H. Ransom, fell before Petersburg.

2*d Heavy Artillery.*—Albert H. Bump, Arthur M. Bullard, Alvin B. Chamberlain,[1] John Cobley, second enlistment; Edwin N. Draper, James L. Groves,[1] second enlistment; Lothrop L. Hooker, second enlistment; Frederick Holmes, William H. Levalley, Elbridge G. Perry, Samuel A. Shumway, Addison P. Smith, Augustine Snell.

Five of these men, of the Second Heavy Artillery, some way became credited to Charlton. It is but justice to say that they intended to serve for their native town of Sturbridge, where three of them still reside.

The following are the names of those who were at that time inhabitants of Sturbridge, and who enlisted for other towns:

1*st Battalion, Heavy Artillery.*—Addison C. Jackson, William T. Lamb, Levi W. Richards[1] (second enlistment), enlisted for Worcester.

4*th Heavy Artillery.*—George Remington for Southbridge, Samuel L. Thomson[1] and Emerson D. Vinton[1] for Worcester.

1*st Cavalry.*—Loren W. Johnson, Alphonso F. Childs, died August 20, 1864, at Andersonville prison-pen, Ga.; William S. Fuller, died January 10, 1863, at Annapolis, Md.; Amasa C. Morse, Ebenezer Smith and Farnum Southwick enlisted for Springfield.

4*th Cavalry.*—George P. Kendrick, George N. Stone[1] and James Stone enlisted for Boston.

34*th Infantry.*—Julius A. Parkhurst for Southbridge.

45*th Infantry.*—William P. Plimpton for Southbridge.

The following moved into this town soon after the war, and have remained until the present time, viz.:

Orsamus Kenfield[1] (34th Inf.), from Brimfield; S. Dana Merrill[1] (23d Inf., Maine); William H. H. Ormsby[1] and Ezekiel M. Cooper[1] (15th Inf.), from Brookfield; Andrew B. Fletcher (36th Inf.), from Charlton; Edward Hazzleburst[1] and Jeremiah J. Shepard,[1] from Rhode Island; Charles Vickers[1] and John Day,[1] from Connecticut; W. L. D. Lombard.[1]

Other resident members of Post 173 are:

W. E. Maynard, Maurice Cogan, Jerome Carto, Joseph L. Ballou, Joseph Kenworthy, in Sturbridge; B. C. Bennett, N. Alexander, W. Lill B. W. Charles, E. H. Davenport, E. W. Carder, A. N. Moulton an James Scarborough reside beyond the border of the town, in Brimfiel and Holland.

[1] Members of J. Arthur Johnson Post, No. 173, Department Mass., G A, R.; Commander (1888), W. H. H. Ormsby.

In 1871 the town erected a monument of granite upon the Centre Common, and inscribed thereon the names of those Sturbridge soldiers who did not survive the war.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES, CHURCHES AND MINISTERS.—A Congregational Church was organized in 1736, Wednesday, September 29th, consisting of fourteen male members, viz.: Rev. Caleb Rice, Henry Fiske, Ezekiel Upham, Joséph Baker, Joseph Cheney, Ebenezer Stearns, Joseph Allen, George Watkins, Solomon Rood, Daniel Fiske, Josiah Perry, Jonathan Fosket, Moses Allen, Daniel Thurston.

The same day Mr. Caleb Rice, a native of Hingham and a graduate of Harvard University, was ordained to the work of the ministry. As first pastor he became one of the associate proprietors, owning one-fiftieth part of the township. He died in 1759, September 2d, on a Sabbath day. Fifteen persons separated near the close of his ministry and established a Baptist Church. About one hundred members remained in his church.

Mr. Joshua Paine, a native of Pomfret, Conn., and a graduate of Yale College, was next called to minister to this church. He was ordained here in 1761, June 17th. To accommodate the multitude expected on this occasion a platform was erected on the Common at the foot of the hill, east of the present meeting-house, and the interesting ceremony there performed where all could see. Rev. Joshua Paine died in 1799, December 28th, and the funeral took place the first day of the year and century of 1800. By precept and example he nobly sustained the people in their struggle for independence.

A new meeting-house was built in 1784, on a site about ten rods northeastward of the old house, but was not completed and dedicated until the autumn of 1787.

The successor of Mr. Paine was Mr. Otis Lane, of Rowley, a graduate of Harvard University. A colony of twenty were dismissed from this society in 1801 to form a church in the Poll parish, now Southbridge. Mr. Lane was dismissed in 1819, February 24th, and was succeeded by Rev. Alvin Bond, a native of Sutton, and a graduate of Brown University. He was ordained in 1819, November 30th, and served a twelve years' pastorate, during which Sabbath-schools and Bible-classes were established here, and one hundred and twenty-three members were added to the church; also a temperance society was formed.

Rev. Joseph S. Clark, of Plymouth, a graduate of Amherst College, was ordained pastor in 1831, and remained seven years. With his ministry commenced the voluntary method of supporting religious worship by subscription, in this town. During Mr. Clarke's pastorate 203 members were added by profession, and 56 by letter. The whole number of members was 335. In the same period this church and society contributed for objects of Christian charity $4,000, besides aiding several young men in preparing for the ministry. The interior of the meeting-house was remodeled in 1835, giving more seating capacity than the old-fashioned pews.

The following are the pastors since 1838: 6. Rev. David R. Austin, 1839–51; 7. Rev. Hubbard Beebe, 1852–54; 8. Rev. Sumner G. Clapp, 1856–62; 9. Rev. Marshall B. Angier, 1863–67; 10. Rev. Martin L. Richardson began his labors here in 1867, October 20th, and, rounding out his twenty-one years' service, resigned in 1888, October 20th, much to the regret of his people.

Names of those who have served as deacons: Daniel Fiske, elected 1736; Ebenezer Stearns, 1736; Isaac Newell, 1741; Joseph Baker, 1747; Edward Foster, 1749; Moses Weld; Joshua Harding; Job Hamant; Rowland Clark; Elezear Hebbard; Joel Plimpton, 1807; Daniel Plimpton, 1808; Zenas Dunton, 1826; George Davis, 1826; Ephraim M. Lyon; James Chapin, 1832; Perley Allen, 1846–63; David K. Porter, 1850–53; Melville Snell, 1853–66; Henry Haynes, 1853, still in office; Charles Fuller, 1863–86; Henry E. Hitchcock, 1863–73; Isaac Johnson, 1869–74; William G. Reed, M.D., 1886.

BAPTISTS.—In 1847 a new church was formed in Sturbridge, and Mr. John Blunt was ordained as its pastor. Henry Fiske and David Morse were the ruling elders—the only persons ever appointed to that office in this body. Two years later thirteen of their number were baptized by Rev. Ebenezer Moulton, pastor of the Baptist Church at South Brimfield. Soon afterwards upwards of sixty were baptized, including their pastor, Mr. Blunt, and at that time this church is supposed to have fully conformed to the Baptist faith. Records of this society prior to 1780 are wanting. In 1784 a meeting-house was erected on the height of Fiske Hill, upon a piece of land given to the society for the purpose by Henry Fiske. This house and location was used for the meetings of the Baptist Society for nearly half a century.

Among the twelve who were added to the membership of the church in 1786 was John Phillips, who presided at a meeting in the Baptist meeting-house at Fiskdale, in 1860, June 29th, on the occasion of the celebration of his one hundredth birthday. He died in 1864, aged one hundred and four years.

The society built a new meeting-house, which was finished and dedicated in 1833, January 8th, on the site now occupied by No. 1 School-house.

After occupying that spot five years, this house was removed and located on ground given to the society for that purpose, by the Hon. Josiah J. Fiske, at Fiskdale.

Pastors.—Rev. John Blunt, 1747; Rev. Jordon Dodge, 1784–88; Rev. Lenas L. Leonard, 1796–1832; Rev. Addison Parker, 1833–35; Rev. Orrin O. Stearns, 1837–39; Rev. Joel Kenney, 1840–43; Rev. J. Woodbury, 1844–47; Rev. Thomas Driver, 1847–49; Rev. Geo. E. Dorrance, 1850–52; Rev. Addison Parker, 1852–55; Rev. Geo. W. Preston, 1855–58; Rev. An-

drew Read, 1858–62; Rev. J. M. Chick, 1862–64; Rev. William Reed, 1866–67; Rev. J. T. Farrar, 1867–69; Rev. C. A. Cook, 1869–70; Rev. C. W. Potter, 1871–73; Rev. T. M. Merriam, 1873–76; Rev. J. H. Gannett, 1876–80; Rev. S. M. Reed, 1885.

A revival occurred in the early part of the ministry of the Rev. S. M. Reed, resulting in the addition of some thirty new members to the church, including two or three admitted by letter.

Persons named in the following list have served as deacons of this Baptist Church: Daniel Fiske, John Newell, Jonathan Phillips, Henry Fiske, John Phillips, Jonathan Lyon, Moses Fiske, Prince Bracket, Rufus F. Brooks, Edward Richardson, P. L. Goodell, Jonah Gifford, D. W. Harris, N. Underwood, E. T. Brooks, H. A. Chamberlain. Deacons Goodell and Chamberlain hold office at this time, 1888.

First Unitarian.—This society was organized in 1864, June 3d. The application to E. L. Bates, Esq., justice of the peace, requesting him to issue his warrant to call a meeting for the organization of a religious society for the support of liberal preaching, was signed by Eliakim Adams, Liberty Allen, Nathaniel Upham, Wm. H. Upham, Bowers S. Chace, Levins Hooker, E. W. Moffitt and Wm. H. Skerry. The society started with about forty male members. The next year, 1865, the invitation of the National Convention of Unitarian Churches was accepted, and Emerson Johnson and Bowers S. Chace were chosen delegates to attend the convention with the pastor. A tasty and comfortable house of worship was built in 1872, and dedicated December 11th. A parish committee is chosen annually, and the following persons have served in that office: Nathl. Upham, Chas. N. Allen, Eliakim Adams, Saml. M. Edgerton, Ethan Allen, Farnum Southwick, Bowers S. Chace, Wm. H. Skerry, A. C. Morse, H. W. Nichols, Henry Weld, Edw. Nichols, Wm. H. Upham, Emery L. Bates, Chas. V. Corey, G. Norval Bacon, Jonas Rice, Alvin B. Chamberlain.

Pastors.—Rev. John A. Buckingham, 1864–66; Rev. Henry F. Edes, 1866–68; Rev. Charles T. Irish, 1870–71; Rev. John A. Buckingham, 1871–73; Rev. Clarence Fowler, 1874–80; Rev. B. V. Stevenson, 1880–82; Rev. Frank McGuire, 1882–88; Rev. Ephraim A. Reed, September, 1888.

Protestant Episcopal.—Was organized as a parish under the name of Grace Church. The old Union Hall was fitted up and used for a chapel.

Rectors. — Rev. Samuel Spear, 1870–72; Rev. Levi Boyer, 1873–76; Rev. De Estaing Jennings, 1877, and continued several years; then the services were dropped.

Catholic.—The Fiskdale mission was instituted as early as 1872. The Irish and the Canadian-French have always had their separate meetings, and while a mission, they were attended by the priests of their respected nationalities, who had charge at Southbridge. Two very tasty and well constructed churches were erected in 1885, and in 1886, September 1st, the Fiskdale Mission was made a distinct parish. The Reverend Father Jules Gratton was placed in charge as priest. The census of the parish in 1886, was: Irish, 45 families and 175 souls; French, 110 families and 610 souls.

Educational.—Rev. Joseph S. Clark, in his centennial address of 1838, says: "The first step towards the advancement of common education in this place was the establishment of four schools at the average expense of £5 per school. The names of the four teachers who had the honor of laying the foundation of learning among us (peace to their venerated dust!) were Margaret Manning, Mary Hoar, the wife of Jeremiah Streeter, and the wife of John Stacey, 1742.

Five school districts were formed in 1761, and referring to that, Mr. Clark says, such indeed, is the present law of the Commonwealth, but the plan was devised and adopted by the citizens of this town long before our law-makers had suggested such a thought.

The School Committee of 1825, Rev. Z. L. Leonard, chairman, made a report of the schools—the first on record in this town. In that report it is found that "The whole number that have attended school the winter past is five hundred and sixty, of which a respectable number in each school have attended to the higher branches of study." There were twelve school districts. The age of attendance at common schools was at that time extended at option to twenty years, more or less.

From the 1888 printed report of the School Committee of this town, we find that "the school year of thirty-three weeks was divided into a spring, fall and winter term, of ten, eleven and twelve weeks, respectively."

Number of public day-schools	14
Number of persons in the town May 1, 1877, between five and fifteen years of age	345
Number of different pupils of all ages in all the public schools during the school year	371
Whole number of teachers employed during the year	20
Average wages of teachers per month	$27.75

H. E. Hitchcock, A. B. Chamberlain, D. R. Wight, School Committee of Sturbridge, March 17, 1888.

Public Library.—In 1873 "The Quinebaug Library Association" gave their library of between four and five hundred volumes to the town, "on condition that the town appropriate not less than $100 annually for its increase and support and proper accommodation for the public." The town accepted the gift and the conditions, and the public library has been well cared for and increased to over 3000 volumes. It is located in the upper story of the Centre School-house building. In the year ending March 1, 1888, the number of persons drawing books was 352. Total number of books drawn, 6041.

Industrial.—The first saw-mill in the town was built in 1732 by William Ward, Esq., of Southborough, upon Hobb's Brook, not far above the crossing of the

Fiske Hill road. In 1795 the number of saw-mills upon the Quinebaug and tributaries had increased to fifteen. There were nine in 1837, and at the present time six. A large share of the sawing is now done by portable steam mills. Nehemiah Allen's corn-mill is mentioned upon our records in 1769, and may have been in operation at an earlier date. It was located near where the large dam owned by the Fiskdale Mills has been constructed. Moses Marcy's corn-mill, which accommodated the early settlers, was over the line in Oxford (Charlton after 1754). In 1795 there were four grist-mills in the town; in 1737, three; and at the present time, one—that owned by Mr. George Wight, which accommodates this and the borders of adjoining towns.

Three mills for the manufacture of cotton batting were operated in this town in 1837; at the present time, none.

A tannery was established near the site of the first saw-mill by Mr. Samuel Hobbs, a native of Weston, and a member of "The Boston Tea Party," who came to this town about 1780. Samuel Hobbs & Sons, Josiah Hobbs, P. B. & J. B. Johnson, Southwick & Tyler, and Nelson Bennett have successively owned and operated the tannery. The business has been dropped in that locality and the buildings are taken away.

The "Old Tannery," at Fiskdale, was established not far from the year 1780 by Abner Allen, who carried on the business about fifty years. Mr. Liberty Allen (living 1888), grandson of Abner, succeeded to the business in 1830, and has carried it on fifty-eight years. Henry Allen, father of Liberty, was a pump-maker.

Carriage and Harness Shop at the Centre Village.—Mr. Henry Haynes, then called junior, started in the business here in March, 1834. Mr. Melvin Haynes, a brother, was admitted a partner in 1844. H. & M. Haynes continued until 1861, when Melvin sold his interest to his nephews, Henry D. and John P., and the firm took the name of H. Haynes & Sons. John P. sold his interest in 1865, and the final letter s was taken off the firm-name. The number of hands employed has varied from one, at first, to fifteen or sixteen at the highest. Since carriage-making, in later years, has gone into larger concerns, H. Haynes & Son have reduced their force, and confine their attention to orders and repairing. The senior member of the firm, who is still active, has been in the business fifty-four years.

Boot and Shoe Business at the Centre.—Elisha Southwick, having obtained permission, and a lease of the ground from the town, built a shoe-shop on the Common in 1850, and went into business. In 1859 he leased to Henry Merrick and Charles N. Allen, but soon afterwards bought in, and when Mr. Merrick and Mr. Allen left the firm, continued the business alone until he gave it up to his son-in-law, Mr. A. C. Morse, about 1868. Mr. Hiram Carter bought an interest in 1869, and the firm of Morse & Carter did a business of about $120,000 a year. Mr. Carter withdrew, and Mr. Morse went on alone until the business was closed, about 1877.

Mr. Charles N. Allen, after leaving the firm of Southwick & Allen, did a large business on the opposite side of the Common. He operated for the greater part of the time between 1865 and 1875, usually doing a business of $100,000 a year.

At Fiskdale.—Mr. Emery L. Bates, in connection with Mr. Judson Smith, began in the boot and shoe business about 1846. The firm of Sessions Bates & Co. was formed about 1850, and did a business which, at the maximum, amounted to over $300,000 a year. The firm dissolved before the war, and Mr. Bates continued the business here. His trade was largely Southern, and the cloud of the Rebellion covered about $80,000 of his assets, of which he finally realized only about $10,000. Mr. Bates then discontinued the manufacture of boots and shoes, and organized the Snell Manufacturing Company, as described in another place.

The Ladd's Shop Privilege.—Mr. David K. Porter, in the spring of 1836, built a dam across the ancient "Sugar Brook," exactly where the "Old Springfield Road," which was opened in 1635–38, had passed, and flowed what was known to the wayfarer along this route, before the settlement of the town, as "Knotch Meadow." A very durable and valuable water-power was obtained, it being situated upon the outlet of Walker Pond, which is improved as a reservoir. Gibbs, Tiffany & Company, composed of Enoch K. Gibbs, Brigham Gibbs, Lucian Tiffany and Dr. John Seabury, began the manufacture of pistols here as the first enterprise. Town & Chaffee, from Rhode Island, began to make augers and bits here in 1841, the first made in this town. Mr. Sumner Packard began to make awls and general shoe-kit tools in 1846, and was succeeded in 1855 by Mr. Charles Varney, who commenced to make cutters and dies in 1857. He sold to F. W. & H. Slayton in 1863, who transferred a third interest to Mr. Noah D. Ladd in 1864, and the whole property to Ladd & Wight the next year. In 1867 Mr. Daniel R. Wight went out, and Mr. Ladd, taking his son Henry J. into the business, has continued under the firm-name of N. D. Ladd & Son. The shop was burned in June, 1878, and they had it rebuilt and running in sixty-one days after the fire. They manufactured shoe-knives, awl-hafts and a variety of small tools until about 1875; since that time they have given their attention principally to cutters and dies for cutting cloth, paper, rubber, veneering, leather, etc.

At Westville there is to be seen the ruined foundation of an old mill; also a canal and a broken-down dam. This is the site of the first cotton-factory in the town—including Southbridge. It was built by the Sturbridge Manufacturing Company in 1812. This

association was incorporated the 5th of December, 1811, with the following names: Rev. Zenas L. Leonard, Stephen Newell, Lieut. John Plimpton, Moses Fiske, Jephthah Plimpton, Ziba Plimpton, Moses Newell, Eleazer Rider, Comfort Freeman, Nathaniel Rider, Franklin Rider.

The factory building was thirty feet by forty-five, and three stories in height, with preparations for manufacturing cotton yarn. The mill began to run for the company in the fall of 1812, and continued to run with profit until the close of the war, when British manufactures were introduced below the cost of any similar production in these States. Southbridge was set off in 1816, and although the factory building was on the Sturbridge side of the river, it was subsequently owned and occupied by Southbridge parties. The mill was unoccupied a number of years; then it was struck by lightning and burned about 1882.

Charles Hyde's Box-Shop is on the Quinebaug, about half a mile above the ruins of the old factory. This mill-site was first utilized for a saw-mill owned by Dea. Edward Foster at an early period, and came into the possession of Mr. James Plimpton about 1770, who had a saw-mill and a grist-mill there. The place was called "Plimpton's Mills" for a period of fifty years or more. Stephen Bracket had a cotton-batting mill there; then it was "Bracket's Mills." Pails were made there a few years. Sawing of lumber, planing and matching, and the making of packing-boxes is the business now carried on there.

Wight's Mills.—Above the box-shop the Quinebaug may be followed nearly two miles in its winding, quiet course, before another mill-site is found; and that was originally found by the boys who followed the path the cows made going down through the bushes to drink. The river ran into a pocket surrounded by sand-hills, and had to go back and flow quietly out at the door. David Wight, Jr., built a dam across the door, or place of outflow, dug through the sand-bank and made a canal to conduct the water away down through the meadow to the river again, and thus obtained a very valuable water-power, which has been used by three generations of his descendants. A grist-mill, saw-mill, planing and matching is the business now carried on there.

Snell Manufacturing Company's Works.—In 1798–99, Mr. Alpheus Wight excavated a canal about half a mile in length, conducting the water from the Quinebaug, where a dam was constructed, to a convenient locality near "the great road," and established a water-power there, which has been of great public, as well as private utility. In his day it was utilized for a saw-mill, a grist-mill and a fulling-mill.

The manufacture of augers and bits was commenced at Wight Village, in the old fulling-mill building, as early as 1845, by Towne, Snell & Co. The following year Lauriston Towne went out, and the firm-name became Smith, Snell & Co., until 1850, when Lucius Snell bought out Judson Smith. The firm was then composed of Mr. Melville Snell, and two of his nephews, Thomas O. Snell and Lucius, and took the name of Snell & Bros. The old mill was burned in 1852, after which the firm bought the privilege and built the first stone mill, one hundred feet by thirty-two, and two stories in height. Then Dea. Thomas Snell, the father of Thomas O. and Lucius, sold his shop in Ware and removed his business to Sturbridge, went into partnership with his brother and two sons, and the firm-name was changed to Snell Bros. They built two stone mills in 1853, one thirty-six by forty-six, and the other one hundred by forty-five feet; the latter three stories in height. About seventy-five workmen were employed in 1854.

Deacon Thomas Snell was the son of Thomas Snell, of Ware, who originated the Snell auger and bit, the first of the kind made in this country. Thus, the hereditary skill and long-established business (from 1790) being transferred to this locality, when Mr. Emery L. Bates, of this town, formed a copartnership with Messrs. Clarke & Wilson, an old hardware firm in New York, and purchased the entire business in 1862, they very appropriately took the firm name of The Snell Manufacturing Company. Mr. Bates has been the business manager to the present time. In 1883 they added the business of making ship-augers, of which there is but one other manufactory in this country; and with improved machinery and skilled mechanics are said to make the finest goods in the world.

It is now a corporation with a capital of sixty thousand dollars and employing about one hundred and thirty workmen, manufacturing auger-bits and car-bits, millwright and nut augers, boring machines and boring machine augers, ship-builders' augers and the various kinds of augers and bits used for power machines, producing about one hundred and fifty thousand annually.

Fiskdale and Fiskdale Mills.—Nehemiah Allen, who was one of the proprietors and drew lands in various parts of the town, bought of Moses Allen, who had bought of Shubael Goram, original proprietor, the "Dimick Farm" and "lot No. 25, west," adjoining it on the north, now known as the "old Benson place," and also lot No. 37, now owned by Mr. Liberty Allen, the Fiskdale Mills (Taylor Place) and others, which bounded said "Farm" on the west. The south line of Demick's was identical with the north bounds of Mr. C. G. Allen's farm, and the eastward the same as the west line of J. D. Underwood's and D. W. Wight's pasture-lands on the hill, and continued the same course after crossing the river, northeastward to the lot 25 west above mentioned. The line last described was between the Salstonstal and Demick "Farms."

Nehemiah Allen built his house previous to 1738, upon the site of the "old Allen place," northward of the Baptist meeting-house.

In the second generation his son John remained

upon the homestead, "Captain Jacob" had the south part of the lot No. 37, and the grist-mill, and originated the homestead called the Taylor Place. Abner had the north end of 37, and built the house now the residence of his grandson, Liberty Allen; also originated the tanning business there.

In the third generation Moses Allen succeeded his father, John Allen, on the original homestead, having for a farm that part of Demick's north of the river. Dr. Abraham Allen had the real estate of his father, Captain Jacob, and Henry succeeded Abner.

These men of the third generation had become old, their family had had peaceable possession and quiet for over ninety years, when two brothers, Henry and Josiah J. Fiske, sons of David, of Fiske Hill, and grandsons of Henry (see grantees), bought Moses Allen's farm, erected the first factory and laid the foundation of the village that bears their name. Moses Allen's farm was deeded to Henry and Josiah J. Fiske in 1826. Hon. Josiah J. Fiske was a lawyer residing in Wrentham, but was largely interested in the Quinebaug Company, the first company formed for operating at this point on the Quinebaug River. Henry Fiske became resident proprietor here and erected the first brick mill and a suitable number of tenement houses in 1827–28, and to him is due the credit of performing the pioneer work of founding this village. The dimensions of this first cotton-mill were eighty-four feet by forty, and five stories high. It was put in operation in May, 1829, under the superintendence of Mr. Harvey Hartshorne, of Wrentham. The Quinebaug Company constructed the upper dam in a thorough manner and began the erection of the "stone mill" in 1834. Henry Fiske retired from the concern, and the old Quinebaug Company was merged in the Sturbridge Cotton-Mills, which was incorporated in 1835 with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. It was through the efforts, the energy and perseverance of Hon. Josiah J. Fiske that the Sturbridge Cotton-Mills Company was formed and the construction of these mills carried to completion. After the retirement of his brother, he gave more of his personal attention to affairs here, residing here more or less, and died at Fiskdale in 1838. These first mills had ten thousand spindles and two hundred looms. Mr. Simeon A. Drake was the agent from 1832 to 1854, followed by Mr. Wm. B. Whiting.

In 1859 Mr. James C. Fisk, of Cambridge, was chosen treasurer, and assumed charge of these mills, with Mr. Bowers S. Chace as agent. Mr. Fisk held the office of treasurer until his death, in 1885. The corporate name of the Sturbridge Cotton-Mills was changed by an act of the Legislature in 1869 to Fiskdale Mills; and an increase of capital stock to five hundred thousand dollars was authorized.

When the property first came under the management of Mr. James C. Fisk the buildings were in a dilapidated condition, filled with old and worn-out machinery. The corporation houses were in equally as bad shape, and the general appearance of the mills and village was that of a run-down and worn-out concern.

Mr. Fisk tore down the old mills and built new ones; put in new machinery, remodeled the houses,—and to-day the village of Fiskdale stands as a monument to the energy and success of this man who has made it as pretty, healthy and successful a factory village as can be found; with its large and well-built mills, comfortable and neat houses, well-kept yards, and large farms, keeping some forty head of stock and twelve horses, it can well be called a model village.

The Fiskdale Mills property consists in part of two mills, the machinery of which is operated by one Hercules wheel of 400 horse-power, and one of 250 horse-power. These mills run 34,000 spindles, and 800 looms; using some 6000 pounds of cotton daily; producing some ten and a quarter million yards of 64x64 standard print cloths in a year.

Mr. James L. Fisk, son of the late Mr. James C. Fisk, is now (1888) president of the company; Mr. C. Curry, the treasurer, and Mr. O. B. Truesdell the agent.

AGRICULTURE.—As early as the beginning of the century the "Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture," sent to all parts of the State a series of questions relative to the then existing condition of agriculture. In the report of the Massachusetts Society mention is made that replies had been received from "Sturbridge, where there is a *Society*." Autograph replies, written in the blank spaces between the printed questions, are under the name of Erasmus Babbitt, and the pamphlet bears the date of 1800. Mr. Babbitt reports a medium-sized farm in Sturbridge to be "130 acres, divided: one-third pasture—one-fifth mowing—one-fifteenth tillage—one-thirtieth orchard and one-third woodland; the orchards are generally increasing and yield a competent supply of cider." That "this farm will keep 15 head of neat cattle, 2 horses, and 15 sheep." "All the coarse fodder and meadow hay is fed to the cattle in the yards." "Provender is little used except for horses that work hard, or creatures fatting." On this medium farm "about 7 acres are planted or sown to grain." "Average crop of corn is 25 to 30 bushels to the acre;" potatoes, "130 to 150 bushels to the acre"—"12 or 15 bushels for seed," and "the largest are thought to be best." "About ¾ of an acre of potatoes is planted on a medium farm." We have the rose-back species of swine of the largest kind—killed twenty months old, weigh two hundred and forty pounds. The product of a cow, all the cream being churned, is seventy pounds of butter, and about as many pounds of skim-cheese can be made from the same cow.

The foregoing presents the main points of the replies to the questions of the Massachusetts Society, of Erasmus Babbitt, Esq., a lawyer then residing in this town and probably an officer of that early Agri-

cultural Society of Sturbridge, of which we have no further account.

The present agricultural condition of the town may be indicated by the following extracts from the census of Massachusetts, report of 1885:—Amount of land, cultivated, uncultivated and woodland, 19,111 acres; cultivated land, 16 per cent.; uncultivated, 40 per cent.; woodland, 44 per cent. Number of farms, 145; average size, 131 acres; number of farms reported over one acre and under two, 1; over three and under four, 4; over five and under ten, 8; over ten and under fifteen, 5; over fifteen and under twenty, 5; over twenty and under thirty, 9; over thirty and under forty, 8; over forty and under fifty, 6; over fifty and under sixty, 7; over sixty and under seventy, 4; over seventy and under eighty, 6; over eighty and under ninety, 8; over ninety and under one hundred, 19; over one hundred and under one hundred and fifty, 29; over one hundred and fifty and under two hundred, 13; over two hundred and under three hundred, 8; over three hundred and under four hundred, 4; over eight hundred and under nine hundred, 1. Aggregate value of these 145 farms:—Land, $262,930; buildings, $219,103; machines, implements, etc., $19,521; domestic animals, etc., $50,781; fruit trees and vines, $11,377. The total yearly product from these farms amounts to $125,152. Farms owned, 123; hired, 13; on shares, 5; not given, 4—total, 145. Number of persons owning or having charge of farms:—Males, 159; females, 8; farm laborers, 86.

Formation of the Second Agricultural Society of Sturbridge.—An informal meeting of citizens was held at the house of Mr. J. N. Chamberlain, October 31, 1843, and Maj. S. A. Drake was called to the chair. It was voted to hold an exhibition, November 8th, on the Common. Three were appointed to "extend and give notice over the town in general." The exhibition was held as appointed, and at an adjourned meeting, November 15th, a committee was chosen to draft a constitution and by-laws. At another adjourned meeting, November 27th, a constitution containing eight articles was adopted, and the following list of officers chosen, viz.:—President, S. A. Drake; Vice-President, Caleb Weld, Jr.; Secretary, Benj. D. Hyde; Corresponding Secretary, A. M. Merrick; Treasurer, Benj. Bullock; Directors, Thos. Merrick, John Boyden, David Wight, A. P. Taylor, Peter Belknap, Geo. V. Corey, Simeon Hooker, Samuel Hobbs, S. F. Marsh.

Out of this was evolved the Worcester South Agricultural Society, incorporated in 1854, "for the encouragement of agriculture and the mechanic arts by premiums and other means in the town of Sturbridge, in the county of Worcester." The fine park of this society, containing the buildings and conveniences for a first-class fair, the whole plant being valued at upwards of $16,000, is situated near the centre of this town.

CHAPTER XVII.

TEMPLETON.

BY H. F. LANE.

Location—Boundary—Elevation—Streams—Ponds—Soil — Productions Population—Valuation—Business Affairs of the Present Time.

TEMPLETON is in the extreme northerly portion of Worcester County, in the middle of the second tier of towns from the New Hampshire line. Royalston lies next it on the northwest, and Winchendon on the northeast. Gardner, whose territory was taken partly from this town, lies on the eastern side. Hubbardston lies to the southwest, separated from it by a straight boundary line. Phillipston, originally a part of this town, extends completely along the western side. The extreme length of the town is about eight miles. It varies in breadth from about three miles in the northerly portion to five miles in the middle and southerly portions. It contains from nineteen to twenty thousand acres of surface. The town lies fifteen miles west of Fitchburg, twenty-six miles northwesterly from Worcester and sixty-five miles from Boston. It is in latitude 42° 32′ north and longitude 72° 5′ west from London.

Templeton is situated on a high elevation. The village at the centre of the town is not less than twelve hundred feet above the level of the sea. Some hills rise even higher than that. There is an elevated plateau reaching from Wachusett Mountain, in the central part of Worcester County, to Monadnock, in Southern New Hampshire. This town lies on the western edge of this plateau, where it begins to slope toward the Connecticut River, as the eastern side of the plateau slopes toward the Merrimac. There are no mountainous elevations in the town, although the whole surface is hilly. The hills are rounded masses, usually fertile to the summit. The crests of some of these hills and ridges command extensive views of the surrounding country, as from Dolbear Hill, near the village at the centre of the town, Mine Hill, in the eastern part of the town, and from the high ridges of land in the southern and also in the northwestern parts of the town. It is a notable feature of this portion of Worcester County that it lies in long ridges or swells of land extending in a northerly and southerly line, with corresponding valleys between. Roads running north and south find locations quite nearly level; but running east and west it is one continuous course of up hill and down. The Ware River Railroad finds easy grades through one of these valleys.

The situation of this town, just on the western edge of the plateau, brings it just barely within the Connecticut River basin, into which river all of its surplus waters flow. The towns lying next easterly of this, send a portion of their waters into the Merrimac. The largest stream of water in town is Otter River. This stream has its sources in Hubbardston

and Gardner, flows through the southeasterly portion of this town, and the southwesterly part of Gardner, forms the boundary line between the two towns for some distance, then flows in a northwesterly direction through the northerly part of the town, yielding an abundant water-power at the villages of Otter River and Baldwinville. Just outside of this town it unites with Miller's River, a tributary of the Connecticut. Otter River has several tributaries in this town. Mill Brook, with several reservoirs for the storage of water, furnishes several water privileges at Partridgeville and East Templeton. Trout Brook, with several mill privileges, flows in a direct northerly course through one of the valleys and falls into Otter River a little below Baldwinville. Beaver Brook flows in a northerly course through another of the valleys in the extreme westerly part of the town, falling into Miller's River near South Royalston. There were formerly two saw-mills on this brook. There are several small tributaries of Otter River, some of which have in the past furnished mill-sites. The Burnshirt River drains the southwesterly part of the town and furnishes several mill privileges. This stream falls into Ware River, and thence by way of the Chicopee River reaches the Connecticut. On these various streams there are not less than thirty-five mill-sites, the water-power of which has at some time been turned to practical use. But some of them have in later times been given up.

Several neighboring towns, whose situation is much like our own, have their surface dotted with natural ponds, forming an attractive feature in the landscape. The artificial pond is suggestive only of utility; the natural pond seems to be almost wholly for the gratification of the eye. This town has only two natural ponds, and both are of small size. Snake Pond is in the extreme easterly part of the town, lying partly in Gardner; Cook Pond is in the southerly part of the town, small in area, and with no attractive features. The artificial ponds, for the mill privileges and reservoirs, are numerous and scattered over the town.

The soil of this town is not sterile; neither can it be called fertile. It yields fair crops when replenished by fertilizing material and stimulated to activity by the energetic hand of the owner. But the land is not easy of cultivation, and we cannot compete with Western States in the production of oats and corn. The usual agricultural products are raised here in moderate quantities. Grass is, perhaps, the most important product. The fruits are not produced in abundance here. The peach does not thrive. The season is hardly long enough for the grape. Apples are produced in moderate quantities, but not nearly enough for the home supply. The white pine is the most abundant of the forest trees. Spruce and hemlock are common, and also maple, birch and beech. The oak and the ash are not so often found, and chestnut trees have become quite rare. The American larch, sometimes known as tamarack, and the hard pine grow in some localities. The black cherry, leverwood, hornbeam, poplar, basswood and balsam are found in small quantities. The elm is rarely found, except where it has been set out as a shade-tree. The poison dogwood is found in some of our forests, and the usual wild shrubs grow in abundance—the laurel, common alder, black alder, withewood, sumac and hazel. Doubtless the town at its first settlement was densely wooded. We read from time to time in the Proprietors' Records of their sending persons "to burn the woods." An important product in the early times was the potash obtained from the ashes of the burned trees.

Templeton was incorporated as a town in 1762. Its population at different periods has been as follows: In 1765, including Phillipston, 348; in 1776, including Phillipston, 1016; in 1790, after Phillipston was set off, 950; in 1800, 1068; in 1810, 1205; in 1820, 1331; in 1830, 1552; in 1840, 1776; in 1850, 2173; in 1860, 2816; in 1870, 2802; in 1880, 2789; in 1885, 2627. Of this last number in the census of 1885, 1302 were males, 1325 were females; 2293 were native born, and 334 were foreign born.

The valuation of the property in the town in the year 1800 was less than one hundred and fifty thousand dollars; in 1840 it was somewhat less than six hundred thousand dollars; in 1887 it was a little over one million dollars. According to the assessor's lists for the year 1887, there were in the town 592 dwelling-houses, 429 horses and 450 cows. The number of polls taxed was 788; the number of legal voters in 1888 was 569.

Templeton has its population gathered chiefly in the four principal villages. Each of these villages has a post-office and a hotel; each has one or more churches and stores; each has a public hall; and, beginning with the year 1887, each, with a portion of the contiguous territory, constitutes a voting precinct for the purposes of the State election. The Centre village is at the summit of one of the high ridges of land of which this region is made up. Here the first houses were built; here was the meeting-house of the olden time; here was the public Common, serving as a military training field and muster-ground. The militia of this and the neighboring towns gathered here for the autumnal muster. On the west side of the common is the town hall. Near by is the Unitarian Church and chapel. On the east is the brick building of the Boynton Public Library. Next is the Trinitarian Church edifice. Opposite is the location of the summer school of Mr. Charles W. Stone, of Boston. At the south end of the Common Mr. Percival Blodgett keeps, in more than the usual quantity and variety, the miscellaneous assortment of dry goods and groceries usual in a country store. Mr. J. O. Winch deals in boots and shoes. For several years the hotel, now burned, was kept by Mr. Charles E. Ellis. Miss Delia Damon manages

the affairs of the post-office. Westerly of the village is the station of the Ware River Railroad. Near it is an establishment for painting and finishing furniture, carried on by Messrs. Kilner & Bourn. On Trout Brook, near by, Messrs. Bourn, Hadley & Co. are extensively engaged in the manufacture of pine and ash furniture.

Two miles easterly of Templeton Centre, and well toward the borders of the town, is the village of East Templeton. The Methodist Church has its location here. And here also is Memorial Hall, on whose walls are two marble tablets bearing the names of those soldiers who lost their lives in the Civil War. Ericsson Post, No. 109, of the Grand Army of the Republic, has its place of meeting in this building. There is a co-operative store in its lower story. Mr. F. L. Sargeant is the postmaster of the village, and has a grocery store. Mr. Henry J. Wright keeps a hotel and livery stable, and has a miscellaneous business besides. Mill Brook runs directly through this village and furnishes abundant water-power. Three shops on the upper part of this stream have been burned within a few years. A little farther down the stream is the factory of Mr. Chester N. Johnson, who makes children's carts and wagons in large variety and quantity. The next factory is that of the sons of T. T. Greenwood, who are largely engaged in the manufacture of furniture. They have a furniture store at Gardner. Chairs are manufactured at the lowest mill on the stream by the East Templeton Co-operative Chair Company, a prosperous organization of several mechanics of the village, which has carried on business here for several years.

The village of Otter River is in the northeasterly part of the town, about three miles from the Centre village. It has a station on the Fitchburg Railroad. There is a public hall in connection with the schoolhouse. St. Martin's Church, Catholic, is in this village. Frederick Warner is the postmaster and keeps a store. Francis Leland has built a large brick store on the site of the former hotel, and keeps groceries, dry goods and miscellaneous articles in great variety. Otter River furnishes water-power, on which are three factories, two of which are owned by the Hon. Rufus S. Frost, of Chelsea, Mass., and are occupied with spinning for his other factories elsewhere; the third has always been a woolen-factory. Messrs. Lord, Stone & Co. make a great many stoves, and send out agents to sell them in various parts of New England. There are two brick-yards at this part of the town. One has been somewhat recently established. The other was for many years carried on by Mr. Horatio N. Dyer, and more recently by his son, Charles C. Dyer. The annual product at this yard has recently been one and a half million of bricks.

Baldwinville is in the northerly part of the town, well toward the Winchendon line and about four miles from the Centre village. It has excellent railroad facilities, being situated at the junction of the Ware River Railroad with the Fitchburg. The Baptist Church and the Goodell Memorial Church are both in this village. There is also a public hall, named Union Hall. George E. Bryant is postmaster of the village. For several years Mr. George Partridge has been the proprietor of the hotel. The Templeton Savings Bank has its place of business in this village. Mr. Louis Leland has kept a store at the "Lee" stand in this village since 1870, keeping a supply of dry goods, groceries and miscellaneous articles. In the Cady & Brooks block, near the railroad bridge, Mr. C. S. Dickinson keeps drugs and medicines and a stock of furnishing goods in one store, and Messrs. C. S. Dickinson & Co. keep groceries in an adjoining store, in one portion of which is the post-office. Supplies of coal are furnished by Messrs. Evans & Bowker. Otter River flows directly through the village and furnishes a liberal supply of water-power, which is industriously used. The shop at the uppermost privilege is owned and occupied by Messrs. Smith, Day & Co., in the manufacture of chairs. A portion of the water-power here is used to turn the machinery of the paper-mill, where sheathing, roofing and fire-proof paper is manufactured by Mr. H. M. Small, formerly Small, Gould & Co. Mr. George A. Brooks is a contractor and builder, as well as a dealer in lumber. Following down the river, we come to what was formerly known as the "Red Mill." Here the Waite Chair Company manufacture children's chairs in a variety of patterns and with various ingenious devices for changing their form and rolling them about. At the "Lower mill" chairs of various patterns are manufactured by Messrs. D. L. Thompson & Son. On the north side of the river Messrs. Baker & Wilson manufacture children's wagons and carts at the lower shop, and carry on an extensive business of grinding and selling corn at the upper shop, formerly known as the "Hat-shop." There is a machine-shop near the railroad bridge in which William E. Nichols manufactures band-saw machines and chair machinery of various kinds and does other machinist's work. Messrs. Holman & Harris have built a new shop in the northerly part of the village, close by the railroad. They use steam-power only, and make large quantities of pails, buckets and other wooden-ware. This account of the business of the village would not be complete without mentioning an enterprise in which Mr. Frank L. Hosmer and Mr. E. W. Lund are separately engaged. Each has a green-house, heated by steam, in which cucumbers are raised during the winter, and are ready in the very early spring for the New York and Boston markets, to which they are daily sent.

CHAPTER XVIII.

TEMPLETON—(*Continued.*)

Grant of the Township—The Proprietors—Early Settlements—Old Houses—Incorporation; Templeton, Phillipston—County Relations—State Relations—Political Parties.

THE lands lying in this region were regarded as the property of the Province of Massachusetts. They were granted to persons with a view to the promotion of the settlement of the country rather than as a means of increasing the revenues of the Province. There were many persons in the towns of the eastern part of the Province who had rendered military service in the war against the Narragansett Indians, which terminated in 1675, ending with the destruction of the Indian tribes. Promises had been made to the soldiers in these wars that they should receive gratuities in land in addition to their wages; but for fifty years these promises had remained unfulfilled. The soldiers who survived and the heirs of others urged their claims and finally, June 15, 1728, the General Court recognized their claims by granting to them two townships, each six miles square. A convention of those who brought forward their claims met at Cambridge in 1730. At that meeting the number of those who presented claims was much greater than had been expected. Thomas Tileston, Esq., and others were appointed a committee to request the General Court to grant more townships. This petition was acted upon favorably by the House of Representatives, which voted that each one hundred and twenty persons whose claims shall be allowed by this court may be allowed a township of six miles square. The concurrence of the Governor and Executive Council was necessary to give validity to the grant. The House of Representatives sent to the Council a message setting forth earnestly and eloquently the valor and merit of the soldiers engaged in the Narragansett expedition and calling the attention of the Council to the fact that a "proclamation was made to the army, in the name of the government, when they were mustered on Dedham Plain, where they began their march, that if they played the man, took the fort and drove the enemy out of the Narragansett country, they should have a gratuity in land beside their wages." Additional lists of claimants were afterwards brought in, making the full number of officers and soldiers whose claims were allowed eight hundred and forty persons. A committee was appointed to lay out five more tracts of land in some of the unappropriated lands of the Province, in accordance with the order of the General Court. The grantees were also ordered to meet within six months to make choice of committees to regulate each propriety or township which was to be held and enjoyed by each one hundred and twenty grantees in equal proportion. The grantees of each township were to pass such rules and orders as to oblige them to settle sixty families, with a learned minister, within the space of seven years from the date of the grant. The grantees chose such committees June 6, 1733.

THE PROPRIETORS OF THE TOWNSHIP.—Each of the townships granted by the General Court to soldiers of the Narragansett Indian War seems to have borne the name Narragansett, with a number attached to distinguish the one from the other. Some of these townships seem to have been in New Hampshire. The neighboring town of Westminster was Narragansett Number 2. Templeton was, until the time of its incorporation, known as Narragansett Number 6. The proprietors of this township seem first to have drawn a township somewhere in New Hampshire, as at their first meeting they voted to accept of the township "on the back of Rutland, in lieu of the township assigned us, west of Ponocook and Suncook."

The first meeting of the proprietors of the township Narragansett Number 6, was on October 19, 1733, at the tavern of Jonathan Ball, in Concord, Mass. They chose Samuel Chandler, Jonas Houghton and John Longley as a committee to lay out a township "on the back of Rutland, if the land there be acomadable." At an adjourned meeting of the proprietors, December 3d, they voted to accept of the township. A survey of the township was made by Jonas Houghton, and a plot of the same was returned to the General Court, which was accepted by that body in February, 1734. A meeting of the proprietors was held April 1, 1734, when they chose Jonas Houghton, John Longley and Joseph Fassett a committee "to finish the lines of the township, and burn the woods from time to time until further orders;" they also voted that a tax of ten shillings should be paid by each proprietor.

The first step towards making a division of the land of the town among the proprietors was taken at a meeting held in Concord, October 30, 1734. At that meeting it was "voted that the township be laid out in part as soon as may be. Voted that there be laid out a hundred and twenty-three forty-acre lots of the best of the upland. Voted that Samuel Chandler, Captain James Jones, Mr. Joshua Richardson, John Longley and Joseph Fassett be a committee to lay out the lots above-mentioned. Voted that the lots be made as equal as may be, and in as regular form and as compact as the land will allow of. Voted that said committee order *ways* (roads), and where the meeting-house and the three public lots shall be, and to order land for a burying-place and for a training-place, and for other public use, according to their best discretion."

It will thus be seen that land for the public use was provided for at the earliest possible time, even before the settlement of the town. In accordance with the preceding vote, the committee proceeded to lay out the one hundred and twenty-three forty-acre lots—house-lots these were called—one for each of the one hundred and twenty owners of the township, and the

three public lots, of which one was for the support of schools, one for the first minister, and one for the support of the ministry. The committee employed surveyors, and spent about thirty days in the work of surveying the lots.

At a meeting held at Concord, January 24, 1735 (old style), the lots were distributed among the proprietors by a chance drawing. Any proprietor who did not like his lot was permitted to drop it and take an equal amount in the undivided land, provided he did so within a given time. The full list of the names of the original proprietors, with the numbers of the lots which fell to each, may still be seen in the book of Proprietors' Records. Very few of these original owners of the lots in the township ever settled here. Their lots were sold to others.

It was a condition of the grant of the township by the General Court that sixty families should be settled on as many lots within seven years. But settlers did not rapidly come in. In 1737 the proprietors voted that the owners of sixty of the lots, designated by drawing numbers, should pay into the treasury the sum of twelve pounds each, old tenor, and that the other sixty lots should be settled within three years, and that each proprietor who settled his lot should receive a bounty of eight pounds. In 1743 an additional bounty of twelve pounds was offered to each of the first ten families who, before September 1, 1744, would build a "good dwelling-house and inhabit the same, agreeably to the act of the Great and General Court." But a war between France and England came on, and the Indians acted as allies of the French, and the whole colony was so disturbed that all thought of settling new townships was given up. However, peace came in 1749.

The first meeting of proprietors held within the township was on October 6, 1742, on "Ridge Hill," supposed to be near where the Partridgeville School-house now stands. A contract was made with Samuel Sheldon to build a saw-mill, but he failed to build one. Another contract was made with James Simonds, Reuben Richardson and Oliver Richardson. It is believed that they built a mill in 1743, on the site now owned by A. S. Hodge. A meeting of proprietors was held in 1744, and after that no meeting was held until September 20, 1749, when they again met on "Ridge Hill," in the township.

A meeting was held May 9, 1750, "at the meeting-house place," in the township, and it was voted to divide the meadow land. *Four acres*, in the middling sort of the meadow, was taken as the standard or quantity assigned to each proprietor. John Whitcomb and Charles Baker were appointed surveyors. There was not enough of the meadow land to furnish each one four acres, and so it was voted that those who drew "blanks," should have *nine acres* each, "in any of the undivided upland," giving us an idea of the relative value of meadow and upland at that time. In 1751 there was a second division of upland, with *seventy acres* as the standard, but the committee had power to make the lots larger or smaller, according to their goodness. These lots, one hundred and twenty-three in number, were surveyed and distributed by lot, May 15, 1752.

A third division of the upland was agreed upon in May, 1753, with *forty acres* as the standard, and it was voted that each proprietor may "pitch to his own land,"—that is, select a lot adjoining one formerly received at a previous distribution,—and that the committee "qualify the land over or under the standard, as it is for goodness or accommodation." There were sixty-six "pitched lots;" the other proprietors drew for their locations. A fourth division of land was voted twelve years later, September 25, 1765, with *twenty acres* as the standard for each proprietor. And twelve years later still, October 29, 1777, a fifth division was agreed upon, and *six acres* was to be the standard, with the usual provision for increasing or diminishing the quantity according to the location and goodness of the land. And thus, if we include the division of the meadow lots, there were six divisions of land among the proprietors. In all of the divisions, each proprietor must have received about one hundred and eighty acres of land. Some received an excess of upland in the place of meadow lots; and some lots were made a little over or under the standard, according to location or goodness.

After the division of 1777 there was still remaining a quantity of land, in pieces of irregular shape, lying between the lots already laid, in various parts of the township, amounting in all to about nine hundred acres. At a meeting of the proprietors, held May 3, 1786, it was voted that "it is expedient to sell this land at public vendue, and, after paying the debts, divide the proceeds among the proprietors according to their interest." Any proprietor, who preferred it, was to have his share of the land set off to him under the direction of a committee. The sale was made in accordance with the vote. And it was further agreed on June 6, 1787, that the hill called the "Mine Hill" should be sold "at public vendue for the most it will fetch." Both sales having been made and the debts paid, there was found a balance of eleven shillings and six pence for each original right, which the treasurer was directed to pay to the owners of the rights.

The proprietors, at their meeting of May 3, 1786, granted the Common, and the burying-ground near it, to the town of Templeton, for the use and benefit of the people of the town and their heirs forever.

In the division of land among the proprietors, after the survey was made, it was usually laid before a meeting of the proprietors and afterwards recorded by the proprietors' clerk, in a book kept for that purpose. There are, in the archives of the town, two books, containing the records of the proceedings of the proprietors at their meetings, and a record of the surveys in the original laying out of lots throughout the town-

ship, with the length of the lines in rods, and their direction as indicated by the compass. There are many boundary lines of farms and lots, which, to-day, are the same that were made by the first surveyors as they laid out lots in these original distributions among the proprietors. The proprietors continued to hold meetings, with long intervals between, in the later times, until 1817. A meeting was called to meet at the dwelling-house of Lipha French, on the 10th of February of that year. This meeting was adjourned three times, the last meeting being on the first Monday of November, 1817. They then "voted to adjourn this meeting to the last Wednesday in May next, then to meet at Lipha French's." This is the last entry in the Proprietors' Book of Records. It is not even signed by the clerk, as was the custom.

The original proprietors of this township, as it appears, lived mostly in the towns of Concord, Groton, Lancaster, Bolton, Littleton, Westport, Chelmsford, Stowe, Marlborough, Billerica and Woburn. Their first meeting was held in Concord, and their earlier meetings were held in the more central of these towns. As has been already stated, their first meeting here was in 1742, on "Ridge Hill." Some other meetings were held there also. Sometimes after the meetings were held in the township, they met at the meeting-house place; sometimes at Joshua Wright's tavern, or at the house of Lipha French, in later times.

The early proprietors of this and other towns were constituted by the General Court a body corporate for managing the affairs of the settlement. Their legal powers were similar to those of towns. They could lay taxes for the making of roads and for the support of schools and public worship. But these taxes were assessed wholly on the land, and not on polls or personal property. Their meetings were conducted much after the manner of town-meetings. The presiding officer was called a moderator. They had a clerk and treasurer. They chose committees to perform various duties in their behalf. Samuel Chandler was a leading spirit among the proprietors in the earlier times and until his death, in 1742. Charles Baker was prominent in the earlier settlement, and was a leading citizen of the town after its incorporation. For some time he held the office of Proprietors' Clerk. He surveyed many of the lots in the original laying out, including the Common and burying-place. He died in 1813, at the age of eighty-five. His place of residence was in what is now Phillipston, on the farm recently owned by Henry S. Miner.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS—OLD HOUSES.—One hundred and fifty years ago this hilly region of northern Worcester County was probably one unbroken forest. The noise of the axe of the lumberman had not then mingled with the sound of the gurgling streams, which then ran quietly to the sea unvexed by dam or water-wheel. Twenty-five years ago there were white pine trees in our valleys which must have been standing when the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth. There is nothing to indicate that the Indians had any dwelling-places here or engaged in the cultivation of the land. They probably roamed through the forests merely for the purpose of hunting and fishing. An arrow-head has now and then been picked up. A stone mortar and pestle for pounding corn have been found. There is evidence that the early settlers in several of these towns were annoyed by the Indians. Buildings were burned, property destroyed, and some persons lost their lives at their hands.

The early settlers of this town cannot with justice be charged with wresting these lands from the Indians; for there is no evidence that the Indians had any more title to the lands here than the foxes and wolves that roamed through the same forests with them.

It has already been stated that a saw-mill was probably built in East Templeton in 1743. The first family probably came here in 1751. A bounty of eight pounds, and afterwards of twelve pounds additional, had been offered to the proprietor who should first settle his lot. The earliest payment to any person for building a house on his lot and living in it with his family was made to Elias Wilder in September, 1751; the next was made to Deacon Charles Baker in October, 1751; and the next to Timothy Chase, in May, 1752. Such payments had been made in the next three and a half years to about thirty actual settlers.

In 1753, when there were from eighteen to twenty families in the township, a meeting-house was built, which was fifty feet long and forty feet wide. The first framed dwelling-house in the township is believed to have been the "Dolbear" house, erected in 1760. This house, with its large chimney and unplastered ceilings and walls, still stands about one-half mile southerly of the Common, on the old Hubbardston road. The house standing next northerly of the Public Library building is a very old house. It formerly stood on what is now the Common, near the public pump. In this house Joshua Wright kept his tavern, and the proprietors at sundry times held their meetings there.

The "Wellington" house is one of the oldest houses, having been built by Rev. Mr. Sparhawk in 1764. Doubtless there are quite a large number of houses now standing that were built only a little later than these.

INCORPORATION—*Templeton, Phillipston.*—In the early years of the settlement the affairs of the township had been entirely under the management and control of the grantees or proprietors. The time at length came when it seemed best to the inhabitants to assume the powers and duties of a town, and accordingly the town was incorporated by the General Court.

COPY OF THE ACT OF INCORPORATION..

Anno regni tertii. } L. S. { *Regis Georgii Secundo.*

An Act for incorporating the Plantation called Narragansett No. 6, in the County of Worcester, into a Town by the Name of Templetown.

WHEREAS, the plantation of Narragansett No. 6, lying in the County of Worcester, is competently filled with inhabitants, who labor under great difficulties and inconveniences by means of their not being a town; therefore,

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and House of Representatives, That the said plantation, commonly called and known by the name of Narragansett No. 6, bounding westerly on Poquoige, southerly on Rutland District and Petersham, easterly on Westminster, northerly on Ipswich Canada and Royalshire, be, and hereby is erected into a town by the name of TEMPLETOWN; and that the said town be, and hereby is invested with all the powers, privileges and immunities that any of the towns of this province do or may by law enjoy;—

Provided, That nothing in this Act shall be understood or construed as in any measure to supersede or make void any grants or assessments already made or agreed on by the proprietors of said place in time past, but that the same shall remain and be as effectual as if this Act had not been made.

And be it further enacted, That Joshua Willard, Esq., be, and hereby is, empowered to issue his warrants to some principal inhabitant of the said plantation requiring him, in his majesty's name, to warn and notify the said inhabitants qualified to vote in town affairs, that they meet together at such time and place in said plantation, as by said warrant shall be appointed, to choose such officers as may be necessary to manage the affairs of said town; and the inhabitants, being so met, shall be, and hereby are, empowered to choose said officers accordingly.

Feb. 23, 1762.—This Bill, having been read three several times in the House of Representatives, passed to be enacted.

JAMES OTIS, *Speaker.*

March 6, 1762.—

By the Governor, I consent to the enacting this Bill.

FRA. BERNARD.

In accordance with the provision made in the foregoing act of incorporation, Joshua Willard, Esq., of Petersham, issued a warrant directed to Jason Whitney, one of the principal inhabitants of Templeton, requiring him to call a meeting for the purpose of choosing town officers. And in accordance with the notification made, the first town-meeting in the new town of Templeton was held in the meeting-house, at two of the clock in the afternoon, on Tuesday, May 4, 1762, "in the Second year of his Majesty's Reign." They chose Abel Hunt town clerk, Jason Whitney, Joshua Hyde and Abner Newton for selectmen and assessors, Zaccheus Barrett treasurer and Charles Baker constable; also the usual minor officers. On June 7, 1762, another meeting was held to grant money for town purposes.

Thus Narragansett No. 6 was merged in the town of Templeton. The origin of the name is not known. The name was spelled "Templetown" in the act of incorporation. It was also so spelled in the town warrants and earliest town records. After 1764 the town-meeting warrants always have it "Templeton."

The township, Narragansett No. 6, and the town incorporated as Templeton, included most of the present town of Phillipston. Quite early it became manifest that there was an east and a west side of the town. The deep valley of the Burnshirt River and Trout Brook separated the two sections. Moreover, the meeting-house was decidedly to the east of the middle of the territory of the town. The central point would be in the deep valley previously mentioned, and never, in the olden time, was a meeting-house set in a valley. But it was a long way from the west part of the town to the house of worship, and especially inconvenient in the winter season. And so the town sometimes voted that the Rev. Mr. Sparhawk might, for a few Sundays in the winter, preach in the west part of the town, the meeting-house being closed on such Sundays; but this was done with reluctance by the town, and seems not to have been a satisfactory arrangement for either side.

Much discussion and controversy arose regarding the matter. It was proposed in town-meetings, at different times, to build a meeting-house in the westerly part of the town, to move the meeting-house to the middle of the town, and even to divide the town; but all these plans failed. Finally, in 1773, the westerly part of the town petitioned the General Court to be separated from the rest of the town in the matter of its parochial affairs. This petition was granted in 1774, and two precincts were thus formed. They acted together in transacting most of the ordinary town business. The town-meetings were held at the meeting-house on the Common, as usual, but in calling the meetings the selectmen made out two warrants, one to be served by a constable in the westerly part of the town, and another by a constable in the easterly part. The easterly part of the town was sometimes called the "First Precinct," the westerly, the "Second Precinct." In 1784 fourteen of the inhabitants of the Second Precinct, not satisfied with their situation, petitioned to be united again with the First Precinct, and that precinct voted to receive them, but there is no intimation that any action was taken by the General Court.

The Second Precinct, together with a portion of the southeasterly part of Athol, was incorporated as a town October 20, 1786, by the name of Gerry. The name was in honor of Elbridge Gerry, a man prominent in the political affairs of this State. The name was changed to Phillipston, February 5, 1814. In 1785 the town of Gardner was incorporated, whose territory was made up of portions of Winchendon, Ashburnham, Westminster, and from twelve to fifteen acres from the easterly side of Templeton. The town of Westminster, or Narragansett No. 2, formerly reached to the stone monument, near the residence of Mr. Lucas Baker. In laying out that town they had accidentally made the lines so as to include a portion of the territory granted to the proprietors of Narragansett No. 6, or Templeton. The amount thus included was estimated at four hundred acres, and as a compensation for the loss of this, the proprietors of this township were permitted to have an equal amount from the lands of the province on the northwesterly side of the town. This, in some way, resulted in a quite extensive enlargement of the

area of the town on that side. This arrangement was made about 1737.

COUNTY RELATIONS.—For more than a hundred years intermittent efforts have been made with reference to the formation of a new county made up of towns in the northern part of Worcester County, with the addition of some other towns lying either to the east or to the west of them. Sometimes it was proposed that Templeton should be the shire-town; sometimes Petersham was named; but the later efforts have been made with the design of having Fitchburg as the shire-town. This town chose Joshua Willard, Esq., as its agent to act "at the Great and General Court concerning a new county," in 1763, a little more than a year after the incorporation of the town.

A delegate was chosen to represent the town in a convention held at Petersham in 1781, but with instructions not to join in the petition for a new county unless the towns of Ashby, Ashburnham, Fitchburg, Lunenburg, Leominster and Westminster were also included. Charles Baker was chosen, in 1784, as agent of the town for a division of the county, and the next year the town refused to send a delegate to represent them in a convention at Petersham. In 1791 the town sent delegates to the same place; but later in the year "the town, by vote, signified their disapprobation of a new county." In 1792 an effort was made to form a county, extending from Ashburnham on the east to Pelham and Shutesbury on the west, and including nineteen towns. But this town voted that its agent should not sign this petition. The town made a like refusal in 1794.

There was a plan for building a new court-house at Worcester in 1796. But the people remonstrated against it for three reasons: first, the county of Worcester was too large, and if divided, the court-house, as it then was, would be sufficient; second, if not divided, the court-house should be nearer the centre; third, it was a time when building material and labor were too high. For several years after, the town gave its influence for a division of the county. In 1798 the town favored division by a vote of eighty four to one. These efforts all failed, and there was, for a time, a rest from these labors. But the contest was renewed in 1810, when a convention met in this town concerning the matter. The town sent a petition to the Legislature in favor of a division. But the county was not divided.

The paroxysms of agitation for county division occur less frequently as the years go on. Meanwhile, in all later efforts, Templeton has steadily opposed the division. In 1828, when it was proposed to form a new county made up of sixteen towns from Worcester County and five from Middlesex, the vote of this town was four in favor to one hundred and twenty-six against the division. Vigorous efforts for a new county were made from 1851 to 1855, with Fitchburg as shire-town. Templeton constantly remonstrated against the measure, and several times chose Colonel Artemas Lee a committee to unite with committees from the neighboring towns to oppose the division. But in 1856 some of the terms of the County Courts began to be held at Fitchburg. A court-house and jail were also established there. Another effort for division was made about 1875. Like all of the others, this effort failed, and the county remains with its liberal proportions, and posterity is likely to find its full integrity preserved.

STATE RELATIONS.—Templeton has always taken an active interest in the affairs of the State and the nation; but it sent no representative to the General Court until the beginning of the Revolutionary contest. In the first thirteen years of its existence as a town, nine times it "voted not to send," and in the four remaining years no action was taken upon the matter. Jonathan Baldwin was chosen to represent this town in the General Court, meeting at Salem in October, 1774, and also to a Provincial Congress, meeting at Cambridge, Concord, and at Watertown in 1775. He was the first representative from this town to any legislative body. His first election was the only instance in which such a representative has been chosen by this town at a meeting called "*in his majesty's name.*"

A Constitution was framed for Massachusetts by the General Court in 1778; in a vote by the people, it was rejected by a large majority. Templeton gave twenty-two votes for, and fifty-one against the adoption of that Constitution.

The present Constitution was adopted in March, 1780, by the favorable vote of more than two-thirds of the people. Templeton voted fifty-seven in favor to one against; and again in 1795, the vote in this town was, "seventy-six for the Constitution to stand as it is; none against it." Capt. John Richardson and Mr. Joel Grout were delegates from this town to the convention of 1779–80, which framed the present Constitution. Lovell Walker, Esq., was the delegate to the convention of 1820, which proposed fourteen amendments, nine of which were adopted. This town voted very decidedly in favor of all the proposed amendments except two. Gilman Day, Esq., was the delegate to the convention of 1853, which proposed eight amendments, all of which were rejected by vote of the State, although Templeton favored them, casting about two hundred and twenty-four votes in favor and one hundred and thirty-seven against. There have since been other amendments adopted singly, no convention having been called.

The Constitution of the United States was framed in 1787, and submitted to conventions of delegates in each of the States. The Massachusetts convention, composed of three hundred and sixty members, assembled at Boston in January, 1788, and ratified the Constitution by the small majority of nineteen votes. Capt. Joel Fletcher, the delegate from this town, voted against its adoption, as did also all of the other fifty delegates from Worcester County except seven.

The representatives from this town to the General Court have been : Jonathan Baldwin, 1774, 1775, 1786; Capt. John Richardson, 1776, 1777, 1785; Capt. Ezekiel Knowlton, 1778, 1779, 1783, 1784, 1787, 1788, 1789; Capt. Joel Fletcher, 1781, 1791, 1792; Col. Silas Cutler, 1793, 1798; Capt. Leonard Stone, 1795, 1800, 1801, 1806, 1809; Silas Hazleton, 1797; Lovell Walker, 1803, 1805, 1808; John W. Stiles, 1810–13; Moses Wright, 1814–16; Ephraim Stone, 1819, 1830; Benjamin Read, 1823; Dr. Josiah Howe, 1825, 1827; Col. Leonard Stone, 1828, 1829, 1831; Samuel Lee, 1830; Artemas Lee, 1832, 1833, 1834, 1836, 1847, 1861; Samuel Dadman, 1832, 1833, 1834, 1835; Moses Leland, 1837–39; Joseph Davis, 1838; John Boynton, 1839, 1840; Charles T. Fisher, 1842, 1843; Gilman Day, 1845; John W. Work, 1846, 1849, 1851; Dexter Gilbert, 1850; Edward Hosmer, 1852; Benjamin Hawkes, 1853; Frederick Parker, 1854; John Sawyer (2d,) 1855; Henry Smith, 1856; Leonard Stone, 1859; William Smith, 1865; George P. Hawkes, 1866; William Stone, 1871; William N. Walker, 1872; Edward Sanderson, 1874; Charles W. Davis, 1876; Otis D. Sawin, 1880; Charles S. Lord, 1882; Charles A. Perley, 1885; Percival Blodgett, 1889.

A change was made in the State Constitution in 1857, by which two or more towns were united to form one representative district in some cases. This town was, at one time, united with Hubbardston, then with Gardner, then with Hubbardston, Petersham and Phillipston, and now with Gardner, Winchendon and Ashburnham. In the foregoing lists only those representatives whose residence was in Templeton are included.

Under the former system, Templeton in fourteen different years voted not to send a representative, and in one year, 1844, there was no choice.

Political Parties.—The town of Templeton, in its relations to political parties, has usually been decidedly Federalist, Whig and Republican, successively, although there have been years and times when the vote was cast quite differently from the usual habit. A few instances selected from the vote for Governor in different years will reveal the usual division into parties. At the first election after the adoption of the State Constitution, John Hancock, Federalist, had fifty-one votes; his opponent, five votes. In 1807 Caleb Strong, Federalist, had one hundred and eighteen votes; James Sullivan, seventy-two. In 1816 John Brooks, Federalist, had one hundred and forty votes; Samuel Dexter, seventy-four. In 1835 Edward Everett, Whig, had two hundred and two votes; Marcus Morton, Democrat, twenty-eight. In 1845 George N. Briggs, Whig, had one hundred and forty-nine votes; Isaac Davis, Democrat, one hundred and twenty. It is interesting to mark the rise and progress of the anti-slavery sentiment in this town, as indicated by the vote for Governor in successive years. There were eight votes for the candidate which represented that party in 1843. The vote for successive years next following was seven, thirty-three, thirty-eight, thirty-seven, forty-six, thirty-nine, one hundred and fifty-four, one hundred and twenty-nine, one hundred and thirty-three, one hundred and thirty-two, one hundred and fifty-three and one hundred and forty-one in 1853. A political cyclone swept over the State and battered down all political fences formerly existing, and the Native American party had a very decided preponderance of votes for three years, beginning with 1854. In 1860 John A. Andrew, Republican, had three hundred and thirty-five votes; Erasmus D. Beach, Democrat, had one hundred and eight. In 1880 John D. Long, Republican, had three hundred and fifty-one votes; Charles P. Thompson, Democrat, one hundred and forty-eight. These selected votes will give quite as correct an idea of the division into parties as an average, computed from all of the years would give.

CHAPTER XIX.

TEMPLETON—(*Continued.*)

MILITARY AFFAIRS.

The Revolution—The Currency—Second War with England—A Militia Muster—The Civil War—The Sanitary Commission.

There is abundant evidence to prove that the inhabitants of the town of Templeton were fully informed of the nature and significance of the contest which was arising between the colonies and the mother country. They were thoroughly in earnest and filled with patriotic zeal for the proper maintenance of our rights and liberties. So zealous were they, that they had not patience or forbearance to endure the presence of those who criticised the course of the colonists or expressed sympathy for the royal government. In their opinion, the right of private judgment should not be extended so far as to cover the case of those who thought the Parliament of England was in the right. A Tory was a hateful object in their eyes. He had few rights that others felt bound to respect. Sometimes he was visited by a committee, and some confession was extorted from him. Sometimes others refused to have business transactions with him.

To a Tory in the time of the Revolution the atmosphere of this town could not have seemed congenial; neither would its inhabitants have seemed to him altogether lovely or possessed of all the milder virtues. If there was some intolerance in this, we must remember that it needed that full earnestness and intensity of feeling to carry us successfully through the contest. Any considerable indifference or lukewarmness would have left us still colonists of Great Britain.

In 1765 this town contained a population of three

hundred and forty-eight persons. In 1776 there were ten hundred and sixteen. In both cases Phillipston is included, that town having not yet been incorporated. The people had hardly cleared their farms and built their houses before the warning notes of the coming contest were upon them. The first settlers were not wealthy. Their strong muscles and stout hearts were their most valuable possessions. There was abundant opportunity to turn both of these to practical use. The inhabitants of the town conducted themselves with great spirit, patriotism and self-sacrifice during the whole of the war.

At a meeting held May 17, 1774, the town adopted some resolves concerning goods imported from Great Britain, as follows:

"Voted, first, that we will not by ourselves, or by any under us, directly or indirectly, purchase any goods, of any person whatever, that is or shall be subject to any duty for the purpose of raising a revenue in America. Voted, second, that we will not use any foreign tea, nor countenance the use of it in our families, unless in case of sickness, and not then without a certificate from under the hand of one or more physicians, that it is absolutely necessary in order for the recovery of their patient. And whoever in this town shall act contrary to the aforementioned votes shall be deemed an enemy to his country and treated as such."

A Committee of Correspondence and Safety was chosen by the town each year during the war. By means of such committees in the various towns the public were kept informed of the progress of events, maintained their interest in public affairs, and were ready to act with promptness in any emergency. There was at least one company of minute-men in this town. A committee was chosen by the town in March, 1775, to take care of the farms and families of the minute-men, if they should be suddenly summoned away. The selectmen were to procure fire-arms and ammunition at the expense of the town. A marble tablet on the walls of the town hall commemorates the services of Captain Ezekiel Knowlton and thirty-six soldiers, minute-men, perhaps, who promptly responded to the alarm sounded through this province on the morning of the 19th of April, 1775. The tidings borne from Charlestown by Paul Revere on the evening of April 18th probably reached this town at about noon of April 19th; and before the day closed, the soldiers from this town were on their march for Boston.

It is interesting to observe, in the public records, the changes in the mode of beginning the warrants for calling the town-meetings. From the earliest times until the time of the Revolution the warrant began: "In his majesty's name you are required to warn," etc. The warrant for a meeting on March 6, 1775, read in this way; but the warrant for a meeting on May 7th of that same year began: "Agreeable to the Late Charter of this Province and the Constitutional Laws of the Same." The warrant for a meeting on July 5th began: "By order of Congress." Each of these last-named forms was used in the next warrants. Next came one with this formula omitted entirely. "In the name of the government and people of Massachusetts Bay in New England," was then used, until after the adoption of the State Constitution. From the beginning of the year 1781 to the present time the warrant has been issued "in the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts."

It is known that Captain Ezekiel Knowlton, Captain Joel Fletcher and Captain John Richardson, all of this town, commanded companies some time during the war. The names of some of the soldiers serving under them are also known. The town records show that many times during the war the town provided beef and other provisions for the army, furnished clothing for the soldiers, paid bounties for enlistment, and chose committees to look after the families of soldiers during their absence. At a town-meeting held May 24, 1776, under an article, "to give Instructions to their Representative Respecting the united Colonies Declaring themselves to be in a state of Independancy, Separate from Grate Britain," it was "Resolved, that if the Continental Congress should, for the safety of the united Colonies, declare them Independent of the kingdom of Great Britain, we do solemnly engage with our lives and fortune to support them in the measure." This vote was passed a little more than a month before the Declaration of Independence was made by the Continental Congress.

Military stores were collected at Bennington, Vt., by the Continental authorities. Gen. Burgoyne sent a detachment of troops to capture them; but instead of that, his whole detachment was captured by the American troops in a battle which occurred August 16, 1777. The news of the approach of British troops to these western New England towns spread quickly in this vicinity, and on August 21st, Capt. Josiah Wilder, of this town, at the head of sixty-one men, set out for Bennington. But it was soon found that there was no further need of troops there, and the men returned to their homes after a very brief service.

THE CURRENCY.—There were great difficulties with the currency during the Revolutionary War. The paper-money had been made a legal tender. It had depreciated to an exceeding degree. As a matter of course, the prices of labor and merchandise were exceedingly high and unstable. Great confusion arose in business affairs. With the hope of affording relief from the extreme difficulties of the situation, the towns adopted the method of "stating prices"—that is, of determining at what prices articles should be bought and sold, hoping the people would see fit to conform to those prices. Sometimes a convention would be held to determine the prices for a whole county, or even for the State. Such a convention was held at Concord in October, 1779, and Thomas White was the delegate from this town. This convention voted to leave it optional with the towns to "state the

prices" for themselves. This town chose a committee of seven men to state the prices of such articles as they may think necessary and make report to the town. The committee performed the work assigned them and made their report to the town. It was adopted November 5, 1779, and is still plainly seen on the records. Doubtless the town came as near performing the impossible as is usual when such a feat is attempted. In spite of committee, town or convention, the paper-money would still go on depreciating and the prices would increase; and in 1780 it is said that the town paid six hundred pounds in Continental bills for twenty Spanish milled-dollars. This would be in the ratio of one hundred dollars for one. In the following year the town appropriated, expressed in terms of that depreciated currency, twelve thousand pounds for schools, and ten thousand five hundred pounds for repairs of the highways.

Second War with England.—The second war with England did not meet with favor from the people of New England, and this town shared fully in the general feeling of opposition to it. In 1808 the town voted to petition the President of the United States to suspend the embargo, in whole or in part. In the next year they petitioned the Legislature to urge upon Congress the repeal of the Embargo Law. When war was actually declared, in 1812, the town chose a committee of seven persons,—Rev. Elisha Andrews, Rev. Charles Wellington, Lovell Walker, Esq., Samuel Cutting, Esq., John W. Stiles, Leonard Stone and Deacon Paul Kendall,—who prepared a memorial to the President of the United States in opposition to the war, which was adopted by a vote of eighty-six to twenty-two. The memorial treats of the blockade, the Orders in Council, the impressment of American seamen and the alliance with France. It fills twelve pages of the town records, and is expressed in vigorous language. It is said to have been composed by John W. Stiles, then a merchant of this town.

Several persons from this town were in the army for a shorter or a longer period during this war. The town also voted "to provide, and keep constantly under the control of the selectmen, powder, balls and flints for the use and benefit of the soldiers in this town."

A Militia Muster.—A muster of the militia in former times must have been a very interesting affair, attractive both to boys and men. It must have been more than the equal of the modern cattle show and fair. There is something in military evolutions and display that appeals strongly to human feelings. Templeton abounded in these military gatherings. It was the central town in the group of six, from which was gleaned the material for one regiment of militia; it was well supplied with hotels; and especially was it desirable on account of the excellent parade-ground which its "Common" afforded. Gardner, Winchendon, Royalston, Athol and Phillipston were the towns united with Templeton from which to gather the regiment. Some towns furnished two companies. A day in later September or early October was selected for the regimental muster. On the previous day, perhaps, some officers would mark along the east side of the Common a line on which the soldiers were to arrange themselves. Early on the morning of the day appointed the companies from the other towns would approach the village and leave their horses and vehicles at some farm-house. They would then form into a column and march to the Common. In the forenoon there would be an inspection by officers appointed for that purpose; the soldiers being ranged in a straight line which frequently would reach as far as from the site of the hotel to the Library building. The privates were dressed in citizen's clothes; the officers had uniforms and a sword, usually. After the inspection would come a review which would end the forenoon's duties. In the afternoon came the time for a sham fight. Sometimes a fort would be constructed and a part of the troops assigned to its defence and another part to make the attack, simulating real warfare. Then the declining sun would find the soldiers wending their way to their homes. In these times the law of the State required that all male citizens between eighteen and forty-five years of age should perform some military duty. Hence the somewhat frequent "training" days for the companies and the annual muster of the regiments. And hence the reason why we find so many persons of the last generation bearing military titles. Quite a large number of persons bore the title of colonel from their service in the State militia in command of a regiment.

Previous to 1852 several military organizations had existed in this town. There was in the earlier part of the century a cavalry company, composed of about seventy-five men from Templeton and four neighboring towns. A rifle company existed from 1814 to about 1838. A volunteer company, called the Cadets, was formed in 1844, and existed for several years. But at the time just previous to the Civil War there was no military organization in the town.

The Civil War.—Massachusetts has ever occupied a foremost position in the chief military contests in which the nation has been engaged. She furnished much more than her proportionate share of troops in the War of the Revolution. She was more than ready to do her share of service in the War of the Rebellion. Her Governor Andrew was a tower of strength for the State and nation during the long years of that severe contest. Worcester County was not behind other parts of the State either in promptness or efficiency. Her towns that had kept up regular military organizations were among the first to offer their services to the government in the spring of the year 1861. The town of Templeton was ready and eager to do her part. She showed herself worthy of a place in the State and county to which she belonged. Party disputes and divisions were for a time laid

aside. All belonged to the patriotic party. The national flag was invested with a much greater depth of meaning. Its simple stars and stripes were looked at with a greatly increased regard and affection. It was freely displayed on private dwellings and in public places. It was common to have it represented even on one corner of the common letter envelopes. Public meetings were held and patriotic addresses were delivered in the town hall, which was filled to overflowing with eager and enthusiastic audiences. The pulpits glowed with patriotic sermons; the ministers were not lukewarm in this time of popular uprising. There were very few in the community who did not partake of the patriotic fervor. Those who feared lest the spirit of patriotism had died out were quickly assured of its continued existence.

Although this town in the later years had not kept up a military organization, there was not wanting a good degree of the military spirit. Templeton Common had been the field for the annual muster of the regiment. The sons of those who took an active part in those military displays had reached mature years. There existed an abundance of sparks of the military spirit which the daily tidings from the South fanned into a glowing flame. In the spring of 1861 a military company was formed which enlisted for five years in the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, subject to the call of the government should their services be needed. Of this company, George P. Hawkes was chosen captain, and Charles W. Davis and John Brooks were chosen lieutenants. This was afterwards reorganized according to the rules of the United States service, and became Company A of the Twenty-first Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers.

At a town-meeting held April 30, 1861, the town voted to pay each soldier for the time spent in military drill; to make an addition to the wages which the government allowed to soldiers; also to furnish each man a uniform and a "Colt's" or some other revolver. The uniforms were quickly made and furnished to the men. On further thought, it was not deemed best to supply the revolvers. This company left Templeton for the camp at Worcester July 19, 1861. The day of their departure was a great day in Templeton. In the morning the company assembled, and were drawn up in front of the hotel. The relatives of the soldiers and the citizens generally assembled in large numbers. Addresses were made to the men from the balcony of the hotel by several persons. Rev. Edwin G. Adams presented to each soldier a pocket Testament. The exercises were very interesting, but of necessity deeply tinged with sadness. The company marched to the railroad station, near Otter River Village. An exceedingly long train of carriages followed, bearing the friends of the departing soldiers. A collation was served at the station, and the men departed.

The Twenty-first Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers was recruited mostly from towns in Worcester County, Company A being mostly from Templeton. It left the camp at Worcester August 23, 1861, and was first stationed at Annapolis, Md. It formed a part of the Burnside expedition; participated in the battles of Roanoke Island, Newberne and Camden; bore its full share of the disasters of Pope's campaign in Virginia, meeting with severe losses at Manassas and Chantilly. It bore an active part at South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg. Then away to Tennessee and the siege of Knoxville, with several battles fought near by. The spring of 1864 brought the Ninth Army Corps, of which the Twenty-first Regiment formed a part, back to Virginia, and the names, The Wilderness, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor and Petersburg suggest the reasons why the Twenty-first Regiment was so depleted in numbers as to be consolidated with the remnant of the Thirty-sixth. Fifty-six men from Templeton were connected with the Twenty-first Regiment during some portion of its career. Their names follow:

George P. Hawkes, lieutenant-colonel and brevet brigadier-general; Charles W. Davis, captain and brevet-colonel; Levi N. Smith, captain; Daniel D. Wiley, brevet brigadier-general, both in Commissary Department; John Brooks, Benjamin F. Fuller, Henry S. Hitchcock, Jonas R. Davis and John F. Lewis, lieutenants; J. Prescott Cutting and John W. Wallace, first sergeants; John F. Green, Levi Morse, J. Albert Osgood and Augustus Upton, sergeants; Moses A. Chamberlain, Ambrose P. Chase, Henry K. Marshall, William H. Mellen, John A. Merritt, James A. Miller, Otis P. Moore, Sereno Sawyer and E. Wyman Stone, corporals; Herbert Leland, musician; Mandell Bryant, wagoner; Samuel B. Adams, Henry N. Allen, Charles A. Blackmer, William A. Blackmer, George W. Bradish, Collins W. Chittenden, Charles W. Cobleigh, Charles H. Cummings, Charles H. Cutting, August Dabers, Charles J. Dunn, William Flint, George W. Jennison, George H. Lamson, Reuben Mann, William Marrar, Uriah Merritt, Harrison S. Pierce, Asa F. V. B. Piper, Wilbur A. Potter, George H. Sawtell, David H. Spear, Otis L. Sweet, George L. Thayer, John Thibeault and Eleazer S. Whitney, of Company A; James F. Delehanty, of Company D; Franklin Adams, Company E; James Lewis, Company F; and George D. Whitcomb, of Company D, privates.

The patriotic feeling of the town was not exhausted by the enlistment and departure of the before-named company.

The Twenty-fifth Regiment was recruited mainly from towns in Worcester County, and Templeton furnished thirty-four men, most of whom were in Company I, which was commanded by Capt. V. P. Parkhurst, of this town. The regiment left its camp at Worcester October 31, 1861, proceeded to Annapolis, joined the Burnside expedition and served in

North Carolina until October, 1863. It lost more than two hundred men at Cold Harbor. It took part in the siege of Petersburg. Many of its men had re-enlisted, and continued in the service until the end of the war. Dr. Joseph C. Batchelder, of this town was, for a time, assistant surgeon of this regiment. Following are the names of men from this town:

Varanus P. Parkhurst, captain; Amos Buffum, Thomas Saul, lieutenants; Joseph S. Moulton, Dwight M. Martin, George Trask, Lyman S. Wheeler, sergeants; George A. Jackson, Walter Lamb and Francis L. Moore, of Company I, with Gustave Kluge and Hermann Spindler, of Company G. corporals; George E. Potter, musician; George Baker, George D. Browning, Albert M. Cobleigh, Patrick Coffey, James H. Crocker, David B. Day, Theodore J. Dyer, George E. Evans, John Goodale, George F. Greenwood, Clarence W. Jennison, Artemas Jones, Ransom P. Kimberly, Benjamin R. Manning, Marcus S. Moulton, Leander N. Norcross, William Norcross, Charles W. Weller, Joel Whitney, Jr., and Christopher Myers, of Company C, privates.

The Thirty-sixth Regiment entered the service in the autumn of 1862. Its first engagement was at Fredericksburg. It was at the siege of Vicksburg. It took active part in the Virginia campaign of 1864 from the Wilderness to the siege of Petersburg. Templeton furnished thirty-one men for this regiment, mostly in Company D, which was under command of Capt. Amos Buffum. He had been active in the formation of the company. Christopher Sawyer enlisted in Company D, but was afterwards Captain of Company H. John A. Stearns was first lieutenant in Company D. Stephen F. Brooks, Charles B. Fisher, Levi H. Higley, Charles Underwood, Courtland A. Allen, Cyrus G. Buffum and James L. Brigham were corporals; Benjamin F. Brooks and Henry M. Cobleigh, musicians; George A. Brooks, Charles A. Cummings, James H. Day, Frank M. Fenno, Augustus A. Goddard, Chauncy N. Johnson, Edwin W. Lund, James A. Martindale, Irving L. Merritt, Martin Maynard, Stephen H. Patterson, William H. Perry and Charles M. Perry, of Company H; C. C. B. Sawyer, Ephraim Turner, Julius G. Upton, Charles Wheeler, Ezra L. Wheeler, Augustus S. Whitney and George S. Wright were privates.

The Fifty-third Regiment enlisted for nine months, but their period of service extended from October 17, 1862, to September 2, 1863. Their field of service was mainly in Louisiana, at Baton Rouge, on the Red River expedition, at Fort Bisland and the siege of Port Hudson. This regiment encountered hard service in a climate very unfavorable to health. Templeton furnished forty-three men for this service. Charles W. Upham was first lieutenant of Company G, and was much of the time in command of the company. D. Porter Stockwell, William L. Lamb and Rufus Stickney were sergeants; Marshall C. Mower, Castelly O. Norcross, Albert W. Kendall and Charles W. Trask were corporals of Company G; Thomas L. Addison, Benjamin F. Armitage, Leonard M. Baker, Danforth N. Baker, Lewis R. Briggs, Albert G. Bushnell, William T. Bronsdon, Dixie J. Crosby, Joseph B. Cummings, Ezekiel F. Divoll, Clark A. Earle, Emmons Fales, Charles B. Garfield, Edwin W. Greenwood, John W. Guile, S. B. Hildreth, W. P. Hunt, Franklin Jackson, Horace E. Jennison, Samuel W. Jennison, William G. Kilner, J. W. Leland, William L. Leland, Willard B. Maynard, C. C. Merritt, Howard L. Manning, Henry M. Mirick, George W. Newton, Russell D. Newton, C. J. Nourse, Emory Olney, Joel Richardson, J. H. Saul, Charles H. Searle and Edwin W. Wright were privates.

The soldiers from this town were mostly in the four regiments previously named; but a few were in other organizations. In the Second Regiment were Eugene C. Bushnell, musician and lieutenant; Alvin W. Day, corporal in Company F, and Cyrus C. Bryant. Elmer Parker was in Company D of the Thirteenth Regiment. Charles F. Lee was a lieutenant in the Eighteenth and afterwards a first lieutenant in the Fifty-fifth Regiment. Edward D. Lee was first lieutenant and adjutant in the Twenty-seventh. Amos W. Gray was a private in the Twenty-seventh. George H. Dudley was sergeant, and Wendall Eaton, James M. Lufkin, John Preston and Benjamin E. Thayer were privates in the Thirty-second Regiment. Charles Lynde served in the First Regiment of Cavalry, and P. D. Stratton and Rollin C. Williams in the Heavy Artillery. Edward L. Jones was a captain in the Forty-fourth Regiment of Infantry.

There were a few soldiers credited to the quota of the town in the last year of the war who are not included in the preceding lists. Most of these rendered little or no service. But, without counting these, Templeton furnished no less than two hundred men for the service in the great Civil War. Some served for a comparatively short period owing to wounds or other causes of disability. About one-fifteenth part of the men who entered the service were killed or mortally wounded in battle; more than twice as many died of disease or of ill treatment in Southern prisons. There were not less than thirty out of the two hundred who served either three or four full years without any serious wound or illness. Some few there were, even, who served during the whole war, taking part in every skirmish or battle in which their regiment was engaged, without receiving the slightest wound or encountering any sickness. Some, on the other hand, immediately fell a prey to fatal disease, or were slain in the first battle. Several lost their lives in consequence of insufficient food and ill treatment in Southern prisons; others survived with health permanently impaired. Nearly all the men entered the

service as privates; but, in addition to numerous subordinate officers, not less than six reached the rank of captain, and two left the service with the rank of brevet brigadier-general. The volunteers from Templeton were generally men of mature age, who were interested in the public welfare and were fully aware of the public need and danger. They entered the service of their country with a conscientious regard for duty. Without such men the Rebellion never would have been suppressed.

THE SANITARY COMMISSION.—The United States Sanitary Commission rendered a service of the very highest importance during the war. It expended more than twenty-five millions of dollars for the care and comfort of the soldiers in addition to what the government was able to do. An average of two thousand sick and wounded soldiers were each night supplied with shelter by its efforts, who otherwise would have been shelterless. The inhabitants of Templeton were interested in these efforts, and contributed freely to the Sanitary Commission, or sent articles directly to the soldiers in whom they had a personal interest. Large boxes containing clothing, towels, lint, bandages and articles useful in the hospitals were filled by the people in the different villages and sent to the Commission. Jellies, syrups, pickles, and articles for convalescent soldiers were also sent. Thoughtful minds and willing hands eagerly sought for means to alleviate the hardships and pains of the soldier.

CHAPTER XX.

TEMPLETON—(*Continued.*)

BUSINESS AFFAIRS.

Manufactures—Early Mills—At Baldwinville—On Trout Brook—At Partridgeville and East Templeton—At Otter River—Hotels—Stores—Savings Bank—Roads—Railroads.

BY a vote of the proprietors at a meeting held in Concord, Mass., January 24, 1735, a committee was chosen and authorized "to agree with any person or persons that will erect a mill or mills in said township." Mr. Samuel Sheldon, of Billerica, soon after made a contract with this committee to build a saw-mill and a grist-mill, and he gave bonds to erect the mills. He was to be the owner of the mills and was to have a grant of land for establishing them. The proprietors, at a meeting held in Concord, November 1, 1737, confirmed the contract, and "voted and granted to said Sheldon, his heirs and assigns, forever, eighty acres of land, to be by him laid out in one or two places, in a regular form, in any of the common land of the township, excepting the land reserved on account of the mine; the land drowned by his mill-dam to be accounted a part of the eighty acres; provided, that there be not more than twenty acres of meadow included in said pond and eighty acres of land; provided, also, he keep up a saw-mill and grist-mill in said township, according to his obligation and agreement made with him." Still, notwithstanding the contract and provisional grant of lands, Mr. Sheldon never built the mills.

Another meeting of the proprietors was held at Concord, September 6, 1739, when it was "voted that the Committee chosen to agree about mills in said township be directed, as soon as may be, to procure some suitable person or persons to build a good saw-mill and corn-mill in said township, and to give them such encouragement in any of the common lands or streams within said township as they can or may agree for; and to enter into obligation for the same in the name of the proprietors. Also voted that the Committee chosen to let out the mills in said township be fully empowered to put Mr. Samuel Sheldon's bond in prosecution as soon as may be; or the Committee may have a liberty to agree with Mr. Sheldon as they may see fit."

Another proprietors' meeting assembled at Concord, September 16, 1742, and under the article in the warrant, "to inquire whether there is a saw-mill erected in said township, or like to be;" it is recorded, "Inquired and there is no mill erected." At an adjourned meeting a little after this the committee were instructed to put Mr. Sheldon's bond in suit, but it seems never to have been done.

At a proprietors' meeting in 1743 they purchased Mr. Thomas Hobbs' right in the township, to secure the forty-acre lot, No. 91, already assigned to him, in order that they might use it for a mill privilege. This water privilege is said to have been the one recently occupied by Mr. A. S. Hodge. The price allowed to Mr. Hobbs for this lot and one share in all the then undivided lands was £26 10*s.*, to be paid in twelve months, without interest.

It seems that a bargain was made with Lieutenant James Simonds, Reuben Richardson and Oliver Richardson who were to receive the land in consideration of building the mill, which was probably erected in 1743. In November, 1743, a committee was chosen "to clear the road from the meeting-house place to the saw-mill in said township, and also to look out and mark a road from said mill across Otter River, into Narragansett No. 2," or Westminster. There were no permanent habitations here at this time, nor until a period of seven years later. Indian hostilities were prevalent, and probably the saw-mill was neglected; for we find that in 1749 the clerk was directed to notify Lieutenant Simonds and his partners "to rectify the mill, so that it may be in order for sawing, and for the benefit of the township; so that they may fulfil their contract." A committee was chosen, in 1755, by the proprietors "to take care of the saw-mill, and see that the owners perform according to contract."

In May, 1753, the proprietors voted "to build a corn-mill," and a tax of six shillings on each right

was laid to defray the cost of the mill. Mr. Thomas Sawyer, of Bolton, seems to have built the mill, and to have received, in 1755, in payment, therefor, the sum of £24 13*s.* 6*d.*, or about one hundred and twenty dollars. This sum seems to have been paid him in consideration of his building the mill and undertaking to do the grinding, he owning the mill all the time. It had been believed that this mill was erected at Baldwinville, on Otter River; but Captain Parkhurst, who has recently written a history of the town, thinks the evidence points to its having been located at "Goulding village," in Phillipston, near Phillipston Pond.

However this may be, it seems to be settled that at about this same date of 1754 a saw-mill and grist-mill was erected by this same Thomas Sawyer, of Bolton, in what is now the village of Baldwinville, on the site of the shop now occupied by the Waite Chair Company.

In 1763 the proprietors had an article in a warrant for a meeting, "to see if the proprietors will prosecute in law the bond against Thomas Sawyer, for his not grinding according to contract for the inhabitants of said town," and a committee was chosen to see that he fulfilled his contract.

Thomas Sawyer seems to have carried on the mills on this site at Baldwinville until about 1767, when they were sold to Jonathan Baldwin, Esq., an enterprising and public-spirited citizen from Spencer, Mass. He became a very large land-holder in the village of Baldwinville, owning a large tract on the north and west. Captain Eden Baldwin, son of Jonathan, succeeded his father in the ownership of the mills. He carried on the lumber business and also made bricks at a yard near where the house of C. M. Cummings now stands. In 1803 he rebuilt the mills and carried them on until 1829, when he rented them for five years to William Kendall and Edward Richardson, of Holden.

In 1836 Captain Eden Baldwin sold the mills to Colonel George W. Sawyer, who retained possession some two years and then sold the property back to Captain Baldwin, who retained it until his death, in 1839. In that year another Eden Baldwin, from Ashfield, a distant relative of the former, became the owner, and in 1840 he took down the former structure and built the eastern half of the "Red Mill," putting in a new grist-mill and a self-setting saw-mill. In 1842 he sold to Gilman Day, who received Charles Baldwin, a grandson of Captain Eden, as a partner in 1843. Edwin Sawyer bought Mr. Baldwin's interest in 1847. Day & Sawyer built the western half of the "Red Mill." They made wood-seat chairs, hat-cases, etc. The manufacture of chairs has been continued at this stand by different firms formed in successive years: Sawyer & Thompson in 1853, Sawyer, Thompson & Perley in 1856, Thompson, Perley & Waite in 1871 and the Waite Chair Company in 1887. On the death of Mr. Perley the firm was divided and Mr. Thompson became the head of a firm making chairs at the lower mill.

In 1843 Captain Warren L. Merritt began the hat-pressing business in the "Red Mill." But a mill was built at the north end of the dam in 1844 by Samuel D. Morley, and Captain Merritt moved his business there and continued it until 1850, after which the business was continued by John Stearns, and Lee & Stearns, who employed about twenty hands. In the recent years Baker & Wilson have a grist-mill here, at which they grind large quantities of Western corn, selling the meal in the neighboring villages.

In the early part of the century a number of persons in this village and in other parts of this town were engaged in the manufacture of wood-seat chairs. The work was done wholly by hand in small shops near to or connected with dwelling-houses. As the years went on, machinery was invented to facilitate the work, and that necessitated the concentration of the work in larger establishments.

In 1844 Albert Bryant and James Stimpson built a dam at what is now known as the lower shop. A shop was soon built at the north end of the dam, and in 1846 another at the south end by James Stimpson. In these shops various kinds of business have been carried on by different persons and firms. Hat-pressing has been carried on; different firms have manufactured matches; doors, sashes and blinds have been made; a shop was burned at the south end of the dam in 1862. Soon the privilege passed into the hands of Willard Baker and Sawyer, Thompson & Perley. The latter firm and their successors have occupied the southerly shop in the manufacture of chairs. A division of this firm was made in 1887, and this shop is now occupied by D. L. Thompson & Son, who continue here the manufacture of various kinds of chairs. The northerly shop has for some years been occupied by Baker & Wilson in the manufacture of children's carriages.

A tannery was carried on for several years previous to 1817 by Joel Hayden, and afterward by Henry & Joseph Newton, on the site recently occupied by the office and store-house of Thompson, Perley & Waite, west of the hotel. His mill for grinding bark by water-power was on the site now occupied by the machine-shop of William E. Nichols. Various kinds of business have since been done here. John & Hartford Potter made sofa frames; Bennet Potter put in a grist-mill; Kelton & Hollingsworth were machinists; Eden B. Sawyer, and afterward Buffum & Newton, made measures for measuring grain; Captain W. L. Merritt made window shades; James Stimpson made faucets. At the present time the privilege is used by William E. Nichols for the manufacture of band saw machines and various kinds of chair machinery.

In 1841 Captain Joseph Davis built a saw-mill at the most easterly privilege in Baldwinville. For

some years pails were made here and afterward doors, sashes and blinds; Sawyer & Patterson made matches; Robinson & Hersey made buckets, and James Stimpson clothes-pins. This mill was burned in 1856. The privilege was bought in 1869 by Charles A. Perley and Gilman Waite. In 1870 a stock company was formed and a large and commodious factory was put up which furnished accommodations for several firms. Smith, Day & Co. made chairs; L. Greenwood & Co. also made chairs; E. Sawyer & Co. made furniture. This mill was burned in 1885. It was rebuilt by Smith, Day & Co., who continue the manufacture of chairs at this stand. A part of the water-power at this place is used by Mr. H. M. Small in the manufacture of sheathing and roofing paper.

There were formerly two saw-mills on Beaver Brook, in the extreme western part of the town. There were also two mills in the northwesterly part of the town, on the Royalston road, one of which is still kept in operation. These were on tributaries of Otter River.

On Trout Brook there were formerly five mill privileges which were utilized. Only two or three of them are now used. The first privilege to be used was that now occupied by Bourn, Hadley & Co. Mr. Withington erected a saw-mill here not far from 1820. Deacon Benjamin Hawkes and his sons had made furniture by hand at a shop formerly standing on the present site of the Public Library. Later they made use of the water-power at this stand for some years. The present proprietors are extensively engaged in the manufacture of pine and ash furniture. Farther down on this stream toward Baldwinville is a saw-mill. Staves for pails are also prepared here.

The water from Phillipston Pond flows through the southwesterly part of this town, on its way to join the waters of Ware River. On this stream have been several mill privileges, which have been used for grinding grain, sawing lumber, and preparing chair-stock or staves for pails. On a stream tributary to this is a mill which has been variously employed, recently as a cider-mill; formerly, Mr. Leander Leland made shoe-pegs here with ingenious machinery which he had prepared.

Mill Brook is the name applied to a stream of water which rises in the southeasterly part of this town and flows through Partridgeville and East Templeton, falling into Otter River a short distance below the latter village. As this brook has quite a rapid fall, it furnishes several water privileges, two of which were in Partridgeville. On the upper one was a saw-mill, formerly owned by A. A. & G. W. Jones. This has been suffered to go to decay. A little way down the stream, and close by the highway, was formerly a grist-mill. Afterwards, for some years, H. & J. W. Partridge made chairs here. It is now owned by Dexter P. Merritt. Two reservoirs for the storage of water lie above the village of East Templeton. Below the dam of the lower one was a shop for the manufacture of chairs. The water-power was supplemented, in later times, by a steam-engine. The shop was built by Bennett Potter, and had been occupied by Potter & Jennison, Parker, Sawyer & Co., McLean & Dickerman, and others. It was burnt recently, and has not been rebuilt.

The chair manufactory of A. S. Hodge was burnt recently, and has not as yet been rebuilt. Chairs have been for many years manufactured on this site by different parties, using steam as well as water-power in later years. The shop now owned by Henry J. Wright seems to have been built by Bennett Potter. Various kinds of business have successively been carried on here. The grist-mill and saw-mill formerly owned by John Simonds was, in 1813, bought by Joel Fales, who enlarged the mills. He soon erected another shop near where the "Fales" shop recently stood, and carried on the manufacture of scythes for several years. He had a furnace and made small castings. He had a trip-hammer and manufactured hoes. His son, Otis P. Fales, was associated with him in this business. In later times the brothers, Otis P. and Joel G. Fales, under the firm-name of J. G. Fales & Co., made chairs, the seats of which were woven out of thin plates of wood split by a machine invented for this purpose. The chairs had a look not unlike the chairs of the olden time, and for some uses were quite popular. This shop was burned a few years since. On the next mill-site the manufacture of children's carts and wagons has been carried on since the year 1858, by Chester N. Johnson, who has made of it a very successful business. The tannery business had for many years been carried on at this site, earlier by Mr. Swan and later by Warren Simonds. At the next site, T. T. Greenwood's Sons continue the business of the manufacture of furniture, which their father had begun some years before. They also have a furniture store in West Gardner. A mill built by Artemas Brown formerly stood on the next site. At first it was a saw-mill; afterwards tubs and pails were made here, but there has been no shop here for some years. The last shop on the stream is that of the East Templeton Chair Company, a co-operative incorporated company, which has met with a good degree of success.

Otter River enters the town on its eastern side, from Gardner, and flows through the northerly portion of the town, furnishing an abundant water-power in the villages of Otter River and Baldwinville. The Otter River Blanket Mill occupies the first mill-site on this stream, having a location just over the Gardner line. Horse blankets in large quantities were quite recently the product of this mill. The first mill here was built by Cooper Sawyer. The manufacture of chairs has, in the past time, been carried on here. A little farther down the stream is what is known as the Templeton Blanket Mills, which, together with the factory last named, is owned by Rufus S. Frost, of Chelsea, Mass. On this site William Hunting built a saw-mill, which Col. Leonard Stone after-

wards bought and occupied for many years. William E. Nichols for a time had a machine-shop here, and Charles Everett a grist-mill. Going a little way down the stream, we come to the Woolen Mills. The first building on this site was erected about 1823 by Capt. Samuel Dadman, who began here the manufacture of woolen cloth. The Dadman Manufacturing Company, the Jones Manufacturing Company, and other firms have continued the business. A new building was erected in 1836. Some kind of woolen goods has been the manufacture carried on here. Near this site, in the earlier part of the century, and reaching back to about 1787, Edward Cambridge had a shop for dressing cloth. He performed the service of dressing and finishing the cloth made by the farmers at their own homes on the hand-looms. Just east of the present factory building, Nathan Smith had a shop, at which he used to receive wool from the farmers and card it into rolls, ready for spinning at home.

The manufacture of bricks has been carried on quite extensively by Charles C. Dyer, in the village of Otter River, at the yard which had been for many years occupied by his father, Horatio N. Dyer. These are transported by rail and sold in Worcester and other places.

The manufacture of stoves has for many years been an important industry in the village of Otter River. It was begun by Thomas Parker, who, about the year 1836, erected a shop on a tributary of Otter River flowing into the town from Winchendon. He carried on the business until 1843, when he was succeeded by his son, Daniel W. Parker, who, in 1851, received Otis Warren as a partner. Mr. Warren carried on the business alone until 1853, when he sold to Gates & Lord. Lord & Walker became the name of the firm in 1858, which became Lord & Stone in 1871, and Lord, Stone & Co. in 1887. During all of this time, in addition to the manufacture of stoves, a general foundry business has been done at this stand, and machinists' work also. The work, which was begun on a small scale, has gradually increased, giving employment at the present time to from thirty-five to forty hands. From five hundred to six hundred tons of iron are melted annually. The stoves are sold by traveling agents in various parts of New England.

Inventors.—The soil of Worcester County is certainly not favorable, as a general thing, for the production of agricultural crops; but it produces excellent mechanics. The very atmosphere seems to favor their growth. And Templeton, like its neighboring towns, has always abounded in good mechanics —good in the practical execution of work, and sometimes apt in the invention of new machines and processes. Indeed, these country towns would, many of them, have gone to early decay had it not been for their mechanical and manufacturing industries. The local market furnished by the manufacturing villages is the one thing that makes farming possible here.

Eli Bruce was one of the early settlers in the town, living in the village of Baldwinville, in the house now occupied by Mr. Hildreth. He was a very ingenious man. He made clocks, repaired watches and jewelry. He constructed a pipe-organ, which was said to have been a very fine one. He invented a machine for making pins out of wire, heading and pointing them ready for use. He also invented machinery suitable for the manufacture of wooden buckets. His was a versatile mind, ever ready to animate material things with a capacity to subserve human wants.

Asa Fessenden was another mechanic of unusual ingenuity. He lived first at Templeton Centre, making vehicles of various kinds at the shop afterwards occupied by Maynard & Fiske. In later life he lived in Baldwinville, in the same house formerly occupied by Eli Bruce.

James Stimpson, now living in Baldwinville, is the inventor of a machine of much utility in the manufacture of furniture. It makes with rapidity a strong joint for the fastening together of the sides of drawers for bureaus, and is generally used in furniture-making establishments. He secured a patent for the method of making the joint in 1857, and on the machine in 1859. Mr. Stimpson is also the inventor of a street lamp of much convenience. The lamp is lowered for lighting and care by an iron lever turning on an axis.

John Nichols, of Baldwinville, invented a child's chair that is very easily convertible into a carriage, and again into a play table. There were six different kinds of these chairs. He has also invented an ingenious form of street lamp, in which the lamp slides down through a hollow lamp-post for convenience of lighting and care. The draft of air for the lamp is also through the post, so that it burns steadily even when it is windy.

Hotels.—In the olden times country towns abounded in inns or taverns. On the principal lines of travel there seems to have been only a distance of two or three miles between them. The great number of loaded teams transporting merchandise from Boston to the interior towns created a necessity for numerous stopping-places. Perhaps there was also found some pecuniary profit in furnishing some form of liquid refreshment for thirsty travelers. But the taverns were numerous in our own town as well as in others; and tradition surrounds them with a kind of halo which could not have been visible to their immediate patrons. The "enchantment" doubtless results from the distance which time interposes. Most of them were farm-houses of a larger size. In the villages, however, were taverns of more pretension and importance.

It is not easy to ascertain the date of the opening of the first tavern in town. Doubtless the first ones were kept by persons who gave their chief attention to other pursuits. There was formerly a tavern kept

at the farm-house now known as the "Lambert Howe" place. There were three taverns at Templeton Centre. One was kept by Joseph Upham in the brick house at the northwesterly side of the Common. One by Joshua Wright, familiarly known as Landlord Wright, was kept in what has been known as the old "Hawkes" house, then standing where the public pump now is. But the chief public-house of the village seems always to have been the one on the site of the recent Templeton Hotel, which has been kept for some years by Charles E. Ellis. This building was burned in September, 1888. This house, in the earlier part of the century, was kept by Lipha French, Calvin Townsley and Levi Pierce. In later times Francis Twichell was very favorably known as the proprietor.

The house now owned by Mr. Lucas Baker in East Templeton, and that owned by Mr. Isaac Bourn in Brooks village, were both kept as taverns in the early part of this century, being on the line of through travel from Boston to Albany, which passed through Templeton. This town was also on a line of through travel from Worcester to Keene. On this line were two taverns at the Baptist Common,—the one kept in the house which is the present residence of Mr. John M. Brown, the other in a house directly opposite, on the other side of the Common. Baldwinville was also on this line of travel, and here, in several of the earliest years of the century, Capt. Eden Baldwin kept a tavern in the house now owned by Albert Bryant. In 1832 Capt. Joseph Davis built the hotel now known as the Narragansett House. In 1870 it was purchased by Mr. George Partridge, who has since been the proprietor. The building has at two different times been partially burned.

About 1847 Mr. J. G. Goldsmith built a hotel in the village of Otter River, on the present site of Mr. Le'and's store. This he kept for several years. After several persons had occupied it for brief periods, it was bought by Mr. Joshua W. Partridge and kept until the building was burned. In later times a hotel has been kept by different persons on the opposite side of the street from the former one.

STORES.—In the last century and the early part of this there was not much necessity for an abundance of stores, and where they existed at all there was little occasion for a large stock of goods. The families were not very numerous and were scattered about on the farms. They produced their own beef and pork, as well as fruits and vegetables. They were very sparing in the use of tea and sugar, and coffee was almost unknown. They spent very little money on luxuries of any kind. Their clothing was prepared with their own hands at their homes. The farmer himself, with his own team, carried any salable products of his farm to Boston, and brought back home supplies for his own family and sometimes for his neighbors. Gradually, as the population increased, it was found more economical to make a division of labor, and so permit some persons to devote their whole time to the work of making these exchanges. Hence the evolution of the country merchant and the country store.

In Templeton Centre, early in this century, a long building stood on the site of the "Lee" store. In the north end of this building John Bigelow kept clocks, watches and similar goods. Cyrus Brown kept a variety store in the middle of the building. In the southern portion was sometimes a shoemaker's shop. John Bigelow lived in the "Gilbert" house. Cyrus Brown afterwards had a farm in the westerly part of the town, which has remained in the hands of his descendants to this day. This store building was moved away, and a part of it was used to make the house now owned by Charles W. Upham. In 1829 Col. Artemas Lee erected the store and dwelling-house now standing on that site, and kept some connection with the store during the rest of his life. The names of the firms successively doing business there were Lee, Harding & Jones, Lee & Lincoln, Lee & Wood, Lee & Gambell, and afterwards Leland & Jones. Some time after the death of Col. Lee the store and other real estate was bought by Percival Blodgett, who, with a slight intermission, has carried on the business to the present time. He has added a stock of drugs and medicines. Col. Lee, before building on this site, had kept a store in the southerly portion of the hotel building, during a portion of which time he was associated with Lipha French.

On the easterly side of the Common, on the site of the "Brick" store, formerly stood a wooden one-story building, which was in after time moved away, and now forms the lower story of the Trinitarian parsonage. In this and the brick structure which succeeded it a store has been kept until quite recent times. In the early part of the century it was occupied by John W. Stiles, a prominent merchant of northern Worcester County, and later by Col. Ephraim Stone.

Several persons assisted in the work of the store, and among others Rufus Wyman, who afterwards became a partner. But Col. Stone was advancing in years, and Mr. Wyman was desirous of leaving town; so the store was given up. Not long after, a Co-operative Union store was organized and kept here for some years, under the management of Erastus O. Eddy. After this was given up, the store business was carried on here for several years, first by the firm of Dudley & Blodgett, and afterwards by Mr. Dudley alone.

A store was also formerly kept by George Howe in a building which stood northerly of the residence of Mrs. Batchelder. Another store was kept by Moses Bond, in the brick house now owned by Charles W. Stone.

The country store has been something more than merely a place for the convenient purchase of the family supplies. Men meet each other here and have an interchange of views on the political or social questions of the day.

It furnishes a partial substitute for the social enjoyments of the club and the attractions of the theatre.

The philosopher must take account of these informal and accidental meetings of persons who live in scattered dwellings as one of the forces which advance civilization, or at least as a force tending to hinder the lapsing into barbarism,—less potent than the town-meeting or the Sunday gathering, but still a force worthy of recognition.

Baldwinville next claims our attention in this matter of stores. But on the way thither, we may remark that, in the earlier times, there were two stores at the "Baptist Common," as well as two taverns and one church. Doubtless there were in Baldwinville, as elsewhere in the early times, persons who united to some other business that of furnishing family supplies, even before the erection of stores. But in 1824 Captain Eden Baldwin erected a store at a point northerly of the residence of Mr. Ray, and about where the road to the railroad station now passes.

Captain Moses Bond, who had previously kept a store at the centre of the town, carried this on for three years. Captain Joseph Davis then leased the store and placed it in the care of Mr. Valentine. On his removing to Baldwinville, in 1830, Captain Davis bought the store building and in 1840 removed it to a location in close proximity to his hotel, where it now stands. A store has been kept in the building until a period quite recent. The store now occupied by Louis Leland was also built in 1824. Joseph Raymond first carried on business here, and afterwards Lee & Raymond until 1837. Lee & Morley and Lee & Lincoln were the styles of firms until 1844; then M. H. Wood & Co., until 1856. Sundry persons kept a small stock of goods here for a time, after which there was a period of suspended animation, which was terminated by the appearance of the firm of Leland Brothers in 1870. Since 1872 Louis Leland has continued the business alone, Francis Leland retiring and giving his undivided attention to his store at Otter River. A store has been kept on the site of the Cady & Brooks block since 1844. It was first occupied by James Stimson and Mark W. Ray. A Protective Union store was afterwards kept here, with James H. Clapp as agent. It was occupied by Sawyer, Thompson & Perley as a store and office from 1861 to 1876. O. D. Sawin kept the store one year, continued by Sawin & Bryant to 1880, when the building was burned. It was rebuilt on a larger scale, with a spacious hall on the third floor. The stores on the lower floor were occupied by Dorr & Dickinson and Lehy & Goss. Rooms for the Templeton Savings Bank and also for a lawyer's office were in the second story. Fire consumed the whole structure again in 1882, and again it was rebuilt with offices as before in the second story, and the post-office and stores in the lower story. In one of these stores, drugs and medicines and furnishing goods are kept by C. S. Dickinson; in the other, groceries and miscellaneous goods by C. S. Dickinson & Co.

A small building to be used as a store was erected in 1857, just south of the bridge over Otter River. This has been occupied for brief times by different persons, sometimes as a shoe store, sometimes as a grocery store, but it is at present unoccupied.

In the village of Otter River the first store of importance was kept in the low, one-story building on the west side of the Main Street. Samuel D. Morley, Samuel M. Osgood and Francis Leland have successively engaged in trade at this stand; others have continued to occupy this store until the present time. In 1883 Francis Leland built, for the more complete accommodation of his business, the large and commodious brick store which he has since occupied. About 1847 Captain Joseph Davis, of Baldwinville, erected the large building for a store and dwelling-house on the eastern side of the street, and a store was kept here for about ten years under his supervision. Since, it has been occupied by Warner & Kirschner, and now by Frederick Warner.

Savings Bank.—The Templeton Savings Bank was incorporated April 19, 1871. Its place of business has always been in the village of Baldwinville. Up to the present time it has hired one of the upper rooms in the Brooks & Cady Block. This year (1888) the trustees voted to erect a new building suitable for the accommodation of the bank and containing rooms to rent for other purposes. The building is to be fifty by forty feet in size, and the work of construction is now going on. M. A. Wilson is president of the Savings Bank, and Asa Hosmer is treasurer. Its assets now amount to more than two hundred thousand dollars.

Roads.—Roads of some kind must be of prime importance to the people of a new settlement. We find that the proprietors of this town early gave attention to making them. The first roads were doubtless mere bridle-paths, in most cases suitable only for passing on horseback. From the formation of the town until now the building and repairing of roads has been a very large item in the public expenditures. During the first twenty years of the existence of the town the appropriations for mere repairs of highways, leaving out altogether the cost of building them, was from three to five times as much as the appropriation for schools; during the next twenty years it was from one and a half to three times as much; during the first forty years of this century a little more than twice as much. There was then a few years in which they were not very far from equal. For the last fifteen years the ratio has been reversed, and the appropriation for schools has been about twice as much as that for repairs of highways.

It will not be practicable to trace the origin and history of our roads minutely, although it would be a matter of interest to do so. A few details must here suffice. The proprietors, in 1737, paid a committee for "marking and clearing a road to the township," which perhaps was a bridle-path from Westminster. In 1740 a road was "marked and cleared

to Pequoiage" (Athol). Roads were also to be cleared to the settlers' lots, and also a road to Petersham. On May 13, 1752, the proprietors chose a committee of three persons to lay out roads through the township. In 1753 this committee was directed not to lay out the new roads until "the settlers have pitched on their house-spots." In 1754 the committee reported a road from the Common reaching halfway to Baldwinville, which was extended further in 1759, and in 1761 made to reach quite across Otter River.

The bridge over Otter River at Baldwinville seems to have been built by Noah Merritt in 1763. The bridge over the same river in the village of Otter River was probably built in 1778. The town records are abundantly sprinkled over with the reports of the laying out of roads.

At the second town-meeting after the town was incorporated it was voted "to give for work on the highways three shillings a man per day till the last of August, and then to the last of September two shillings, and that oxen have half as much, and a cart a quarter as much." This meeting granted forty pounds for mending highways, it being the first money granted by the town for any purpose whatever.

The building and repairing of roads was a severe tax on the inhabitants of these towns in the early times. The turnpike system afforded some moderate degree of relief. Companies were formed and incorporated with the design of making better roads than towns could afford to make, and toll was demanded by the company from those who traveled on them. The Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation was incorporated by the Legislature in 1799. Its route extended from Greenfield and Northfield, in two distinct lines, which united at Athol, thence through Templeton, South Gardner and Westminster to Leominster.

In this town it ran through Brooks village, Templeton Centre and East Templeton. Tolls, at differing rates for different vehicles, were established, and gates were set up at convenient places for its collection. Persons passing to or from public worship, and those on military duty, were exempt from paying toll.

Templeton was situated at the intersection of three stage-lines, in the time before the advent of railroads. It was on a through line from Boston to Albany; also stages running from Worcester to Keene and from Lowell to Springfield passed through here. So there were scenes of much activity as the stages arrived and departed. Exchanges of horses and providing for the wants of travelers made the taverns or hotels places of importance in those days.

Railroads.—The construction and improvement of the common roads received the early and constant attention of the settlers in these towns, and, relative to the means of the people, large expenditures were always made upon them. The people of this town have been forward and earnest in providing more extended and rapid means of communication. When the project was started for a canal from Boston to some point on the Hudson River, this town, in 1825, chose a committee to confer with the canal commissioners, and urge its being built through this section of the State, but it was soon seen that railroads were more desirable than canals. In 1835 this town favored a railroad through its limits, connecting Worcester and Keene. This town early became interested in the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad, and, in 1844, chose a committee to favor its location here, and when, after the charter was obtained, an effort was made to divert the road from this town and build it through Winchendon, the plan met with the most determined opposition. The town appropriated money and chose a committee to resist the change. This committee acted with great vigor and earnestness; it was composed of earnest men: Col. Artemas Lee, Captain Joseph Davis, Joseph Mason, Esq., Gilman Day, Esq., and Col. Leonard Stone. They had surveys made, they employed counsel to defend the case; there were trials before the county commissioners, and hearings before the legislative committees. In 1845 the county commissioners gave a decision against the change of location. The railroad company again petitioned the Legislature for a change of location, the town again opposed it; the road was finally built here, and the first passenger-cars passed through this town in 1847. Some years after, the company renewed its efforts for a change in location, and again they failed to accomplish their purpose.

Not long after this road was built the project was formed of a railroad running across the State, to connect with the Boston and Albany. The valleys extended themselves in such directions as to promise easy grades. The Ware River Railroad was chartered in 1870. This town, in its corporate capacity, subscribed for two hundred and fifty shares of stock; it invested $25,000 in bonds. The road was graded; the construction company failed, and the stock became worthless. The town sold the bonds for one-half their cost, $12,500. The town lost its money, but gained further facilities for communication. A passenger-train first passed through on this road October 30, 1873.

CHAPTER XXI.

TEMPLETON—(*Continued.*)

Post-Offices—The Common — Cemeteries — Societies—Warning Out—The Great Load of Wood—Chaises—Bounties on Wild Animals.

At the present time Templeton has four post-offices, at each of which mails arrive and depart two or more times daily. We are only two and one-half

hours from Boston and seven hours from New York City. One hundred years ago the mail facilities were very meagre, not only for the country towns, but even for the largest cities in the colonies. At about the time of the American Revolution mails were despatched between Boston and New York three times in a week during the summer, and two times a week during the winter, taking from six to nine days in the passage from one city to the other. The bulk and weight of the mails did not exceed the capacity of a pair of saddle-bags. The mail between New York and Philadelphia was carried five times a week, usually by boys on horseback. Benjamin Franklin had been Postmaster-General for the colonies from 1753 to 1774, and had greatly increased the efficiency of the mail service. But Massachusetts had, at her own charge, established a postal system with fourteen post-offices within her own boundaries.

The mail routes which were established radiated from Cambridge, running north to Haverhill and Georgetown, in Maine; south to Providence and Falmouth; westerly to Great Barrington, through Worcester and Springfield. From Worcester mails were carried to Woodstock, Vt., and, very likely, this route passed through this town.

Soon after the government went into operation, in 1789, a general postal system was established for all the colonies. The rates established at the organization of the department, and continued until 1816, were: For a letter composed of a single piece of paper, under 40 miles, 8 cents; under 90 miles, 10 cents; under 150 miles, 12½ cents; under 300 miles, 17 cents; under 500 miles, 20 cents; over 500 miles, 25 cents.

The rates of postage have several times been reduced since 1816.

In the first years of this century probably the town of Templeton did not receive a mail oftener than two or three times a week. The records of the United States Post-Office Department, at Washington, do not show when a postmaster was first appointed for this town. The earliest records, however, show that Thomas Wilder was the postmaster on July 1, 1802. The following list contains the names of all the postmasters, and the date of their appointment, from 1802 to the present time: Lovell Walker, appointed October 1, 1803; Caleb Leland, appointed July 1, 1809; Lipha French, appointed September 28, 1810; Artemas Lee, appointed September 28, 1829; John Boynton, appointed October 14, 1843; George H. Jones, appointed April 20, 1848; Dexter Gilbert, appointed January 27, 1849; Addison J. Lincoln, appointed July 14, 1849; Dexter Gilbert, appointed May 3, 1853; Henry Smith, appointed March 19, 1861; Artemas Lee, appointed November 6, 1863; Henry Smith, appointed March 24, 1865; Julius A. Jones, appointed March 20, 1867; Percival Blodgett, appointed March 22, 1869; Delia Damon, appointed July 13, 1885.

The post-office at Templeton Centre was the only one within the limits of the town until the year 1830, when a post-office was established at Baldwinville, and that village has since then been known by that name. The names of the postmasters, with the date of their appointment, follows: Joseph Davis, appointed in 1830; James H. Clapp, appointed August 5, 1853; Edwin Sawyer, appointed June 24, 1861; Otis D. Sawin, appointed December 9, 1870; Ezra A. Lamb, appointed June 16, 1874; George E. Bryant, appointed August 27, 1885.

The post-office was established at Otter River Village in 1860, and the following persons have served as postmasters: Samuel M. Osgood, appointed 1860; Francis Leland, appointed 1867; Frederick Warner, appointed 1885.

The post-office at East Templeton was established in 1866, with Fitch L. Sargeant as postmaster, in which office he still continues to serve.

THE COMMON.—Templeton was one of those fortunate towns whose early inhabitants exercised a wise foresight in providing ample grounds for public use. The beauty of many New England villages is very much enhanced by such thoughtful foresight on the part of some persons. In this town a piece of ground was set apart for "Publick use" some years before the incorporation of the town. In 1754 the proprietors chose committees "to pitch upon burying places," and one site was selected near the meeting-house, the other in the west part of the town. On March 21, 1759, Charles Baker presented to the proprietors the plan of a piece of ground which he had surveyed for a Common and a burying-ground, containing eight acres and seventy rods. This survey was accepted by the proprietors on that date and the land devoted to the public use. The old meeting-house then stood on the southwesterly part of this Common.

At a meeting of the proprietors held at the meeting-house on May 3, 1786, they granted and appropriated the burying-place and Common to the use of the town forever. The plan of the two pieces of ground is contained in the "Proprietors' Records," Book II., Page 81, and embraces somewhat less than the area laid out in 1759—six acres and one hundred and nineteen rods. This Common extended on the north only to a line running irregularly across from the present residence of Dr. Tobien to the brick house owned by Charles W. Stone. At the southwest corner it included an area which has since been sold by the town to individuals for the sites of the two houses nearest the present Common. In 1791 the town purchased of Isaac Jones, for ten pounds and ten shillings, a triangular-shaped piece of ground lying between the house of Miss Twichell and the hotel, "to enlarge and extend the Common." In 1814 the town purchased of Joshua W. Whitcomb a long strip of ground containing about one acre, lying on the westerly side of the highway and extending from the Common to a point near the residence of J. Pres-

cott Cutting. In 1816 another similar piece of ground, lying on the easterly side of the road and extending from the Common to the corner of the roads near the residence of Colonel George P. Hawkes, was purchased of James F. Robbins and wife, for the sum of three hundred dollars. That made up the area of the Common to its present limits. At a somewhat recent date the Common was adorned with trees by the generosity of Colonel Artemas Lee. In the olden time the Common was much used for military trainings and musters. It furnishes an excellent play-ground for the school-children in modern times.

CEMETERIES.—The first ground set apart for a burying-place in this town was that adjoining the Common. The proprietors passed a vote devoting this lot to that purpose in 1754, caused it to be surveyed by Charles Baker in 1759, and granted it the town by a vote passed May 3, 1786. Very few burials have been made here since the laying out of the new cemetery. There is a burial-place at the "Baptist Common," lying close to the former site of the Baptist Church. No burials are now made here. In 1850 the town purchased ground for two new burial-places—the one at Baldwinville, the other in the valley lying westerly of the village at the Centre. The improvement and adornment of these places is going on from year to year, partly by individual effort and expenditure, and partly by appropriations made by the town. Cemeteries are no longer the dreary, neglected places which they once were. The town has made special provision for the safe keeping of money bestowed by individuals for the future care of their lots.

SOCIETIES.—There was formerly a lodge of Free and Accepted Masons in this town. It was dissolved in 1843, and its funds were given in trust to the town. This constitutes what is known as the Masonic Fund, the income of which is distributed, charitably, by trustees chosen annually by the town. A large number of persons were connected with the Know-Nothing Lodge in 1854. A post of the Grand Army of the Republic, Ericsson Post, No. 109, was organized in 1869, and holds its meetings at its hall in East Templeton. A lodge of Knights of Honor was formed in 1879. It has a place of meeting at its hall in the Centre Village. The same hall is also the place of meeting for Templeton Grange, No. 122, Patrons of Husbandry. This grange was organized in 1885. There have formerly been organizations of Good Templars in one or another of the villages of the town; one has been recently formed in Baldwinville. There are several organizations for literary and intellectual improvement, combined with more or less of entertainment and social enjoyment. These are more especially intended for young persons and are mostly conducted under the auspices of some one of the religious societies, as the Young People's Union in connection with the Unitarian Society; the Willing Workers in connection with the Trinitarian, both of the Centre. At Baldwinville there is the Social Temple in connection with the Baptist Society, and the Memorial Union in connection with the Memorial Society. There is also at East Templeton an association for literary improvement known by the name of the Round Table.

WARNING OUT.—A statute of the province existed before the American Revolution which provided that if persons were legally warned to depart from a town, they could not at once gain a legal residence there, and so the town would not be chargeable for their support in case they came to want. So the selectmen and constables were diligent in serving this notice upon newcomers, "warning out" all persons soon after their arrival. It was not a warm reception, but it was deemed a wise precautionary measure. When any inhabitants of the town received any persons from another town to dwell in their families, they immediately sent a written notice to the selectmen, informing them of the fact, and stating the age and circumstances of the persons and the town in which they last dwelt. The selectmen issued a warrant to the constable requiring him, "in his majesty's name," to warn these people to depart from the town forthwith. The early records of the town abound in copies of these documents.

THE GREAT LOAD OF WOOD.—The history of the town would not be complete without some mention of the "great load of wood." It was no uncommon thing for the minister of the olden time to receive gifts of firewood from his parishioners. In the month of January, 1822, Colonel Leonard Stone, who lived in the northerly part of the town and had a saw-mill on Otter River, was drawing a load of hard wood to the parsonage for his minister, Dr. Wellington. As the load passed across the Common, Colonel Ephraim Stone saluted his brother with the question, "Why don't you take your minister a load of wood while you're about it?" Colonel Leonard replies, "I've been sawing out lumber down't the mill, and there's any quantity of slabs. I will give the minister as big a load as you can draw." Colonel Ephraim stirred up the people to make a full acceptance of the offer. A sled was improvised with runners thirty or more feet long and placed eight feet apart, with a tongue for the attachment of oxen in front of each runner. The sled was taken to the mill. The slabs were eagerly piled on. Eighty pairs of oxen were attached and the load was easily drawn around through Baldwinville, up well upon the more level ground. Then with common sleds they brought and piled on more slabs until there were no more slabs at the mill. Night came on, but the morning brought the oxen and men to the load once more, and soon it was brought to the minister's door. It was a more huge wooden structure than that which came to ancient Troy, but yet, in this case, with no menace to the safety of the town. Many people came to see the immense load, as it remained for some days upon the sled in the minister's door-yard.

It is probably known to all that our ancestors were wholly ignorant of the luxury of a modern carriage with its cushioned seats and easy springs. It is not much more than half a century back to the time of riding on horseback. There came a time when a man of means might have a chaise. And the possession of one set a mark of distinction upon its owner. It was esteemed so much of a luxury that the United States imposed a special tax upon them. I subjoin a certificate from the tax collector.

This is to certify that A—— B——, of the town of Templeton, in the 6th Collection District of Massachusetts, has paid the duty of two dollars for the year, to end on the 31st day of December, for and upon a two-wheel carriage, for the conveyance of persons, hung on wooden springs, and called a chaise. This Certificate to be of no avail no longer than the aforesaid carriage shall be used by the said A—— B——, unless said certificate shall be produced to the Collector by whom it was granted and an entry made thereon, specifying the name of the then owner of said carriage and of the time when he became possessed thereof. Given in conformity with an Act of the Congress of the United States the 24th of July, 1814. Worcester, Jan. 21, 1814.

WM. EUSTIS,
Collector of Revenue, 6th Collection District of Mass.

BOUNTIES ON WILD ANIMALS.—In the earlier times the town sometimes offered a bounty for killing destructive animals. A bounty of thirty-four cents for each old crow and seventeen cents for a young one was offered in 1797 and on several other years, the last of which was in 1834. A bounty of twenty-five cents for old hen-hawks and twelve and a half cents for young ones was offered in 1801 and 1802. In 1783 and the three following years the town offered a bounty of forty shillings for each full-grown wolf's head, and it is known that at least one person actually received such a bounty. There is found no record of any bounty for bears, although it is believed that they existed here in the early times.

CHAPTER XXII.

TEMPLETON—(*Continued.*)

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS.

Schools—Private Schools—Public High Schools—Teachers—Graduates—Libraries—Boynton Public Library.

THE first settlers of a town whose farms are not fully cleared and dwellings not completed are not in a condition to give much thought to schools. There were no schools supported by grants of public money until after the incorporation of the town. There was a grant of a small sum for schools, by the town, for the first time, in the year 1763. Two "squadrons" for schools were formed in 1764, one in the easterly, the other in the westerly part of the town. In 1769 it was voted that each "squadron" should receive the same proportion of money for schooling that they had paid in taxes. In 1776 the school money was divided according to the number of children in each division between four and sixteen years of age. In 1779 it was changed so as to divide according to the number between four and twenty-one years of age. In 1835 the method was adopted of dividing one-half of the school money equally among the districts and the other half in proportion to the number of children therein. The town voted in 1805 to use the word "district" to designate the school divisions. Previously, the word "class" had been used, and earlier, the word "squadron." By a law enacted by the Legislature in 1789, towns were permitted to divide their territory into school districts. The districts were made corporations in fact in 1799, but not in name until 1817; and not until 1827 were the districts authorized to choose prudential committees. That was previously done in town-meeting. The district system prevailed in this town until 1869, when it was given up in accordance with a law of the State, and the town system was substituted. In 1787 the town apportioned its territory into seven "classes" or districts, for school purposes. District No. 8, Baldwinville, was formed from No. 6, in 1831. District No. 3 was divided in 1834, making District No. 9 at East Templeton. These nine districts formed the divisions for school purposes until the district system was given up. From 1815 to 1822 District No. 1 formed two districts, with two school-houses, the one standing on the site of the present one, the other standing near the present residence of Mr. P. M. Mirick. Afterwards, for a time, the two houses stood side by side on the present location. Both were moved away to make room for the present structure, and each is now made into a dwelling-house of the village.

In the early times the town did not build or own the school-houses. In some districts they were built by the voluntary contributions of the people. In some cases the schools were kept in private houses. There is no indication that the town appropriated any money for school-houses until 1787. A committee was chosen in that year to appraise the value of the school-houses then existing, and to purchase them of their owners. The appraised value of all was fifty-one pounds, or about one hundred and seventy dollars. The town then granted the sum of four hundred dollars for building and repairing the school-houses throughout the town, and a committee was chosen to determine their location. It was voted by the town in 1801 to allow each district which might build a school-house one hundred dollars, the town to own the house and keep it in repair. From 1814 to 1869 the school-houses were owned and kept in repair by the several school districts, each district raising money by taxation for the building and repairing of its own house. In 1869 the town again became the owner of all the school-houses, the appraised value of which was $11,846.88; and the school districts were numbered with the things of the past. A school-house for the north part of the town, and standing between the two villages, was built in 1801. A school-house

was built in Baldwinville by the district in 1850, and another one by the town in 1883. The Otter River School-house was built by the district in 1860, with an addition made by the town in 1877. A public hall was also secured over the school-room by contributions from the people of the neighborhood. The older school-house in East Templeton was built by the district about 1834; the newer one by the town in 1874. The town hall and school-house, in one building at the Centre, were built by the combined action of the town and district, in 1844.

Until the year 1826 the superintendence of the schools, in a legal point of view, seems to have been vested in the selectmen; but practically, the work was done chiefly by the minister. At the special request of Dr. Wellington, the town, in 1811, chose a committee to assist him in examining school-teachers. A committee consisting of one person for each district was chosen, in 1815, to assist in examining the schools, and to recommend "certain useful classical books." Similar committees were afterwards chosen at different times. But still the chief part of the work devolved upon the minister. In 1826 towns were required by law to choose three, five or seven School Committeemen; and ever since that time the superintendence of schools has by law devolved upon that body. In 1857 the number of School Committee was fixed at three, or some multiple of three, and the term of office extended from one year to three years, one-third of the number being chosen each year. In this town there have been several persons who have served the town for a long period in the care of the schools. Rev. Charles Wellington, D.D., partly by virtue of his duties as minister, and partly by special election of the town, gave fully thirty years of service. Rev. Lewis Sabin, D.D., was elected for thirty-two consecutive years. Rev. Edwin G. Adams had twenty-two years of service, and Rev. Gerard Bushnell sixteen years. Dr. J. W. D. Osgood served ten years; Captain Samuel Lee, eight years; Colonel Leonard Stone, Joseph Mason, Esq., and Gilman Day, Esq., each served six years, and Charles Church, five years. In times nearer the present, E. C. Farnsworth, Esq., has served five years, V. P. Parkhurst, Esq., seven years, and Francis Leland nine years. Of the present Board of School Committee, Mr. Ingalls has completed five years of service, Mr. Hosmer six years, and Mr. Blodgett nineteen years. Several other persons have served on the School Committee from time to time, for short periods of less than five years each.

The appropriations for schools were of necessity small in the first years of the existence of the town. There has been a somewhat steady increase in the amount from the earlier to the later periods. The first sum granted for schools was in 1763. A sum a little more than the equivalent of thirty dollars was granted in 1764. The amount of the grant had been increased to three hundred dollars at the end of the century and to one thousand dollars in 1841. It reached two thousand dollars in 1856, three thousand dollars in 1866, and for the last six years the sum has been four thousand and seven hundred dollars. It should be borne in mind that in the earlier times the school money was supplemented by gratuitous supplies of fuel and sometimes by the teachers boarding successively with different families in the district. In the original division of lands in the township one lot was reserved for schools. This school lot, which was No. 36, lying in the southerly part of the town and containing Cook's Pond, was sold at auction, by vote of the town, in 1769, for about one hundred and eighty-seven dollars. This, with some money to be obtained from the sale of "pew-ground" in the meeting-house, was to be kept as a school fund; but the money seems to have been used for other purposes. The town also received $3,337.74 as its share of the surplus revenue distributed by the United States in 1837, and it was voted to keep it as a fund, the income of which was to be applied to the support of schools. For some three years the income was so used, but the town had pressing need of money and even the principal of the fund was applied to other uses.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS.—Some public-spirited citizens of this town, impressed with the feeling that there was need of more ample provisions for higher education, formed an association and established a private high school in Templeton. The school met a public want and was largely attended. Many persons still live in the town who retain pleasant recollections of their connection with this school. The school was so fortunate as to begin its course under the instruction of an earnest, enthusiastic teacher, who had great skill in arousing the attention and compelling the pupil to think—the important aim of all true teaching. Jacob Bachelder was principal of the school from the time of his graduation from Dartmouth College, in 1830, to the year 1835. He was afterward principal of the Lynn and the Salem High Schools. He was for some years librarian of the Lynn Public Library. He was a man of unusual vigor of intellect and perfect integrity.

Mr. Martin Snow Newton and Mr. Daniel B. Parkhurst were successively principals of the school for a brief time. Mr. Sylvester Judd was the last principal of the school, coming here in 1836. He was afterward, for thirteen years, a Unitarian minister in Augusta, Maine, and the author of a well-known story of New England life, entitled "Margaret." The school was suspended in 1837.

In the twenty years next following there was no High School continuously kept; but some enterprising teacher, on his own responsibility, would keep a private High School for one or two terms in the town hall, or the school-room next the Common. Such a school was kept at one time by William Barrows, and at another time by William H. Earle.

PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS.—The Templeton High School was the first public High School in this town,

and was established in 1856. The first term was kept in the autumn of that year in the grammar schoolroom, at the Centre Village, with fifty-one pupils. The present principal of the school, H. F. Lane, began his long period of service with that first term, and has been the principal of the school, with the exception of one term, to the present time. The second term of the High School was kept at Baldwinville, in the spring of 1857, under the instruction of Mr. L. W. Russell, who has been for many years past the principal of a grammar school in Providence, R. I. An assistant teacher has been employed in terms when the attendance was largest, and thirteen young ladies have served in that capacity from one to three terms each; another, in these latest years, has rendered such assistance during twenty-one terms.

Until 1866 there were only two terms of the school each year; from that time to 1873 there were three terms each year; afterward there were four terms yearly. These terms were kept alternately in the different villages of the town.

It has been the aim of the High School, during all the years of its existence, to have its studies and training so arranged and administered as to promote activity of mind, self-control, self-direction, and a conscientious regard for duty. The persons who have been members of this school are scattered widely over the country. The country towns perform a service of great value to the community in preparing persons for lives of intelligent activity in the larger towns and cities to which they soon depart. About one thousand persons have received instruction in the Templeton High School.

In 1886 a High School was established at Baldwinville for the greater convenience of those living in the northerly part of the town. Mr. E. B. Vining has been the only principal of that school.

Teachers and Graduates.—Some of our teachers have had long periods of service in our schools. Mrs. Lucy Richardson spent nearly her whole active life in teaching, earlier in the public schools, and later in a private school which she had established at her own home near the Common. Miss Maria Cutting has completed thirty-nine years of service as teacher in the public schools of this town.

Miss Margaret Leland has had many years of experience in the public schools in different parts of the town. Miss Henrietta Sawyer, whose earlier years of service were in the schools of her native town, is a veteran teacher in Washington University, at St. Louis. The present teacher of the Templeton High School has just completed his thirty-second year of service in that school. Many other teachers have had quite long periods of service, and it would be a suitable tribute if their names could be included in this enumeration.

Many of the youth of this town, having sipped at the fountains of knowledge opened for them here, have taken deeper draughts elsewhere. In the later years a score of young ladies have completed courses of study at our normal schools. Several have availed themselves of the advantages offered by the Mount Holyoke Female Seminary.

The Worcester Polytechnic Institute was founded by a citizen of this town. George I. Alden, who was a graduate of the Lawrence Scientific School, has been a professor in this institution from its foundation in 1868. Charles Parkhurst, Samuel S. Jennison, Fred. L. Dudley, Charles H. Wright, William H. Kirschner and Fred. S. Hunting have pursued courses of study in this institution. George S. Stone is a graduate of the State Agricultural College at Amherst. George S. Gates received instruction at the United States Naval Academy, at Annapolis, Md., and entered the navy. Charles Wellington Stone graduated from Harvard College in 1874. He has a private school for boys in the city of Boston, and also conducts a summer school at his Templeton residence. Edward W. Chase is a graduate of Amherst College. He has been principal of High Schools in Ohio, and at present is teaching near Chicago. George I. Jones graduated from Harvard College in 1871, and has been engaged in the book publishing business in St. Louis and at present is employed in Chicago. George M. Bartlett is a graduate of Washington University, St. Louis, and is now secretary and treasurer of that institution. Lucas Lee Baker is a graduate of Harvard College of the class of 1883. He has ever since been engaged in teaching, and is at present principal of the High School in Holliston, Mass. His brother, Byron E. Baker, entered college in the same class, but died before the completion of his course.

Journalism has not often been chosen as a life-work by our young men. But Edmund Hudson has gone from the quiet life of his native village to mingle in the stirring scenes of the national capital, and make a daily record of the doings of law-makers and Presidents. In those days of stirring excitement, preceding the first election of Lincoln, he was just entering upon his studies in the High School. Too eager to begin life's work to wait for an over-long course of study, with much energy he set about learning the stenographer's art. He was for a time a reporter of news for different Boston papers. For several years he has led a very busy life as Washington correspondent of the *Boston Herald*, and editor and publisher of the *Army and Navy Register*. He also published a weekly paper at Washington called *The Capital*.

Most of these young men whose names have been enumerated as having obtained a higher education do not now count in the census lists for Templeton. The historian, however, rightly classes them among the products of the town, knowing, as he does, that these country towns are the perennial fountains whence come the supplies of physical energy and mental vigor for our cities.

In the earlier part of the century there were several

young men who were successful in obtaining a higher education. Oliver Baker was a graduate of Yale College, and engaged in teaching in some Southern State. His brother, Otis Baker, died before the completion of his course in the same college. Amos J. Cook was a graduate of Dartmouth College about the year 1801. He was an intimate college friend of Daniel Webster, and succeeded him as principal of the academy in Fryeburg, Maine, in which position he remained for more than thirty years. Charles Goodnow was a graduate of Amherst College, and was for a time principal of a school in Concord, Mass., and afterwards a lawyer there. Christopher C. Baldwin was the son of Capt. Eden Baldwin. He pursued his studies at Leicester Academy and Harvard College, and then studied law as his profession. He practiced law in Worcester, Sutton and Barre. But his mind was more satisfied with scientific and antiquarian research than with legal contests, and he gave much time to such investigations. In 1831 he was chosen librarian of Antiquarian Library at Worcester. Nothing could have been better suited to his tastes, and he was admirably fitted to perform the duties devolving upon him. In 1835, when on a journey for antiquarian research in the State of Ohio, he lost his life by the overturning of the stage on which he was traveling. He was only thirty-five years of age. His friend, William Lincoln, of Worcester, son of Gov. Levi Lincoln, delivered a very interesting public address, which was printed, commemorative of the life and work of Mr. Baldwin. Charles W. W. Wellington, son of Rev. Charles Wellington, graduated from Harvard College in 1846, and was a book-keeper in the city of Boston. He died in 1880.

This town has not been wholly wanting in those who have been skilled in the use of the pencil and the brush; artists have found at least a temporary abode among these hills. Lucas Baker had a natural aptitude for drawing and painting, and by careful and diligent cultivation has become highly skilled in the practice of those arts himself and in teaching them to others. He was for ten years instructor in drawing in the public schools of Boston. For the last few years he has been one of the instructors in the Art School of the Metropolitan Museum in New York City, but still keeps a home in Templeton.

Miss Adelaide R. Sawyer was for some years a resident of Baldwinville. She drew portraits in crayon. Afterwards she gave attention to the production of ideal designs in figure. Some of these productions became very popular and met with a large sale. "The Better Land," "Our Hope," "Our Joy," "The Empty Sleeve," "Myrtle Hazard," were titles of some of the most-widely known of these representations. For a time she was teacher of crayon drawing in the Boston Academy of Art. Sarah Goodridge had natural gifts and tendencies leading her to the work of an artist. She became noted as a painter of miniature portraits, had an office in Boston, and some of the most distinguished people of New England were her patrons. Elizabeth Goodridge (Stone), sister of the preceding, was also skilled in the same kind of work. Their early home was at the house now occupied by Mr. Briggs, near the Ware River Railroad station.

LIBRARIES.—Successful efforts have been made at various times to furnish a supply of reading matter through the agency of libraries. Quite early in the history of the town a private library was established by the Templeton Union Library Association, the books of which were distributed among the shareholders half a century ago. In the early part of this century there was a private library known as the Social Library. The Ladies' Social Circle, an organization connected with the First Parish, began to gather a library in the year 1835. This has gradually increased by yearly additions until it now numbers about twenty-four hundred volumes. Books are delivered only on Sunday to annual shareholders, who pay a yearly fee of fifty cents. For many years this has been a prosperous library, and it still continues to be such. The books are kept in a room specially devoted to that purpose in the chapel which adjoins the church edifice. A library society was organized in East Templeton in 1854, which has gathered a library numbering upwards of one thousand volumes. The several religious societies of the town have Sunday-school libraries containing books more especially adapted to the younger people. The books are generally carefully selected and diligently read. The State Board of Education, in accordance with an act of the Legislature of 1843, furnished each school district throughout the State with a school library. These contained many valuable books, but they soon ceased to be used, as there was no provision for keeping up a lively interest by the addition of new books. A fund was given by Miss Abigail Locke for the establishment of a ministerial library for the use of the minister of the First Parish, and to be kept at the parsonage. This library already contains books of much value. The income of the fund permits annual additions to be made.

In 1854, Dr. George C. Shattuck, of Boston, gave five shares in the Boston Athenæum to the town of Templeton, as a token of regard and affection for his native town. The terms of the gift as expressed by the donor are: "That the Selectmen of the town, for the time being, shall permit the use of the five shares, from year to year, by any five persons resident in said town, to be selected by them from the classes of clergymen, physicians, lawyers, and scientific farmers and mechanics; it being understood that the said shares themselves are to be forever inalienable." And further, Dr. Shattuck anticipated the annual assessment of five dollars a share, by paying a sufficient sum in advance to provide for that, and thus securing to inhabitants of Templeton the perpetual privilege of taking out books, on the shares, from the extensive and valuable library of that institution. For so val-

uable and lasting a gift, the town passed a vote of thanks in acknowledgment of "their grateful appreciation of his munificence in conferring this franchise upon the town, which has the honor of numbering him among her most distinguished and useful sons." This proves to be a very valuable supplement to the other reading facilities enjoyed by the town. Rare and costly books can thus be consulted which it might not be easy to reach in other ways.

The Boynton Public Library was first opened to the public in September, 1873. The fund for its support was the gift of David Whitcomb, Esq., late of Worcester, but formerly engaged in active business in this town. In 1868 he gave to the town of Templeton, in the name of John Boynton, who was his former partner in business here, the sum of four thousand dollars, to establish and maintain a Free Public Library, for the use of the inhabitants of the town, to be known and called the Boynton Library. In 1885, Mr. Whitcomb gave an additional sum of four thousand dollars for the same purpose. In the case of both sums, one-half of the annual income is to be applied to the increase of the principal, until each sum shall have reached the sum of five thousand dollars. The library fund will thus ultimately become ten thousand dollars. The income is to be wholly applied to the purchase of books and periodicals. By a provision in the deed of gift, the trustees of the library are the chairman of the Board of Selectmen, the town clerk, the School Committee, and three other persons elected annually by the town. H. F. Lane has been the librarian from the opening of the library. For twelve years the library was kept in some upper rooms connected with Mr. Blodgett's store. In 1885 the town appropriated two thousand dollars for the erection of a library building, which was completed and occupied in September of that same year. The library now contains thirty-three hundred volumes, and is increased by yearly additions. More than twelve thousand issues of books are annually made to six or seven hundred persons, scattered over the whole town. The Templeton Historical Society, in an upper room of the library building, has begun to gather a collection of books, papers and articles which would throw light upon the history of the town and community.

CHAPTER XXIII.

TEMPLETON—(*Continued.*)

ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

The First Church—The Baptist Church—The Trinitarian Church—The Universalist Church—The Methodist Church—St. Martin's Church—Memorial Church—Ministers.

It should be borne in mind that in the towns of New England, in early times, the affairs of town and church were united. The church was one of the institutions of the town. The meeting-house was built and owned by the town. The minister was paid from the town treasury, the amount being voted annually in town-meeting. The meeting-house also was made to serve as a place for holding the town-meetings. The tithingmen were chosen at the annual town meeting with the other town officers. When there were about twenty families in this township they determined to build a meeting-house which should be fifty feet long and forty feet wide. It was placed on what is now the Common, a little southeasterly of the present church edifice, and was the first house of worship in the township, which then included Phillipston as well as what is now Templeton. This edifice was used for about fifty years, until the year 1811, when the present church edifice was built.

This first meeting-house was raised July 3, 1753, in the presence of a large number of people, some of whom had come from towns so far distant as Sterling. The frame of this house was of chestnut, and the trees of which it was made are said to have grown wholly on the spot of ground now known as the Common. At the time of building this house the region immediately about was a forest. The building of the meeting-house was performed by Mr. John Brooks, of Sterling. The timber was furnished by the proprietors, and also the glazing and pulpit. A few years later the town made an appropriation toward finishing it, and the whole cost of the structure to proprietors and town was about two hundred and twenty-five pounds—equivalent to seven hundred and fifty dollars.

The first church in this town was organized December 10, 1755, and on that day Rev. Daniel Pond was ordained as the first minister. He was a graduate of Harvard College of the class of 1745. Generous provision was made by the proprietors and people for the ordination. People came in large numbers from the neighboring settlements to attend the exercises. The newly-erected meeting-house was completely filled. It was a day of festivity and enjoyment for the people and their visiting friends. But the ministry of Mr. Pond was of short duration. Difficulties arose between him and the people. A council was called which, after two days' deliberation, recommended his dismission. In 1759 he removed to West Medway and engaged in teaching, receiving pupils at his house. Several persons preached as candidates, and among them the Rev. Ebenezer Sparhawk, who preached for the first time Nov. 29, 1760. After preaching a year both minister and people were so well satisfied with each other that his ordination took place Nov. 18, 1761. In 1764 he built and ever after lived in the house which in later years has been known as the "Wellington" house. He had a long and useful ministry of forty years, dying of apoplexy, November 25, 1805. He is reputed to have been a person of superior mental ability and exact scholarship, courteous and dignified in his manners and warm in his friendships. His funeral sermon was preached by the

Rev. Dr. Payson, of Rindge. During Mr. Sparhawk's ministry about twenty members of the First Church withdrew to form the Baptist Church.

Rev. Charles Wellington was ordained February 25, 1807. The old and first meeting-house was still in use, but efforts were now made to build a new one, and the work was entered upon in 1810. The new church edifice was dedicated September 18, 1811, Dr. Wellington preaching the sermon. And now for the first time a bell was obtained and placed in the belfry. Three new ones have been successively procured as the former ones became defective. The old meeting-house was then moved to the southwesterly corner of the Common, and for about thirty years was used as a town house and place for public meetings. In these early times the minister was expected to have some oversight of the schools, visiting them and examining teachers, and Dr. Wellington attended to these duties for many years, sometimes with the help of a committee chosen by the town for such purpose. The fiftieth anniversary of Dr. Wellington's settlement here was pleasantly and appropriately celebrated in 1857. He remained the minister of this church, respected and beloved by all, until his death, which occurred August 3, 1861.

The health of Dr. Wellington was somewhat impaired in his later years, and Rev. Norwood Damon was settled as his colleague, February 21, 1844. He remained only until November 1, 1845. Rev. Edwin G. Adams was a man of marked ability, who possessed some unusual traits of character which rendered his life one of much usefulness to the community in which he lived. He was born in the town of Ashby, Mass., December 24, 1821, and died in Templeton, May 10, 1877, after an illness of several months' duration. In boyhood he worked in his father's store and attended the schools and academy of his native town. In early life he formed the resolution to become a minister, and worked diligently to that end, graduating from the Divinity School, at Cambridge, in 1846. The First Congregational Church in Templeton invited him to become the colleague of Rev. Charles Wellington, and he was ordained January 13, 1847. On the death of the latter, in 1861, he became sole pastor, in which relation he remained to the day of his death. In 1855 the honorary degree of Master of Arts was conferred upon him by Harvard College.

In December, 1855, he preached an historical discourse, commemorative of the hundredth anniversary of the formation of the church. This was published with an appendix, forming a very valuable treasury of information concerning the earlier and later history of the town. The twenty-fifth anniversary of his settlement was pleasantly observed in 1872.

He was married, November 14, 1848, to Sarah L. Priest, of Littleton, and when, during his ministry, the people spoke or thought of their minister, they always felt that in some way Mrs. Adams was included in that designation. They labored together for the good of the society and the community, and the service of each rendered that of the other more effective. They were prudent advisers, wise counselors, highly valued friends. Their presence in a household brought sunshine and dispelled darkness.

As a minister and pastor, Mr. Adams possessed the esteem and affection of the members of his own society to an unusual degree. He was not content with rendering merely the usual professional services of a minister; every force was utilized, nothing was done at random, or without a settled purpose. The art of making social intercourse an elevating influence was understood by him. The sewing society and the social gathering were to be means for the improvement of character. His was a deeply religious nature; nothing less than a conscientious regard for duty, at all times, and in all positions, would satisfy him. He was glad always to find reasons for agreeing with other people and sects, rather than for disagreeing with them.

For twenty-two years he served on the School Committee, and rendered valuable service to the schools and the cause of education by his unwearied and painstaking labor, combined with prudence, good judgment and a wise foresight.

Mr. Adams had a natural aptitude for the mastery of legal and financial affairs, and came to have such a knowledge of their underlying principles and their application to practical affairs as to make his opinion and advice very valuable, even to those whose lives were spent in the management of such affairs. Few lawyers could excel him in unraveling a knotty legal question. To thread his way through these investigations was among his recreations.

A keen discernment, a well-balanced judgment, great prudence, far-reaching foresight, combined with the most perfect conscientiousness and integrity, made a combination of qualities which rendered his life a highly useful one.

His successor in the ministry was the Rev. Alfred C. Nickerson, whose pastorate was from 1878 to 1886. Rev. Nathaniel Seaver, Jr., was installed January 11, 1887, and is the pastor at the present time.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH.—The Baptist Church in this town was organized August 22, 1782, with twenty-one members, seventeen of whom—ten men and seven women—had withdrawn from the First Church for this purpose. These twenty-one persons met at a private dwelling, and, in the presence and by the advice of the council which they had called, formed "The Baptist Church of Christ in Templeton." The council consisted of the pastor and six delegates from the church in Royalston and the pastor of the church in Harvard. This church has had seventeen settled pastors; and there have been several intervals in which there was a stated supply. Rev. John Sellon, the first pastor, was ordained Nov. 19, 1783, and remained a year and a half. Rev. Joel Butler became

Edwin G. Adams.

pastor in 1787, and remained about four years. There was then a period of about ten years without any settled minister. Rev. Elisha Andrews became the pastor in 1800 and remained until 1813, when he was dismissed.

He also had a second pastorate, extending over the period from 1827 to 1832, making eighteen years in all. Mr. Andrews is spoken of as a man of strong individuality and commanding natural powers, as well as earnest religious zeal. The church enjoyed a time of comparative encouragement and strength. In the interval of Mr. Andrews' absence there seems to have been two pastors, whose terms of service, however, filled only a portion of the period,—Rev. George Phippen and Rev. James Parsons. Next after the final dismission of Mr. Andrews in 1832, Rev. Winthrop Morse was installed as pastor, and remained about two years. Rev. Isaiah C. Carpenter was ordained as pastor in 1837, and resigned in 1843. Rev. John Woodbury became pastor in 1844, and resigned in 1848, making four years of service. Rev. Sandford Leach was pastor from 1848 to 1851, followed soon in the same year by Rev. A. V. Dimock, who remained until 1857, nearly seven years, and the longest pastorate but one in the history of this church. Rev. John F. Ashley was ordained pastor in 1858, and remained about two years. Rev. A. H. Ball was pastor for six months, beginning in 1869. Rev. H. V. Dexter became pastor in 1871, and continued in that relation four years. Rev. Miles N. Reed became pastor in 1878, and Rev. N. B. Wilson in 1881. Rev. George Shepard is the present pastor.

The centennial anniversary of the formation of this church was celebrated at Baldwinville, August 22, 1882, with interesting and appropriate exercises. A sermon was preached by Rev. Heman Lincoln, D.D., of the Newton Theological Institution. Over five hundred people were in attendance, many coming from the neighboring towns and more distant places. Several former pastors of the church were present and took part in the exercises.

During the early years of the existence of this church the only place of meeting for religious services was at private houses. The dwelling-houses of Samuel Byam and Silas Cutler were most often used for this purpose, being larger or more centrally located. About 1796 there began to be a movement made to see about building a meeting-house, and one was finally erected and dedicated in the autumn of 1799, the Rev. Dr. Baldwin, of Boston, preaching the dedication sermon. This house was located at the "Baptist Common," thus giving a name to this neighborhood. It stood at the southerly end of the small cemetery now seen there. Near to the meeting-house, on the easterly side of the Common, was a tavern and a store. In 1840 the meeting-house was taken down, and removed to a site presented by Capt. Eden Baldwin, just out of the village of Baldwinville, on the road to Otter River. Here the house was again erected, its length increased and a steeple added. It was re-dedicated February 3, 1841. But the location between the two villages did not prove to be a permanently convenient one, and so once more it was removed, and placed on its present location. This time it was removed without being taken to pieces. A new and graceful spire was built, and the whole interior and exterior was refinished. It was dedicated for a third time in September, 1869. A chapel, containing a kitchen and conveniences for social meetings, was added in 1879–80. A few years after the removal to the present location a clock was placed in the tower, by the voluntary contributions of the people of the village.

THE TRINITARIAN CHURCH.—The Trinitarian Congregational Church was organized April 11, 1832, having at first twenty-four members. Its first pastor was Rev. Lemuel P. Bates, who was installed January 16, 1833, and dismissed April 19, 1837. Then came the long and highly useful pastorate of Rev. Lewis Sabin, D.D., who was installed September 21, 1837, and resigned September 24, 1872. Rev. Charles A. White was pastor from June, 1873, to June, 1876; Rev. C. M. Temple, November, 1876, to June, 1878; Rev. R. W. Haskins, December, 1878, to June, 1879; Rev. F. H. Kasson, October, 1879, to June, 1880; Rev. George Sterling, June, 1880, to June, 1881; Rev. Thomas O. Rice, December, 1881, to June, 1885; Rev. Roswell C. Foster, from 1885 to the present time.

Rev. Lewis Sabin, D.D., had a long pastorate over this church, and his other services are closely interwoven with the history of the town. He graduated from Amherst College with the highest honors of his class, in 1831; was installed over this church in 1837; received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1857; was elected one of the trustees of Amherst College in 1862, and resigned his ministry in 1872. He died June 8, 1873.

Dr. Sabin was not only a faithful minister, but also a public-spirited and highly-esteemed citizen, interested and earnest in all measures that were deemed conducive to the public welfare. He was active in the temperance cause and earnest in the anti-slavery movement. For thirty-two years he served the town as a member of the School Committee, a longer service than that rendered by any other person. Here he rendered an intelligent, painstaking and conscientious service, highly beneficial to the schools.

THE UNIVERSALISTS.—A Universalist Society was organized in 1842. Its first meetings were held in the old Town House, and afterwards the meetings were held in the present Town Hall. No meeting-house was ever erected. Services were held on alternate Sundays, or at other stated intervals. Rev. Gerard Bushnell was the only pastor of this society.

THE METHODISTS. — The Methodist Episcopal Church of this town dates from 1843, although a

"class" had been maintained for about three years previously, and included in the charge of the preachers at Hubbardston. In 1843 a church of twenty-four members was formed. A meeting-house was erected in 1844, in the southerly part of the village at Templeton Centre, on what is now a vacant lot near the "Hudson" house. The ministers here were Rev. Willard Smith, 1843; Rev. Joseph T. Pettee, 1844; Rev. Simon Putnam, 1845, 1846; Rev. T. G. Brown, 1847. Rev. C. Perry supplied in 1849. Preaching in this meeting-house was discontinued in 1848, and the building was sold. The members of the society attended services at Hubbardston mostly from 1850 to 1859. A church edifice was erected in 1860 at East Templeton, in which the services of this society have since been constantly held, under the following succession of ministers: Rev. C. H. Harding, 1860; Rev. N. H. Martin, 1861; Rev. H. Satchwell, 1862, 1863; Rev. C. F. Newell, 1864, 1865; Revs. A. F. Mowry and A. B. Waters, 1866; Rev. W. B. Blackmer, 1868; Rev. D. K. Banister, 1869, 1870; Rev. J. M. Avann, 1871, 1872; Rev. J. W. Fenn, 1873, 1874; Rev. R. W. Harlow, 1875, 1876; Rev. F. M. Miller, 1877, 1878; Rev. W. H. Marble, 1879, 1880, 1881; Rev. E. Higgins, 1882, 1883; Rev. L. White, 1884, 1885, 1886; Rev. D. Atkins, 1887, 1888.

St. Martin's.—Saint Martin's Church is of the Roman Catholic faith and has its place of worship at the village of Otter River. The church edifice was erected in 1853 and consecrated in 1854. The priest who officiates at this church also has charge of one or more parishes elsewhere.

The Memorial Church.—The Goodell Memorial Church was organized at Baldwinville in 1874. Services were held in Union Hall for about nine years In 1882 the work of erecting a church edifice was entered upon. This was dedicated June 28, 1883. The ministers of this church have been Rev. L. Payson Broad, Rev. C. M. Temple, Rev. R. S. Haskins, Rev. J. F. Crumrin, Rev. M. A. Doherty and Rev. Roswell C. Foster.

Ministers.—The ministers of the churches in Templeton have none of them been natives of the town; but this town has furnished some ministers for other regions. Quite far in the southeast part of the town is the "Turner" farm, now owned by Mr. Lucien Gove. This was the birthplace and early home of Rev. Jonathan B. Turner, for years a professsor in the college at Jacksonville, Ill., and Rev. Asa Turner, both of whom were men of vigorous thought and earnest lives. The "Barrows" place is now the residence of Leonard M. Baker. This was the birthplace of Rev. William Barrows, of Reading, Mass., and Rev. Lewis Barrows. Rev. Emmons Partridge and Rev. Lyman Maynard were natives of this town and relatives of persons still living here. And at least one life-long missionary, Mr. Goodell, of almost world-wide fame, received his first inspiration from these hills and vales.

Rev. William Goodell, D.D., was born in this town February 14, 1792 and died in Philadelphia February 18, 1867. His studies were pursued at Phillips Academy, Andover, Dartmouth College and Andover Theological Seminary. The greater part of his life was spent as a missionary in the Turkish Empire, and an interesting volume has been published giving an account of his labors. He was of feeble bodily constitution, yet he was full of cheerfulness and even mirthfulness, which even his stern Puritan theology could not fully repress. He was an earnest man, thoroughly devoted to the performance of duty and entirely absorbed in his chosen work of being a faithful missionary.

CHAPTER XXIV.

TEMPLETON—(*Continued.*)

Lawyers—Physicians—Hospitals—Prominent Men.

Templeton was manifestly a better field for the exercise of the lawyer's profession in former times than in later years. In the earlier part of the century two lawyers had their offices near the Common, and seem to have found abundant employment. Hon. Lovell Walker was one of these lawyers. He seems to have enjoyed the public confidence in a very large degree. He was for two years Representative to the General Court, and for some years Senator for Worcester County.

He was born in Brandon, Vt., and was a graduate of Dartmouth College. He died in 1839. His place of residence was the house now owned by Miss Twichell. His office was in a small building, recently standing near the "Brick store."

Joseph W. Newcomb, Esq., was engaged in the practice of law here for a brief period of time just after Mr. Walker. The office of Samuel Cutting, Esq., was in a small building not very long ago standing on the corner where now is the residence of Mrs. Batchelder. He was a native of this town, a son of Jonathan Cutting, and a life-long resident here. Edward Kirkland was a lawyer here, removing afterwards to Louisville, Ky. Joseph Mason, Esq., now of Worcester, was an active, public-spirited lawyer of this town from 1837 to '47. He was town clerk for two years, served on the School Committee six years, and took a very active part in the affairs of the town and the religious society with which he was connected. He was afterwards for many years clerk of courts for the county of Worcester. In 1842 he was appointed one of the standing commissioners of bankruptcy for the Massachusetts District, and has held the office of master in Chancery.

Giles H. Whitney, Esq., a native of Boston, a graduate of Harvard University and its Law School, practiced law in Templeton Centre and Baldwinville from 1846 to '55. In the latter year he removed to

Winchendon, where he died January 12, 1888. He had been a member of both branches of the State Legislature, and was esteemed as an upright lawyer and trusted citizen.

Stillman Cady, Esq., was engaged in the practice of law at Baldwinville from 1858 to the time of his death, in 1884. In the last years of Mr. Cady's life Charles D. Burrage, Esq., now of Gardner, was associated with him.

If it be true that Templeton has imported nearly all of her lawyers, it is equally true that she has exported some of her own product for the benefit of other places. Leonard A. Jones, who has acquired a well-deserved reputation as the author of several valuable legal works, is a son of Templeton. He graduated from Harvard College in 1855, and the Harvard Law School in 1858, in which year he was admitted to the Suffolk bar, and has ever since been in the practice of law in the city of Boston. Mr. Jones is the author of the following legal works: "A Treatise on Mortgages of Real Property," two volumes; "A Treatise on Mortgages of Personal Property," one volume; "A Treatise on Pledges, including Collateral Securities," one volume; "A Treatise on Liens," two volumes; "Forms in Conveyancing," one volume; and "Index to Legal Periodical Literature."

Josiah Howe, son of Dr. Josiah Howe, was a lawyer in New York City. Thomas Greenwood, whose early home was in East Templeton, graduated at Yale College, and became a lawyer in New York City, where he still resides. Emory C. Sawyer, whose parents have their home in Baldwinville, gained a legal education, and is in the practice of law at Warren, Mass.

PHYSICIANS.—The members of the medical profession are engaged in a work which brings them into close intimacy with the lives of the people in their homes. Fortunate, indeed, is the town and community that enjoys the services of a well-educated, skillful, sympathizing physician. Such good fortune this town has experienced.

Benjamin Shattuck, the first physician of Templeton, was born in Littleton, Mass., November 11, 1742, and died of consumption in this town, January 14, 1794. He was a graduate of Harvard College of the class of 1765. He studied medicine with Dr. Oliver Prescott, of Groton, and settled in Templeton at the special invitation of the people of the town. He continued in extensive practice about twenty-five years, and became one of the most eminent in his profession. The community joined in a public funeral, the Rev. Mr. Sparhawk preaching a sermon in his eulogy. This sermon was printed, and copies of it may still be found.

Josiah Howe, M.D., was a physician of Templeton, who rose to eminence in his profession. He pursued his medical studies with Dr. Benjamin Shattuck, the first physician of this town, and on the death of the latter succeeded to his practice here. Dr. Howe was born in Milton, Mass., March 19, 1771, and died in Templeton, January 24, 1843. In his later life he gave attention to business affairs. He was at one time connected with the woolen-factory at Otter River. Several dwelling-houses at Templeton Centre were built under his direction and ownership. Among them were the "Hudson" house, Mr. Winch's house and that owned now by Dr. Tobien. At this house he last dwelt.

Dr. Marshall practiced medicine for some years in this town, having his residence at the Baptist Common.

Charles W. Wilder, M.D., was a native of Ashburnham, Mass. He graduated at the Medical Department of Dartmouth College in 1817. He practiced his profession for many years in this town. He was a skillful physician and an energetic and public-spirited citizen. About 1845 he removed to Fitchburg, and earnestly promoted the building of the Fitchburg and Worcester Railroad, of which he became the first president. The last years of his life were spent in Leominster, where he died February 12, 1851.

Mason Spooner, M.D., engaged in medical practice in this town for a good many years in the first half of this century. He was regarded as a skillful physician, and many persons are now living who remember his presence in their families. He died in 1853, in the eighty-second year of his age.

Jonathan W. D. Osgood, M.D., was the son of Jonathan Osgood, the first minister of Gardner. His studies were pursued at New Salem Academy, Williams College and Dartmouth College, from which he graduated in 1823, and from the Medical School of the same institution in 1826. He spent several months in attending lectures and in hospital practice in Philadelphia. He began the practice of medicine in Templeton in 1827, and continued here until 1858, when he removed to Greenfield. Here he lived until his death, which occurred May 15, 1885. His remains were brought to Templeton for burial. He was a good citizen, a skilled physician, affable and gentlemanly in his manners. Many persons still have pleasant recollections of him as their family physician. His place of residence in Templeton was in the house now owned by Mr. J. O. Winch.

E. E. Spencer, M.D., a native of North Kingston, R. I., received his diploma from the Eclectic Medical College of Cincinnati in 1860. He had also received the degree of M.D. from the Worcester Medical College in 1858. He was engaged in the practice of medicine in Templeton from 1861 to 1872, when he removed to Cambridge. He was active in promoting the formation of the Massachusetts Eclectic Medical Society, of which he has been treasurer and president.

J. B. Gould, M.D., was a native of Hillsboro', N. H. He was a student of medicine in the Medical

Department of Harvard University, and in the Medical College at Woodstock, Vt., of which he was a graduate in 1850. He has practiced medicine in Royalston, in Templeton, from 1862 to 1874, and since the latter date in West Somerville, Mass.

Joseph C. Batchelder, M.D., was a native of Topsfield, Mass. His medical education was received at Dartmouth College and at the Harvard Medical School. He practiced medicine in Lynn, Topsfield, Cambridge, and in Templeton from 1857 to the time of his death, in 1885. Dr. Batchelder was an enterprising and public-spirited citizen, as well as a very skillful physician and surgeon. He was the Representative from his native town in the Legislature of Massachusetts in 1846. He took an active interest in promoting the construction of the Hoosac Tunnel. In the Civil War he was assistant surgeon of the Twenty-fifth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers.

The physicians thus far named had their residences in the village lying around the Common. At the present time there are two physicians whose place of residence is at this village:—Dr. A. S. Tobien has been in practice here since 1874—and Dr. S. E. Greenwood since 1878.

George Jewett, M.D., was a native of Rindge, N. H. His medical education was received at Woodstock, Vt., and at the Berkshire Medical College, where he graduated in 1846. He began the practice of medicine at Baldwinville in 1847, removed to Gardner in 1852, and thence to Fitchburg.

Lucius W. Baker, M.D., received his degree from the University of the City of New York in 1880, and immediately began the practice of medicine in his native village. Dr. Baker was the projector of the Hospital Cottages for Children, and for five years the superintendent and physician, retiring in 1887 to devote his time more fully to the care of his Medical Home for Nervous Invalids, at Baldwinville.

A list of the names of physicians who have engaged in the practice of medicine at Baldwinville is subjoined. The first physician residing in the village seems to have been Dr. Barrett, who began practice in 1847; Dr. Jewett, in 1854; Dr. Jonathan A. White, 1854–63; Dr. John W. Bement, 1868–74; Dr. William F. Southard, 1873–78; Dr. J. S. Fogg and Dr. G. L. Perry remained a short time; Dr. L. W. Baker, 1880; Dr. E. N. Mullins has been in active medical practice since 1883.

Some persons who were natives of this town have engaged in medical practice in other places. The names of a few such now follow:

Dr. George C. Shattuck, son of Dr. Benjamin Shattuck, was born in Templeton, July 17, 1783, and died at his residence in Boston, March 18, 1854. He was eminent for his professional skill and for his munificent public and private charities. He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1803, and from the Medical Department in 1806, receiving also a medical degree from Harvard College in 1807. He was possessed of much wealth and became noted for his public benefactions, giving liberally to Dartmouth College, Harvard College and various public institutions. From him the town of Templeton received the liberal gift of five shares in the library of the Boston Athenæum. Dr. Shattuck was a very popular and skillful physician of the city of Boston. His son, of the same name, was for many years a professor in the Harvard Medical School.

James Lloyd Wellington, M.D., son of Rev. Charles Wellington, graduated from Harvard College in 1838, and from the Harvard Medical School in 1842, since which time he has been a physician in active practice in the town of Swansea, Mass.

Edward Sawyer, M.D., a physician of Bridgewater, Mass., was a native of Templeton, and received his early education in her schools. He graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1865, and began the practice of medicine in the autumn of that same year. In addition to his general practice he has for more than twenty-two years been physician to the State Institution at Bridgewater. Besides his busy activity in professional work, he serves the community in various positions of responsibility and usefulness.

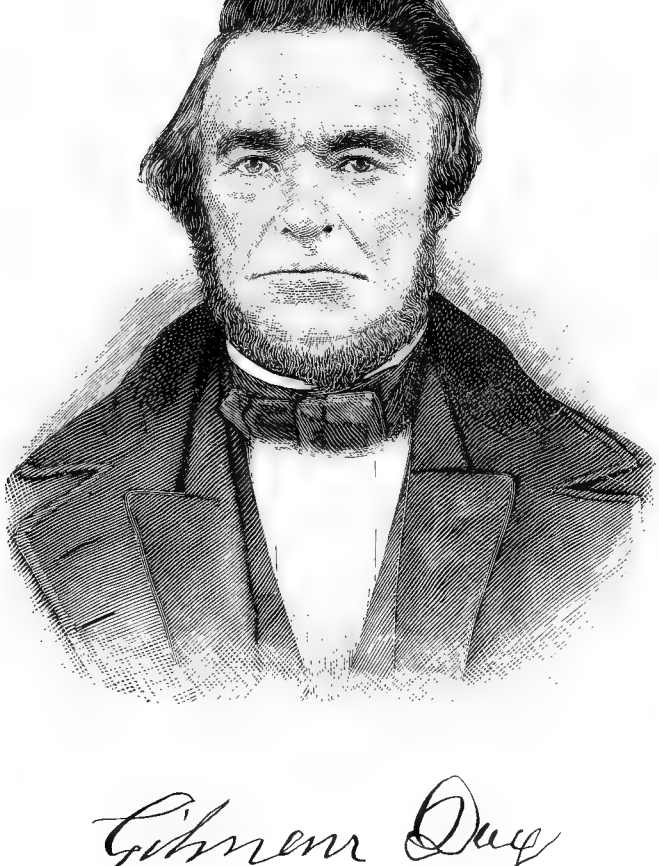
Dr. Charles Whitcomb, for many years past a physician of Barre, Mass., was a native of this town.

Very few women from this town have engaged in any other professional work than that of teaching. Miss Salome Merritt, however, has received a medical education, and is in the active practice of her profession in the city of Boston.

HOSPITALS.—The Hospital Cottages for Children, organized and incorporated in 1882, are located at Baldwinville. They are arranged on the cottage plan, and are designed for the treatment of children affected with chronic diseases. Their country location makes it possible to have fresh air, sunlight, outdoor exercise and wholesome food, as well as careful nursing and medical care. The idea of the institution originated with Dr. L. W. Baker. His father, Deacon Willard Baker, gave liberal aid by furnishing buildings, rent free, for some years, and in other ways. Mr. J. W. Coolidge has earnestly labored for the institution from its first inception, and has been very efficient in placing it upon a good financial basis. A lady board of visitors, including ladies of prominence living in different parts of the State, has from the first rendered very valuable assistance in support of the institution. This board has also erected a third building with funds which it has gathered. The Legislature of Massachusetts granted ten thousand dollars to the institution in 1887. The institution now has three buildings under its control, and has accommodations for about fifty children.

Dr. Baker's Medical Home for the treatment of nervous diseases, including the alcohol and opium habits, and the nervous disorders of childhood, is located in Baldwinville. It was established in 1885.

PROMINENT MEN.—Towns and communities natur-



Gibbons Dug

ally range themselves under the leadership of individuals who are possessed of an unusual degree of energy, persistence or intelligence. These they appoint to act for them on important occasions either at home or abroad. Such men in the last century were Mr. Thomas White, Captain John Richardson, Captain Joel Fletcher, Captain Ezekiel Knowlton, Colonel Silas Cutler and Captain Leonard Stone. Captain Fletcher was the delegate from this town to the convention which ratified the Constitution of the United States in 1787. Jonathan Baldwin was the first Representative from this town to the General Court in 1774. He is also believed to have been the first justice of the peace in this town. He was an enterprising citizen of that portion of the town now known as Baldwinville. His son, Captain Eden Baldwin, was a man of great vigor, enterprise and influence, engaging actively in various business enterprises. From him his native village takes its name.

As the next century advances new names come into prominence in different sections of the town. Captain Joseph Davis was for many years a very prominent citizen, living in Baldwinville. He came from Northboro' to this village in 1830 and opened a store. In 1832 he built the hotel. He bought Stephen Knowlton's farm on the east of the village and built a dam at the water privilege there. He was very active in various kinds of business. He labored earnestly and effectively to secure the location of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad through this village. He was a very active, energetic, public-spirited citizen. He died November 5, 1868. His son, Thomas W. Davis, has been for several years city surveyor for the city of Boston.

Gilman Day, Esq., was a prominent citizen of Templeton during the greater part of a long life, which extended from April 1, 1802, to August 11, 1877. The neighboring town of Winchendon was his birthplace. For a large part of his life he was engaged more or less actively in the lumber business and some form of manufacturing. His saw-mill was on Trout Brook, southwesterly of Baldwinville, and is still known as the "Day" Mill. For a period of some three years, beginning with 1836, he was associated with Levi Pierce in conducting the hotel at Templeton Centre. He was also owner, in part, of the stage-line connecting Worcester and Keene, which line passed through this town. He was frequently called to fill places of trust and honor by the votes of his fellow-townsmen. He held in successive years various town offices. He served for one term, in 1846, as Representative from this town to the General Court. He was also chosen as the delegate from this town to the convention which assembled in 1853 to revise the Constitution of the State. He held a commission as justice of the peace and trial justice from 1861 to the time of his death.

It is hardly necessary to state that he was deeply interested in the public affairs of the county, State and nation. He was earnestly in favor of the division of Worcester County and labored to promote it, in opposition to some of his prominent fellow-townsmen. He occupied a very prominent position among those who labored to retain the location of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad so as to pass through the northerly part of this town, instead of being diverted to Winchendon, and his labors were successful. The greater part of his life was spent in Baldwinville, and here his widow and sons still live.

Thomas Fisher was a farmer living midway between Baldwinville and Otter River. He was frequently chosen to serve the public in matters where good judgment and integrity were required, and was a prominent citizen in the earlier part of the century. His son, Dea. Charles T. Fisher, lived upon the same farm on which his father had dwelt, and likewise possessed the public confidence.

Col. Leonard Stone lived in what is now the village of Otter River, on the farm which his father, Capt. Leonard Stone, had occupied before him, and on which his sons have since dwelt. He possessed the public confidence in a high degree, serving for several years on the School Committee and the Board of Selectmen. He was also for several years the representative to the General Court. He took an active part in the contest for the location of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad. He was an influential citizen, trusted and honored.

Capt. Samuel Dadman was another enterprising and influential citizen, engaged in the woolen manufacturing business at Otter River. He was four times chosen as representative to the General Court, and received other marks of the public confidence.

Col. Ephraim Stone lived at Templeton Centre, and was for many years connected with mercantile business there on the site of what has generally been known as the "Brick Store." He was a man of great energy of character and activity in affairs, and was frequently chosen to positions of trust and responsibility.

John W. Stiles was, in the early part of the century, a merchant whose place of business was on the east side of the "Common." He is said to have been a man of much vigor and mental ability, and he certainly took a deep interest in public affairs. He it was who composed the memorial sent by this town to the President of the United States in opposition to the War of 1812.

Col. Artemas Lee was for many years a leading mind in the business and political affairs of northern Worcester County. He was born in the neighboring town of Barre, November 2, 1793. He came to Templeton in 1810, in his seventeenth year, and for some time served as clerk in the store of John W. Stiles, who was then a merchant of prominence in this region. After some years he formed a partnership with Lipha French, and opened a store in the southerly part of the hotel building. This partnership was dissolved

in a few years, and he continued the business alone. In 1829 he erected the dwelling-house and store situated at the southerly side of the Common, and now owned by Mr. Percival Blodgett. Here the main part of his life was spent. He kept a country store with all its great variety of goods. In later times various persons were associated with him in his mercantile affairs at this place of business. Lee, Harding & Jones, Lee & Lincoln, Lee & Wood, Lee & Gambell were the styles of successive firms. He engaged also in mercantile business in Baldwinville, in Athol and in Gardner, having partners in each of these places. He was an earnest, enterprising business man, and met with success in his business pursuits.

Colonel Lee was always deeply interested in public affairs, and entered upon them with earnest zeal and abounding energy. He opposed the division of the town when that project was entered upon. Again and again it fell to his lot to oppose the division of Worcester County. It did not need a large number of such opponents as he was to defeat a measure. When it was proposed to change the location of the Vermont & Massachusetts Railroad, so that it would not pass through this town, he vigorously opposed the change, and was one of a committee of five appointed by the town, who labored earnestly and successfully in opposition to the change of location. He was first elected to the Legislature in 1832, serving in the House of Representatives for four consecutive years. He was again elected as Representative from this town in 1847, and also in 1861. He also served for three or four years in the Massachusetts Senate as a member from Worcester County. Senators were then chosen by the counties.

He was always deeply interested in the affairs of this town; the numerous shade-trees upon the Common bear testimony to one form of this interest. He was interested in the militia of the State, realizing that emergencies might arise when their trained services might be essential to the public welfare. He acquired his title of colonel from having been commander of the local regiment of militia. Two of his sons lost their lives in the late Civil War Colonel Lee was a man of uncommon intellectual vigor and force of character. His life was one of ceaseless activity in business and public affairs. He died in 1870.

If he could communicate his ideas to us, he would not consider this notice complete without some recognition of her who for many years was his efficient counselor and helper. Mrs. Lee, whose married life began June 10, 1830, still lives in the city of Boston, furnishing a home to grandchildren whose father's life was given for his country.

John Boynton, Esq., spent his active business life in Templeton. Here he accumulated the fortune which enabled him to give ten thousand dollars for the benefit of the schools of his native town, Mason, N. H., and one hundred thousand dollars for founding the Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He came to this town in 1825, and began the manufacture of tinware, employing peddlers who traveled about the country and sold it or exchanged it for paper stock. The business increased in volume, and proved to be profitable. In 1830 the late David Whitcomb, Esq., of Worcester, came to live in this town, and became a partner with Mr. Boynton in the tin business. He here laid the foundations of a fortune which has enabled him in later years to bestow gifts to religious and charitable purposes to the amount of a full million of dollars. Mr. Whitcomb gave the money which constitutes our Library Fund, requesting that the library should be called the "Boynton Library." Mr. Boynton was the first president of the Miller's River Bank at Athol. He was always thoroughly devoted to his business affairs, and gave less thought to other matters. He died in 1867. Mr. Whitcomb removed to Worcester in 1854, and was engaged in business there until his death, in 1887.

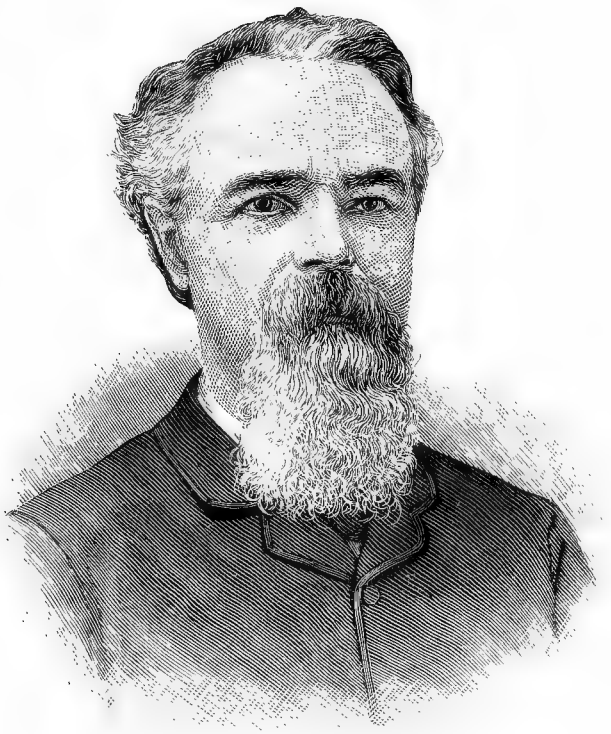
John Bigelow held the office of town clerk for twelve consecutive years, beginning with 1823. He lived in the "Gilbert" house, and kept clocks, watches, and jewelry in a store which formerly stood on the site of Mr. Blodgett's store. His son, Joshua R. Bigelow, gained wealth in mercantile business in Boston, and pleasantly remembered his native town by the gift of the public clock which is in the tower of the Unitarian Church. Dexter Gilbert was a prominent citizen, who was postmaster for eight years, and held the office of town clerk for twelve years, consecutively, beginning with 1842. Rev. Gerard Bushnell was much trusted in the management of public affairs, having served for sixteen years as a member of the School Committee, for twenty-two years, beginning with 1854, as town clerk, and was, for one year, a representative to the General Court.

T. T. Greenwood was actively engaged in manufacturing enterprises in East Templeton for more than forty years. In 1841 he began the manufacture of chair-seat frames. In 1849 he erected the present furniture-shop, and, taking Mr. F. L. Sargeant as a partner, they entered upon the manufacture of tubs, pails, churns and other wooden-ware. In 1860 they began the manufacture of pine and chestnut furniture. Mr. Sargeant retired in 1863, and, from that time until his death, Mr. Greenwood carried on the business alone, making additions to his factory and supplementing water-power with steam-power as his business increased. Mr. Greenwood was a pioneer in the utilization of the pith of the rattan. This pith was then regarded as waste merely, and burned in bonfires. He bought it of the American Rattan Company, of Fitchburg, and made it into baskets. It has since been turned to a great variety of uses.

In 1883, in company with one of his sons, he established a store at West Gardner, for the sale of furniture at retail. Two of his sons continue the business at this store, and two others carry on the manufacturing operations at East Templeton.

T. T. Greenwood

Henry Smith



C. A. Perley

Percival Blodgett

Isaac Bourn

In addition to his business enterprises, Mr. Greenwood was a public-spirited citizen, ever on the alert for improvements in the condition of his native village and town. He liberally assisted in the establishment of a village library, in 1854, and of a public hall, in 1872. With others, he labored earnestly and effectively for the establishment of the village post-office, in 1866. He was foremost in urging the construction of the new road to West Gardner, and caused the preliminary surveys to be made chiefly at his own expense. With others he joined in an effort to secure the location of the Ware River Railroad through East Templeton.

He was interested in schools and public education. It was no uncommon thing for him to visit the schools. When the High School was established, in 1856, we find him among those who were earliest, laboring to secure such a result, and he ever maintained a lively interest in its welfare.

The village of East Templeton was the scene of his life's labors. Here he was born, March 25, 1817, and here, on July 10, 1885, he died.

Charles A. Perley was born in Gardner, September 15, 1826, and died February 2, 1887. His life was mainly spent in the chair manufacturing business in the village of Baldwinville. After spending four years in the southerly part of Winchendon, he came to this town in 1856 and engaged in the manufacture of chairs, as a member of the firm of Sawyer, Thompson & Perley, afterwards Thompson, Perley & Waite. This firm manufactured a variety of cane-seat chairs and in later times large quantities of the child's folding chair, an ingenious contrivance for the comfort of children.

Mr. Perley was always active in promoting the business prosperity of the village in which he lived. He was the prime mover in the formation of the Baldwinville Mill Company, which erected a new shop on the site now occupied by Smith, Day & Co. He had been for some years the president of the Templeton Savings Bank. He took an active part in the formation of the Memorial Church and the erection of its church edifice. In 1885 he was the Representative from this district in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

Colonel Henry Smith was born in Shrewsbury, Vermont, in 1826 and died in Boston in 1881. He married Abby Boynton Whitcomb, daughter of David Whitcomb, Esq., of Worcester. In 1849 he engaged in the manufacture of tin-ware in Templeton, in company with Mr. Whitcomb and continued the business in the later time in company with his brother, until 1865. Their traveling agents were accustomed to sell their tin-ware in various parts of New England. He was also interested in the same business with partners in Springfield, Lowell, Albany and New Haven. In 1865 he removed to Boston and engaged in the banking business, being instrumental in the establishment of the Home Savings Bank, of which he became president, and the Central National Bank. His latest business enterprise was the establishment of the International Trust Company, of which he became president.

He served one term in the Massachusetts House of Representatives and three terms in the State Senate, the last term after removing to Dorchester. He served at one time on the staff of Governor Banks as one of his aids. He was an active, enterprising and public-spirited citizen. He had accumulated wealth in his business and was liberal in contributing to religious and philanthropic enterprises.

Percival Blodgett spent his early years in North Orange, Mass., where he was born in 1841. He received his education in the public schools of his native town and at Andover Academy. He came to Templeton as a teacher in the public schools in 1861, and taught for several terms. He began his mercantile career in 1865, as a member of the firm of Dudley & Blodgett, whose place of business was at the "Brick store." From 1870 to the present time he has been in business alone, at the stand formerly owned and occupied by Colonel Lee. He became the owner of this establishment in 1877 and carries on here a prosperous business in the sale of various kinds of merchandise usually kept at a country store. Mr. Blodgett has for several years been one of the selectmen, has held the office of town treasurer for twelve years, and has been a member of the school committee for twenty years. He is chosen a representative to the Legislature of Massachusetts for the year 1889, from the Second Worcester County District.

Isaac Bourn is a native of Potton, Canada, having been born there November 24, 1821. He came to Templeton in 1845, working for wages for the first two years. He was engaged in the lumber business from 1847 to 1849, in company with Jonas Brown, and from the latter date until 1879 in company with John Brooks. He is at present senior partner in the firm of Bourn, Hadley & Company. They manufacture large quantities of pine, chestnut and ash furniture at their shop, near the Ware River Railroad station, and are also dealers in all kinds of lumber. Mr. Bourn is still actively engaged in the business in which he has manifested so much energy and enterprise.

Some persons who were natives of Templeton have become conspicuous for their business capacity or philanthropic efforts in other fields. One such was George Partridge, who engaged in business in Saint Louis, Mo., was prosperous in his affairs and gave large sums for the benefit of Washington University in that city. Thomas White is extensively engaged in the manufacture and sale of the "White" sewing-machine, in Cleveland, Ohio. He began the business on a small scale in this town. The White family was one of the old and worthy families of this town and Phillipston. Moses W. Richardson leads an active business life in the city of Boston, in which he has

been prosperous. His early life was spent here. He learned his first lessons of business affairs as clerk in the store of Colonel Lee. His name represents two families of prominence in this town. His grandfather, Moses Wright, was for ten years the town clerk, and three years a Representative to the General Court. The Richardson family has ever been prominent in numbers and influence.

The first settlers of a town, with rugged hills completely covered with forests, must have been persons of vigor and steadfastness of purpose. Among the early inhabitants of this town there were men of more than ordinary ability and strength of character. They were also men of sterling integrity. They directed the currents of thought and action into good channels. The influence of such men extends beyond the limit of their own lifetimes, frequently exerting a powerful influence on their successors. There has been in this town a permanence and stability in its affairs which has greatly inured to the public benefit. Many things have worked together in the past to make the influence prevailing in a New England town a very favorable environment for the development and improvement of a human being. May it be long before these towns shall have lost the essential features which have been characteristic of the best of them!

CHAPTER XXV.

UXBRIDGE.

BY GEORGE W. HOBBS.

THIS town is beautifully located in the "Blackstone Valley," about twenty miles south from the city of Worcester.

On the west the gently-sloping hills are covered with the fine dwellings of its prosperous citizens, overlooking a diversified scenery of meadows, rivers, ponds and busy workshops. On the east the plains stretch out to the lofty Mendon hills, whose westerly slopes form the water-shed for the "West River," which furnishes the water-power for the "Wacantuck" and "Elmdale" Mills; while gently meandering through the valley, the "Blackstone" and "Mumford" Rivers beautify the plain and furnish the power for the numerous other mills which add to the business and prosperity of this lively and enterprising town.

Its natural beauty, fine roads, excellent hotel, secluded drives and cool retreats make it a desired haven of rest for the numerous "summer boarders" who, in increasing numbers, annually make their pilgrimage hither. From the pleasant drive on "Lawler" hill, just west of Main Street, away in the dim distance,—thirty miles as the crow flies,—the blue peak of old Wachusett can easily be seen on a fair day, and the view, once seen, is long remembered. From the opposite side of the town, on the hill near the residence of Mr. T. W. Giles, a bit of scenery is unfolded which has no equal even on the canvas of a Turner. As far as the eye can reach, the beautiful valley of the Blackstone is spread out in all its enchanting loveliness. Here and there, above the abundant foliage, rises the spire of some distant church; the hillsides dotted with neat houses, green fields, teeming orchards, lowing herds; handsome villas, cool groves, glimmering lakes; rivers looking like threads of silver, lofty hill-tops crowned with perennial pine, rich meadows fragrant with new-mown hay and golden-hued flowers; farms, villages, factories, tall chimneys, and all the concomitants of a thriving valley meet the eye and fill the mind with a never-tiring pleasure. The native to the manor born, as well as the stranger within its gates, pause upon this favored spot and involuntarily exclaim "How beautiful!"

A gentleman from Providence, while riding up this hill with the writer, exclaimed: "Stop! In all my travels at home or abroad, I never saw a finer scene than this. I would like to build a house right on this lot before us and have that view always before me." For an hour we lingered, and with a deep sigh, he took his leave with regret, saying: "I did not suppose there was so fine a view this side the White Mountains, and I don't believe your townspeople appreciate it as they ought."

The facility with which this town can be reached by the numerous trains upon that model railway, the "Providence and Worcester," causes such an influx of seekers after rest and ozone, that the hotel and boarding-houses are taxed to their utmost during the vacation season, and those who come one season are pretty sure to engage rooms for the next.

There are several mineral springs near the centre of the town, and the water furnished by the Uxbridge Water Company proves, upon analysis, to be about absolutely pure, being nearly equal to that of the famous Poland Springs, and pronounced by local physicians to be nearly as effectual in the cure of kidney and urinary troubles. At no distant day these springs will be appreciated, and a *sanitarium* will invite the health-seekers to come and be cured. Uxbridge ranks among the older towns of the county, having been incorporated three years before the county itself.

Originally a part of Mendon, the history of the causes which led to its separation from the mother town may not inappropriately be recorded here.

In 1716 it seems that the western part of the town of Mendon and the eastern part had a disagreement about the road to be built to Taft's bridge, over the Great River (Blackstone), which led to the appointment of a committee of conference. This difficulty having been adjusted, the next recorded difference

which arose was in 1720, when, as appears by the "Mendon Annals," "the inhabitants of the west part of the town (now Uxbridge) began to agitate the question of dividing the town, or of being allowed to be a precinct by themselves; but upon their petition to that effect, the town took no action."

In 1722, October 16th, at a town-meeting held in Mendon, the inhabitants of the western part of the town objecting to being assessed for repairs to the meeting-house, the town "voted, that if they would pay, the town would reimburse them, *provided* they are set off as a precinct or a town within the space of three years."

December 14, 1726, more than the stipulated "three years" after the last difficulty, the town, "in answer to our western inhabitants petitioning to be set off as a town or a precinct, voted in the negative." But the said western inhabitants were becoming more determined to secede; and therefore, at a meeting held in Mendon March 31, 1727, the town "voted, after the reading of the petition of the western inhabitants of the town for a division of the town, that the boundaries should be as follows, viz.: Beginning at the south-west corner of the town, at the Province line, thence east four miles with said line; thence turning north and running parallel with the west line of the town, until it comes to a small brook running westerly between West and Misco Hills; thence down said brook to the West River; thence up said river to Andruss's Brook; and thence up Andruss' Brook to the township line"

The western inhabitants lost no time in taking the benefit of the vote, doubtless feeling that a reconsideration might blast their hopes, if opportunity were given; for it appears from the records in the Massachusetts Archives, "Towns, vol. 113, p. 714," that in an almost incredibly short time, considering the distance to Boston and the roads and conveniences or inconveniences of travel, the petition and vote was presented to the General Court for its approval and the incorporation of the new town. The act of incorporation passed both houses (*i.e.* the House of Representatives and the Council) and became a law June 23, 1727, which is the *birthday* of the town of Uxbridge. To show the mode of procedure in such matters at that early day under colonial government, I transcribe the act of incorporation entire:

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Decimo Tertio.

An act for dividing the town of Mendon and erecting a new town by the name of Uxbridge.

Whereas, the westerly part of the Town of Mendon, in the County of *Suffolk*, is completely filled with Inhabitants, who labour under great difficulties by their remoteness from the place of Public Worship, &c., and have thereupon made application to the said Town of Mendon, and have likewise addressed this Court that they may be set off as a distinct and separate town and be vested with all the powers and privilege of a town; and the Inhabitants of Mendon having consented to their being set off accordingly;

Be it therefore enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council and Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the westerly part of said Town of Mendon is hereby set off and constituted a separate Township by the name of Uxbridge; the bound of said Town to be as followeth: That is to say, Beginning at the South West corner of the town of Mendon, at the Province South Line; thence to run four miles east with the Province Line; then North a parallel with the West line of the said Town, until that line meets with a small Brook that runs between West Hill and Misco Hill; then ye said Brook to be the bounds to the West River; then the West River to be the bounds to a brook known by the name of Andrew's Brook, which brook shall be the bounds to the north line of the Township.

And that the Inhabitants of the said Lands, as before described and bounded, be, and hereby are, invested with the powers, privileges and immunities that the Inhabitants of any of the Towns of this Province, are, or ought by law to be invested; Provided the Grant of the said Township be not construed to Affect the Rights and privileges of any Persons to lands within the same.

Provided also, that the Inhabitants of the said town of Uxbridge, do, within the space of two years from the Publication of this Act, Erect and finish a suitable House for the Public Worship of God, and procure and settle a learned Orthodox Minister of good conversation, and make provision for his comfortable and honourable support; and that they set apart a Lot of not less than One hundred acres of Land in some convenient place in said town near the meeting-House, for the use of the Ministry; and likewise provide a School Master to instruct their youth in writing and reading.

In Council June 21, 1727. Read.

J. WILLARD, *Sec'y.*

Passed to be Engrossed.

In the House of Representatives June 23, 1727. Read a first time; The 24th—Read a second time and passed in concurrence with amendment.

Dele. * Sent up for concurrence.

WM. DUDLEY, *Speaker.*

Agreed.

The amendment referred to by the record as passed by the House was the striking out of the following clause, which, in the act as approved by the Council, was after the word reading, in the last sentence of the act, viz.:

And that thereupon they be discharged from any further payment for the maintenance of the Ministers and Schools in the said Town of Mendon, for any estate lying within the said Town of Uxbridge.

The people of those early days had queer ideas of density of population, when they allege, as recited in the preamble to the act above quoted, "the westerly part of the town of Mendon, etc., is *completely filled* with inhabitants," etc., for it must be remembered that Mendon township at that time comprised about *sixty thousand acres*, and embraced what is now Mendon, Milford, Uxbridge, Blackstone and Northbridge, with a total population then of some twelve hundred people, and now the same territory is populated by nearly twenty-five thousand people, with plenty of room for more. Moreover, the reason set forth by the aggrieved inhabitants of the west part, that "they laboured under great difficulties, by their remoteness from the place of public worship," etc., indicates that the population of the old town of Mendon was rather scattered, and had plenty of room to spread towards the centre.

It appears from the records of the old, and the new town that the boundary line, as set forth in the vote of Mendon, and in the act aforesaid, was rather indefinite and little understood even by the parties to the same. For at the very first meeting of the new town, a committee was appointed "to run and settle ye Line between Mendon and Uxbridge;" and at different dates up to 1754, nearly twenty-seven years

afterwards, there were repeated attempts on the part of the two towns to settle the dispute concerning the boundary line; and it was finally settled to the satisfaction of all parties, after an appeal to the General Court, pending which the two towns came to an agreement; and the appeal was duly dismissed.

Uxbridge is supposed to have received its name from Henry Paget, Earl of Uxbridge, at the time a member of the King's Privy Council. Its Indian name is Wacantug, or Wacantuck; and this name is perpetuated by the "Wacantuck House," and the "Wacantuck Woolen-Mills" hereinafter referred to. The first town-meeting in Uxbridge was held at the house of Cornet John Farnum, July 25, 1727. The members of the first Board of Selectmen were Robert Taft, Ebenezer Read, Woodland Thompson and Joseph White. The first town clerk was Edmund Rawson, an accomplished gentleman, an excellent penman, and a methodical recorder of the doings of the new town. To-day, after the lapse of more than one hundred and sixty years, his records of the meetings of the town are as clear and plain as though recently written; and for brevity and good language would be appropriate models for town clerks of the present decade. Solomon Wood, the first town treasurer, received for the responsibilities and arduous duties of that office for one year, the munificent compensation of *five shillings;* and at the same time the town voted this compensation, they "voted to pay Lieut. Joseph Taft *seven shillings* for a barrel of cider." The record does not tell for what purpose the town purchased the cider, but inasmuch as they, a year or two later, voted that the committee who had charge of building "ye meeting House purchase fifteen gallons of good rum for the raising," it is probable that the town fathers were a little afraid to drink the water which nature had furnished in such abundance.

The town clerks and town treasurers have been men of such ability and worth, that in the one hundred and sixty-one years of its corporate existence the town has had only eighteen different town clerks, and about as many town treasurers. The attraction to these offices could not have been the compensation, for it is matter of record that, considering the amount of responsibility, the pay of these officials has been, and is to-day, grossly inadequate. That at least one of these gentlemen groaned in spirit under his burdens is manifest from these poetic verses, copied *verbatim* from the fly-leaf of the treasurer's account-book of 1767. I have called it by the appropriate name:

THE TREASURER'S LAMENT.

A strong Desire pervades the 'spiring Mind,
To their own care to have this book assigned;
But whosoever shall this book obtaine,
Will find *the profit pays not half the paine.*
I long have labored on this servile Charge,
I've found the profits small, the trouble large,
With true exactness all accounts I trac'd,
And then the Names & sums in order plac'd;
But all the methods I could e'er invent,
Ne'er to my Neighbors would it give content.
So I'm resolved, I'll soon this book forsake,
That those who long have sought, may now partake.

For nearly one hundred years after its organization Uxbridge remained simply an agricultural town, with the usual amount of such mechanical business as was carried on in the rural towns of New England. When it was incorporated it was a part of the county of Suffolk; but when Worcester County was created, in 1730, just three years afterward, Uxbridge became a part of it, and is so well satisfied with the connection, that no voice can be heard in favor of severing the old tie, or forming a part of any new county whatsoever. It is a part of the Blackstone Valley, and, with the other valley towns which constitute Worcester South, it has a local pride in the old county, and a desire to remain in it and of it.

The diversified topography of this town is one of its principal charms. Hill and valley, meadow and upland, lakes and rivers all contribute to make the picture perfect. Comprising nearly twenty-eight square miles of territory, with about seventeen thousand acres taxed, with over eighty miles of well-kept highways and town-ways, many rivers and streams crossed by stone, iron and wooden bridges, its handsome churches, fine hotel, imposing town hall and other elegant buildings reared by its thrifty population, now numbering about thirty-five hundred, Uxbridge sends out its invitation to the rest of old Worcester County to present to the readers of the "County History" a better record than she has made. Her adopted son, who writes this history, regrets that the limited space allowed him, prevents his doing justice to her; for, do the best he may, the half cannot herein be told.

The rivers of Uxbridge are the Blackstone, the West and the Mumford. Its larger brooks, furnishing water-power, are the Ironstone, the Emerson, the Rivulet and the Drabble Tail.

The Blackstone River has its source in North Pond, in the city of Worcester. From this pond flows a small but beautiful stream called Mill Brook. This stream, in its course through Worcester, Millbury, Sutton, Grafton, Northbridge, Uxbridge and Blackstone, where it leaves the Slate, receives the waters of several affluents, is called the Blackstone River, and its constantly increasing size and volume furnishes, by the time it reaches Uxbridge, a seldom-failing power, which gives to the town its great prosperity as a manufacturing centre.

The West River has its origin in the town of Upton; and, although it runs through the easterly part of Uxbridge, it retains the name "West River," which was given it when it was the western boundary of Mendon. It empties into the Blackstone about half a mile south of the Hecla Mills, and about a mile southeasterly of the railway station. Like the

Blackstone, it contributes power to run the machinery of several factories, which will be described farther on.

Mumford River has its rise in "Douglas Woods," in Douglas; being increased by streams from Badluck Pond and Manchaug Pond, in Douglas, and by springs and rivulets, and the vast reservoirs in Whitinsville. It enters Uxbridge just south of the Linwood Mills at Whitin's Station; thence through North Uxbridge, furnishing power to the great cotton-mills there located; thence southeasterly to Uxbridge Centre, joining the Blackstone about three-quarters of a mile southeasterly of the railroad station, at what is called the "Forks of the River." The Capron Mills are located upon this river.

The Ironstone Brook, formerly called "Forge Brook," and so designated in the early records of the town, rises in the extreme southwesterly part of the town, near the Rhode Island line; forms the Ironstone Pond; thence flows under the New York and New England Railroad into the village of Ironstone; and thence about a mile easterly to the Blackstone River. It was very early used for furnishing power for various mechanical enterprises, a dam and forge having been erected upon it nearly one hundred and fifty years ago by Benjamin Taft, one of the original settlers in the town.

The Emerson Brook rises in Douglas, flows easterly, and enters Uxbridge in what is called "Scadden;" it thence flows southeasterly, under the various names of "Shove Brook," "Tucker Brook" and "Emerson Brook," until its confluence with the Blackstone, on the farm of Millins Emerson. Its course is about five miles long, much of the way a very rapid, turbulent stream, and has fall enough, if its waters could be stored and used to advantage, to run all the machinery now in use in the town. It supplies the power for Lee's Mills and the mills of Zadok A. Taft & Co., and, in former years, the Shove and the Richardson saw and grist-mills. It is also one of the finest trout brooks in this section, and for several years Seth P. Carpenter, of Milford, an enthusiast in pisciculture, spent time and money in the erection of hatching houses and spawning-tanks; which, since his death, have fallen into "innocuous desuetude" and decay. The old gentleman was sanguine of success, and there is no doubt that if the vandal fishermen and surreptitious *hookers* of *trout* had left his breeding trout and hatchlings alone, he would have realized his fondest dreams.

The Rivulet Brook rises in the westerly part of the town, flows easterly through the farm of the late John S. Taft, to the pond at the Rivulet Mills, owned by Richard Sayles & Co., furnishing power for that prosperous establishment, and thence to the Mumford River, a short distance south of the Uxbridge Cotton-Mills. One of the earliest mills in town was built upon this stream; and the second distillery for the manufacture of gin and cider brandy emptied its nauseous refuse into its waters, on the Taft farm. In 1815 a woolen-mill was erected upon this brook, and since that date it has never ceased to furnish power for some manufacturing enterprise. Drabble Tail Brook is a small stream formed by the union of Croney Brook and Shuttle Brook, two smaller streams, or rivulets, arising from springs in the hills, just westerly of the centre of the town, and runs through the central village, crossing the highway near the Blackstone National Bank, and emptying into the Mumford River just below the dwelling-house of the late John W. Capron. This stream runs the water-wheel at the Shuttle Shop, and is capable of doing more damage in a sudden thaw than all the other water-courses in town. Less than one-eighth of a mile from the Shuttle Shop Pond to its outlet in the Mumford, it has repeatedly overflowed its banks, made a pond of Mechanic Square, a race-way of Main street, and a host of good citizens indignant at the negligence which allows this insignificant stream to kick up such a muss every three or four years. In 1824 excavations were begun for the Blackstone Canal, a project which had been agitated at various times from 1776 to the time when the Canal Company was incorporated, 1822. This canal was to be the great means of communication and trade between Providence and Worcester, and designed as an avenue for the transportation of heavy freight up and down the Blackstone Valley, which hitherto had been carried, at great expense and delay, by wagon-teams. Uxbridge was one of its important stations, and the locks and banks of the old canal can be seen to-day, though the canal ceased to be used in 1848, when it was superseded by the Providence and Worcester Railway.

These several water-courses have each and all contributed to the prosperity and comfort of the inhabitants of Uxbridge, and are the source whence has sprung that almost miraculous power which has kept the wheels of local industry in motion. While they have benefited the people, they have also added to the beauty and attractiveness of the town; so that they may well claim from the pen of the historian their full meed of praise. Uxbridge, like most other manufacturing towns, is divided into villages; each manufacturing establishment building up around it comfortable homes for the employés, and schools for the education of their children.

As these different villages will be commented upon, in connection with the history of manufacturing, which follows in another chapter, it will suffice for the present to give their names.

Uxbridge Centre (where are located the Town Hall, Unitarian, Trinitarian, Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches, Capron Mills, principal stores, post-office and railway station) comprises about one-third of the population; North Uxbridge (also a post-office village) contains the Uxbridge Cotton-Mills and the Baptist Church. The next largest village is the

Calumet, for many years known as the "New Village." Next in size and importance is the Hecla village, formerly known as "Shank-bone," a nickname given to it (more than fifty years ago, it is said) on account of the frequency with which shank-beef was served at the mill boarding-house. A letter from Ireland, addressed to an employé of the mill, was directed to "Shankbone, Mass., U. S." How the post-office clerks ascertained the location of this village by that name is one of the unanswered conundrums.

Wheelock's village (formerly called "Crackerville," probably on account of crackers being too prominent an article of diet, on some remote occasion) is the next in size. It is one of the prettiest, best-conditioned villages in the town, and its inhabitants are justly proud of it, and of the public-spirited gentlemen whose kindly interest in their welfare has made their homes and surroundings so pleasant. Elmdale (formerly Squaw Hollow), one of the oldest villages in the town, situated about half a mile easterly of the Hecla village, is the home of the proprietor and employés of Scott's Satinet Mills. Ironstone (at the south part of the town, three miles from the centre, on Forge Brook) was once the largest village in Uxbridge. In the early history of the town it was famous for the first mechanical business, established over one hundred and fifty years ago. For many years a large business was done there, and it was a post-station and general trading-place for the surrounding country. Ironstone Factory was built in 1815, by a stock company, and was burned in 1832. Subsequently rebuilt, it was operated with varying success by different parties till 1865, when it was again burned, and the property and the village have fallen into ruin.

The Rivulet village, on the south side of the old Boston and Hartford Turnpike, owned mostly by Richard Sayles & Co., is an illustration of what the energy and business enterprise of a live, intelligent man can accomplish. When Mr. Sayles took the property, it was sadly out of repair; the street was narrow and inconvenient for travel; the tenements dilapidated, small and few in number, and the surroundings unpleasant. In a few short years wonders have been accomplished. New houses have been erected, the old ones repaired and enlarged, the street widened, a new bridge put in, the factory buildings enlarged, modernized and improved; the grounds, lawns and fences made neat and handsome, and the entire village renovated and beautified.

Happy Hollow is the happy name of a small village which has grown up around and in the vicinity of the woolen-mills erected by Zadok A. Taft and D. M. Lee, on the Emerson Brook.

These constitute all the factory villages, but there are several of the agricultural sections of the town known by local names, which can have no general interest, as they are not strictly villages.

The minerals of Uxbridge are iron, lead, silver, in small quantities, while quartz, beryl and smoky topaz in crystals are frequently found. Vast quarries of gneissoid granite furnish material for buildings, curbing, monuments and general cemetery work. It is of excellent quality and fineness, and capable of taking a high polish, some of it being in color and quality nearly equal to the imported Scotch granite. The Uxbridge Silver Mine, located in the southwest part of the town, on land now owned by C. R. Thomson and others (formerly the Chileon Tucker farm), was opened about fifty years ago, and for awhile gave promise of considerable richness. But after sinking two shafts to a depth of nearly fifty feet, and working a cross-cut on the vein, it was found that the vein, instead of increasing in width, as was hoped and expected, was, if anything, even smaller than at the surface—about three-fourths of an inch of metal, in a hard, refractory gangue of quartzite. The metallic vein was a true galena, carrying a good per cent. of silver, but the immense expense attending its excavation, reduction and purification requiring, in the language of the day, "a gold mine to work the silver mine," caused a suspension of all work, and for about fifty years not a dollar's worth of ore has been taken from the mine. Its shafts are filled with water, and abandoned to the nymphs of the thick woods, whose spreading branches hide the place where fond hopes much expense and bitter disappointment lie buried. There are several small beds of limonite, or bog ore, and at the south part of the town, near Ironstone, the dark-colored rocks, which there abound, contain considerable quantities of specular iron, so that the stone is called "ironstone," and the village takes its name, "Ironstone," from that fact.

It is believed by some that the yellow-colored quartz, which is found in quite large quantities in the western part of this town and the adjoining part of Douglas, contains gold, but if they will take pains to weigh it they will find its specific gravity insufficient to indicate the presence of gold. It is undoubtedly a kind of jasper—an opaque, yellow quartz colored by iron, or ferruginous clay,—possessing no value whatever. The western and southwestern parts of the town are well wooded, nearly every farm having several acres of wood and sprout land, for market and domestic wood. Pine, chestnut, oak and birch are the principal woods, with occasionally a small lot of walnut.

The taxable valuation of the town in 1821—which is the earliest tax record which has been preserved—was about $113,116; the number of polls, 366; and the amount raised for State, county and town purposes, $1,986.37; rate, $1.75 on each $1000 of valuation. In 1830—nine years later—the valuation had increased to $786,592; 483 polls. Amount raised, not including school district taxes, about $4500; rate, $2.90 per $1000 of valuation.

In 1860, thirty years later, the number of polls had increased to 818; the valuation to $1,566,458—a gain

of over 99 per cent.; the amount raised for State, county and town purposes to $19,158, not including highway taxes—a gain of over 100 per cent.; and the rate of tax to $5.06 per $1,000—a gain in rate of 75 per cent.

In 1888, twenty-six years later, the number of polls have increased to 885; the valuation to $2,032,725; the amount raised for State, county and town purposes, including highway taxes, to $28,696—a gain of over 300 per cent.; and the rate to $13.50 per $1,000—a gain in rate of 266 per cent. It is worthy of note that the State tax for Uxbridge, in the year 1860, was $495; while in 1888 it has increased to $2,475—a gain of just 500 per cent.

This town believes in the axiom "pay as you go;" and although it raised over forty thousand dollars for war purposes during the Rebellion, took possession and paid for over twenty thousand dollars' worth of school district property in 1870, when school districts were abolished, built a new town hall in 1879 at a cost of over fifteen thousand dollars, and has recently expended over fifteen thousand dollars more in new school-houses, widening Mendon Street, and building new bridges and annually appropriates over twenty thousand dollars for town charges and expenses, *it is all paid up*. It owes no debt, and its excellent roads, good care of its unfortunate poor and its unsurpassed schools attest the wisdom of its course. In 1879, after years of agitation, a fine brick town hall building, containing a concert hall, voting hall, rooms for the Free Public Library and all the town officers, was erected by the town, at an expense of a little over fifteen thousand dollars. This sum was all raised by taxation and paid in three years—five thousand dollars and interest being raised each year in addition to the regular taxes for town purposes.

Taken as a whole, Uxbridge is one of the brightest in the galaxy of stars that form the crown of municipal glory which makes old Worcester County famous.

> "I fain would pause to name her every charm,—
> The sheltered cot, the cultivated farm,
> The never-failing stream, the busy mill,
> The decent church that topt the neighboring hill."

CHAPTER XXVI.

UXBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

RELIGION.—One of the conditions upon which the new town was chartered, which is expressed in the act of incorporation, was that within two years from the publication of the act the said inhabitants should "erect and finish a suitable House for the public worship of God, and procure and settle a learned Orthodox Minister of good conversation," etc.

We find, therefore, that at a town meeting held August 25, 1727, the inhabitants passed the following vote, copied *verbatim* from the records:—"Voted, That they would Sett ye meeting House on ye South side of Drabble Tail Brook. But seeing it would be inconvenient to Set the meeting House where the First Vote Specified, they recalled s^{d} vote and passed a vote that They would Sett ye meeting House within the Fence of Eben^{r} Read's Pasture, on a place which they had Viewed for, and Judg'd convenient for that purpose."

October 1, same year, "voted that they would maintain the public preaching by way of Rate, till our next annual meeting." Also voted at same meeting, "that they would accept of Mr. Terry's proffer of preaching to us for *twenty shillings* a sabbath, till ye next annual meeting; and also that all the money that should be put in unmarked, should be looked upon as given gratis."

It is a matter of some interest, that the pay of a minister to occupy the pulpit in 1888 is about four times greater than in 1727, or twenty dollars per Sunday, instead of twenty shillings; and it also seems that the good people of that early day might off-set against the parish tax any money put into the contribution-box, which they were careful enough to *mark*, probably meaning marked with contributor's name, and claimed as paid in anticipation of tax.

It was also voted at said meeting, "that they would build said meeting house forty feet in length and thirty-five feet in *breadgth*, and twenty-nine feet between joynts."

How acceptably Mr. Terry preached to our hard-headed forefathers is matter of some doubt, for at the annual meeting in March, 1728, his name is not mentioned in the records, and the town voted "that a committee be chosen to provide some suiteable person for to preach unto us." That they sadly needed some *suiteable* person to preach unto them is manifest from the succeeding votes relative to church and meeting-house, viz.: "Voted at said meeting that they would not *free the Quakers*," which means that all those unhappy followers of George Fox who had settled in this town should be taxed the same as the orthodox believers, to sustain orthodox preaching, even though (as now) they had conscientious scruples against it; a system of religious intolerance which the progress of a century and a half has, in a great measure, corrected.

It was also "voted, that there be fifteen gallons of *Good Rum* provided for ye raising of ye meeting-house." A *suitable* minister in that early time might, and undoubtedly did, approve of this strong auxiliary force, then considered necessary for the proper and successful raising of even an orthodox meeting-house, whose huge timbers, rough hewn and unseasoned, should stand against storm and flood and Indian foes, monuments of the people's devotion to the living God.

So lately as twenty-five years ago, in this same town, the writer has seen the prodigious effect which a few quarts of "*good rum*" has had in *raising* some

of the dwelling-houses and barns which grace the hillsides, and it is a question fit for the decision of the prohibitionist of 1888 whether churches and dwellings raised by the strong aid of strong drink are more prone to decay and destruction, and more the object of divine wrath than those raised upon cold water? At all events the religion of 1728, and many years since, recognized without serious criticism the use of intoxicating liquors upon all important occasions; while the religion of the present day, thanks to a more enlightened public opinion, has not only ceased to approve, but severely condemns its use. The next record concerning preaching is of the meeting held November ye 8th, 1728, when the town voted "that they would continue preaching this winter amongst them;" but January 13th, following, they voted "not to do anything at present about settlement of a minister;" though on the 28th of the same month they voted "that there be five men chosen to be a committee to see about providing one to preach among us, and that said committee shall provide a *suiteable* person to preach to us by the first Sabbath in April next, and that said committee shall stand while (until) there is a minister settled among us." For more than a year following no mention is made in the records, concerning the success of the committee or the building or completion of the "meeting-house." So it may be presumed that the spiritual needs of the people were satisfactorily provided for.

May 4, 1729, about two years after the town at its first meeting voted to build a meeting-house, the record says, "the freeholders and other inhabitants met att ye *meeting-house;*" so that now, for the first time, we are certain that the town complied with the conditions of its act of incorporation, and did, "within two years from the publication of the act, erect and finish (?) a suitable house for the public worship of God;" but the other condition of said act "procure and *settle* a learned Orthodox Minister of good conversation," etc., was not fulfilled for some time after, though they evidently tried to make literal compliance.

July 13, 1729, the town voted "that they are willing to settle Mr. Othniel Campbell to be their minister, and that if he will settle amongst us as our minister, that they will give him 70 pounds a year for his *sallary, and* 100 *pounds settlement for encouragement.*"

It must be remembered that it is pounds sterling herein referred to, and that to a new people in a new country, dependent on the earth for their living and burdened with the expense of building for themselves houses, and developing their farms from the wild woods and rocky hillsides around them, the payment of a sum equal to nearly five hundred dollars, as "*encouragement*" to a minister of the Gospel to settle among them, and an annual stipend or salary of about three hundred and fifty dollars, was an undertaking which shows more than anything else in the early history of this town what sterling, loyal, public-spirited and religious men these first citizens of Uxbridge proved themselves to be—a lesson which the wealthy and independent citizen of to-day may study with pleasure and profit.

Mr. Campbell seemed to have trouble in getting dismissed from his previous pastoral relations to some other town, for Uxbridge voted February, 1730, "to pay not exceeding 100 pounds per year if he could get to preach for us by the first Monday of March next."

May 4, 1730, it appears of record that Mr. Campbell couldn't come, for the town "voted for Mr. Webb and Mr. Wales, and Mr. John Wales had y^{e} major vote," and on May 7th it was "voted that if Mr. Wales will accept of their call and settle among them as their minister, that they will confer on him y^{e} sum of one hundred pounds in good passable money for his settlement, and *ninety* pounds a year in good passable money for his *sallery.*" In May of the same year Mr. Campbell comes to the front with a demand for payment of his services for supplying the pulpit; for on the 29th of May the town "voted to give Mr. Campbell y^{e} sum of five pds. for y^{e} 7 Sabbaths he has been absent from y^{e} town since we had y^{e} Minister's advice for y^{e} hearing of others, and for y^{e} damage he has sustained since he preached to us or had a call from us;" and also "voted that they do dismiss Mr. Campbell from any tie that the town has upon him for preaching among us;" "and likewise voted that they will have preaching continued among us."

Mr. Campbell is not so easily disposed of. Like some ministers of the present day, he knew how to stick, and about how much he wanted for the *privilege* of *going;* for in June, same year, after demanding further satisfaction for damages sustained, the town voted "not to do anything further in respect to Mr. Campbell's request for satisfaction for getting off from his obligations when he was called to Uxbridge." At the same meeting it was "voted to follow the minister's advice and give Mr. Nathan Webb a call, or *renew Mr. Campbell's call.*" That some of the town did not take kindly to the proposition to "*renew Mr. Campbell's call,*" appears from the vote passed. July 9th, "Voted that they will give Mr. Nathan Webb a call in order to settle with us as our minister, and that they give him for encouragement ye same for settlements and salary as were voted Mr. Wales, when they voted to give him a call." This is the first intimation given in the records that Mr. Wales had declined the call.

September 4, 1730, Mr. Campbell carried his point, and received from the town the sum of twenty-one pounds for all his damages, for dismissal, etc.; and his receipt, recorded at length on the records of the town, gives evidence that a legal mind advised, and a careful hand drew up, an acknowledgment that held this litigious minister of the gospel so tightly that his name does not again appear upon the records of the town-meetings.

Mr. Nathan Webb was the *first settled* minister in Uxbridge, and his ordination took place the 3d day

of February, 1731; so that it was nearly four years, instead of two, before the other condition in the act of incorporation was fulfilled. Mr. Webb died March 16, 1772, after a ministry of over forty years. He was deeply lamented, and goes down to posterity as a faithful preacher, an earnest, true-hearted man, whose influence upon the minds and hearts of the early inhabitants of Uxbridge was extremely beneficial and conducive to that growing prosperity which made Uxbridge one of the leading towns of Provincial Massachusetts.

The second settled minister was Hezekiah Chapman, who was settled January 27, 1774, and was dismissed April 5, 1781. It is a lamentable fact that the cause of Mr. Chapman's dismissal was intemperance.

The third settled minister was Rev. Josiah Spaulding, who was settled September 11, 1783, and was dismissed at his own request October 27, 1787. After the dismissal of Mr. Spaulding, Mr. Samuel Mead preached for some time; and in December, 1791, the town voted to concur with the church in giving Mr. Mead a call to be settled over them in the ministry; but it does not appear upon the records what answer Mr. Mead made to the call. It probably was not *loud* enough in a pecuniary sense. The fourth settled minister was the Rev. Samuel Judson, who was settled October 17, 1792, and dismissed in 1832, and died in November of the same year. The First Congregational Society was incorporated in the year 1797; and from this time all connection between the town and the "Congregational Society" ceased. The town occupied the meeting-house for town-meetings and business purposes until it was taken down for the purpose of building a new church, in 1834. Many of the present residents of the town attended church in the time of Mr. Judson, and can bear testimony that "he was a man of remarkable conscientiousness, rare good nature, much native common sense, and deep in the love and confidence of the people of his charge." At the dismissal of Mr. Judson the elements of religious opinion came to an open rupture, and those who had formerly been united under his ministrations formed themselves into separate societies, and the two houses for religious worship which now stand upon opposite sides of the Common were erected, and the members of the two societies, who unitedly had paid Mr. Judson a salary of $400 a year, settled the Rev. Samuel Clarke at a salary of $600 a year, and the Rev. David A. Grosvenor at a salary of $600, and from that time to the present, when the salaries of the ministers of these two churches aggregate $2600, both societies have been exceedingly prosperous.

The new church of the First Congregational Society was dedicated in January, 1835, the pastor, Rev. Samuel Clarke, preaching the sermon. This building, still standing, was thoroughly repaired in 1864, at a cost of about $4500; and again in 1878 it was remodeled inside, new pews put in, and the walls and ceiling elegantly frescoed, at a cost of some $4000, and to-day it is one of the finest country churches in the State. During the present year a new and elegant organ, costing some $3000, has been put in at the right of the minister's desk, and its full, deep, musical tones would astonish the early choirs who, at the other end of the church, succeeded in drowning the accompanying music of the little organ which Mr. Rogerson so artistically played.

The meeting-house of the Evangelical Congregational Society was built in 1833 and dedicated in the autumn. It has been several times repaired, has been lately remodeled and fitted with handsome furniture and a new pipe-organ, and, like its neighbor across the Common, is a fine, convenient and comfortable church.

Referring to the records of the town, we find that the original meeting-house, though erected within the limit prescribed by the act of incorporation, was not finished till long after; for a vote was passed in February, 1733, "that they will have but *one pew* built in ye meeting-house, and that they will have ye men's seats on ye one side of ye alley, and ye women's seats on ye other side;" and in August, 1735, "the sum of one hundred pounds was appropriated to finish ye meeting-house." So it appears that for several years the people met in a cold, uncomfortable, barn-like structure, sat upon hard benches or cushionless seats without backs, and listened to the word of God under circumstances that would appal the stoutest heart and chill the marrow of the most consistent and earnest Christian of the present generation.

We wonder, as we sit in our comfortable, steam-heated, electric-lighted, soft-seated, floor-carpeted, well ventilated churches of the present day, and listen to the rich music of the modern pipe-organ, and the operatic warbling of our thousand dollar quartette singers, how those old pioneers and great-grandfathers of ours could possibly have lived through such hardships as they endured, and enjoyed the blessings of religion obtained under such discouraging circumstances as attended them.

The pastors who have served God and the people in the First Congregational (Unitarian) Society since its incorporation have been: Rev. Samuel Clarke, who was installed January 9, 1833, and died November 19, 1859, "a faithful and beloved pastor for nearly twenty-seven years;" Rev. Charles Taylor Canfield, ordained and installed October 12, 1860, and resigned March 31, 1862; Rev. Rushton D. Burr, installed November 12, 1862, and resigned May 4, 1868; Rev. Samuel R. Priest, ordained and installed January 20, 1869, and resigned January 2, 1871; Rev. James F. Lusk was hired March, 1872, and resigned July 1, 1875; Rev. George Bremner, ordained and installed November 16, 1875, and resigned December 28, 1883; Rev. L. M. Burrington, installed September 28, 1884, and resigned July 25, 1886; Rev. W. R. G. Mellin, installed April 6, 1887, and remains pastor of the church.

The pastors of the Evangelical Congregational Society have been: Rev. David Adams Grosvener, ordained and installed June 6, 1832, and dismissed at his own request June 15, 1842; Rev. John Orcutt, installed December 18, 1842, and dismissed May 1, 1849; Rev. Jacob Jackson Abbott, D.D., installed in 1850, and resigned in 1862; Rev. J. B. Johnson, installed December 15, 1864, and dismissed February 6, 1868; Rev. Thomas C. Biscoe, installed December 2, 1868, and dismissed May 25, 1876; Rev. George H. Johnson, hired for one year from May 1, 1877, and served faithfully till the year expired; Rev. William H. Cobb, installed September 18, 1878, and dismissed October 1, 1887; Rev. F. L. Bristol, installed May 1, 1888, and now remains pastor of the church.

The Baptist Church.—The Baptist Church, located at North Uxbridge, was organized June 22, 1842; and on the same day Rev. Austin Robbins was ordained and installed pastor of the new church. The church rapidly increased in numbers, receiving forty-seven members during the first year of its existence. Mr. Robbins resigned in 1850, after a successful pastorate of eight years. For the next four years the pulpit of this church was supplied by Rev. Job Boomer, Rev. Joseph Smith, Rev. Joseph Tillinghast and Rev. S. S. Mallory, each officiating about one year. Rev. James W. Russell became pastor of the church November 11, 1854, and resigned in 1864; Rev. Joseph Barber became pastor in April, 1865, and resigned in November, 1868, and was followed by Rev. J. W. Dick, in April, 1869, who continued his ministry here until July, 1871. In October, 1871, Rev. J. H. Tilton was installed pastor, and remained six years, closing his labors October, 1877. In November, 1877, Rev. B. H. Lane was installed, and resigned May 30, 1882; Rev. T. M. Butler was installed November 1, 1882, and resigned in June, 1888.

This society has recently erected a fine church building at North Uxbridge, opposite Chase's Corner, with a convenient parsonage close by, and is rapidly growing in membership and is free from debt.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—The first Methodist preaching in Uxbridge Centre began about September 1, 1874. Some of the citizens, desiring to reach a class that was not hearing the Gospel, made arrangements with Rev. Mr. Merrill, then pastor of the M. E. Church in Whitinsville, to preach in Taft's Hall on Sunday evenings; and Mr. Merrill continued his services up to February 7, 1875.

Mr. F. T. Pomeroy, of Shrewsbury, a local preacher of the M. E. Church, a young man of excellent ability and pleasant address, succeeded Mr. Merrill, and remained here until April, 1877. His appointment was considered a mission of the church. The mission was formally organized as a church with eight members December 19, 1875, by Rev. Dr. Haskell, presiding elder of the Worcester District. Mr. Hunter, of the Boston University, succeeded Mr. Pomeroy, but soon left. He was succeeded by Rev. John W. Collier, who began his labors, June 9, 1877, and closed them June 23, 1878, to go as a missionary to Peru, South America. For the remainder of the Conference year Mr. J. H. Thompson supplied the pulpit.

Mr. Thompson was returned to Uxbridge for the Conference year 1879–80, which was the first appointment made here by the Conference. Mr. Thompson was succeeded by Rev. Charles Perkins, who was in turn succeeded by Rev. J. W. Rodgers. The present pastor is Rev. J. T. Kennedy.

In March, 1878, the society purchased of the town, as a site for a church edifice, a part of the old burying-ground in the centre of the town. Subscription papers for the church were opened in January, 1879, which were very generously signed by the members of other congregations (notably the Unitarian), and on April 1st the amount pledged was three thousand five hundred dollars. The church, which cost about six thousand dollars, was completed early in 1880, and was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. It stands nearly opposite the railway station, just north of the new town hall, and is a fine specimen of church architecture. This church has grown rapidly, and has a membership, at the present time, of about sixty.

The Friends, or Quakers.—It appears by the town records that at the time the town was incorporated, or very soon after, several families of Friends or Quakers were living within its limits, and, as is their custom, objected to paying the rates or taxes for the support of ministers or preachers, then settled, and paid by tax; and the matter was brought before the town at a meeting held in March, 1728. At this meeting "they voted that they would not free the Quakers." This is the first information given by the town records concerning the fact that a part of the settlers of the town were members of that society. Mr. L. C. Wheeler, a member of the society, furnishes the following account of this sect, which is of great interest:

At the date of the organization of the town, the Quakers were a part of the Smithfield Monthly Meeting, and undoubtedly held meetings, in individuals' houses, till 1770, when the Monthly Meeting authorized "the building of a meeting-house in Uxbridge, near Moses Farnum's." The meeting-house stands at the junction of the roads from Millville and Ironstone to Uxbridge Centre, and is constructed of brick, with a tablet bearing the date of its erection, 1770, in the gable.

The following account of its construction is taken from old records in the possession of the clerk of the "Quarterly Meeting:"

In the 4th month, 1770, the Smithfield Monthly Meeting ordered a meeting-house to be built a little Southerly of Moses Farnum's, by the side of the Great road. In the months following the house was built, thirty-five feet long and thirty feet broad. During the 5th month, 1771, Adam Harkness, William Buffum and David Steere do report yt they find the whole cost of building the brick meeting-house to amount to £206 8s. 1d.

The house has been in use to the present time, and notwithstanding its age of one hundred and eighteen

years, its walls show no signs of weakness or decay, and its plain roof, without jets or ornamental finish of any kind, is in an excellent state of preservation. The window-sashes contain the same small panes of glass, and the same doors swing on leather hinges, as formerly. The internal arrangements of the house are also left in their original style, having been simply kept in repair.

A few years previous the Monthly Meeting had authorized the erection of a meeting-house in Uxbridge, and in 1766 one was erected in what was then the north part of Uxbridge, and which is now Northbridge, that town having been set off from Uxbridge in 1772. This house stood very near the location of the present meeting-house,—about half a mile south from Riverdale in Northbridge.

The meetings held at Uxbridge and Northbridge were a part of the Smithfield Monthly Meeting, till 7th month (July), 1783, when the several meetings held in Uxbridge, Leicester, Northbridge and Richmond, N. H., were set off, and formed a separate Monthly Meeting under the name of the Uxbridge Monthly Meeting, which has continued till the present time, except that the Richmond Meeting has been dropped, and the meeting formerly at Leicester removed to Worcester. In addition to the above, a meeting at Pomfret, Conn., and one at Douglas have been made a part of the Uxbridge Monthly Meeting.

The approved ministers of Uxbridge Monthly, as far as ascertained, have been Daniel Aldrich, Richard Mowry; Job Scott, approved 12th month, 1783; Israel Sabin, approved 1790; and Royal Southwick, Daniel Clapp, Timothy K. Earle, John B. Daniels and Salome C. Wheeler. In addition to the above, the following have moved into the Monthly Meeting from other places, viz.. Stephen Cortland, Lydia Haight and Susan A. Gifford.

Only two of the above-named ministers were natives of Uxbridge, and spent their whole lives in the town, ministering semi-weekly to the congregations that gathered in the "Old Brick," viz.; Richard Mowry, who died 1st month 23d, 1835, aged nearly eighty-six years, and Royal Southwick, who died 11th month 30th, 1840, aged eighty years. Job Scott, whose ministry was approved in 1783, and whose journal giving a history of his labors in the ministry has been published, spent only a few years of his life in the town, and Israel Saben lived here in 1770, at the time of his marriage, and for several years afterwards.

There are now but four approved ministers of the denomination in the Monthly Meeting; and only one of these, Mrs. Salome C. Wheeler, is a resident of the town. Her labors in the ministry are usually at the Northbridge Meeting, but her influence in our schools —of which she is one of the Board of Examiners— her interest in temperance work, her kind sympathy and labors for the sick and afflicted, are all gratefully appreciated by the people of Uxbridge, who are proud to claim her as one of our most respected citizens.

The membership of this denomination is not large, but they make up for lack of numbers by their intelligence and Christian zeal.

In the words of the Quaker Poet of Amesbury:

> "The last of his sect to his fathers may go,
> Leaving only his coat for some Barnum to show;
> But the truth will outlive him, and broaden with years,
> Till the false dies away, and the wrong disappears."

The Roman Catholic Church.—The earliest account of any Roman Catholic Church service in Uxbridge is that a service was held for the few Catholics then in town, in 1850, by the Rev. Patrick McGrath, of Hopkinton, in one of the laborer's tenements owned by Joseph Thayer, Esq.

In 1853 Uxbridge was erected into a parish by Right Rev. J. B. Fitzpatrick, Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts, and Rev. E. J. Sheridan was appointed pastor, August, 1853. The parish then included the towns of Grafton, Millbury, Northbridge, Douglas and Uxbridge. St. Mary's Church in Uxbridge was dedicated in 1855, the sermon on the occasion being preached by Rev. James A. Healy, afterwards Bishop of the Diocese of Maine.

In May, 1867, Rev. Dennis O'Keefe was appointed pastor and remained one year, when he was removed to Clinton, in this county.

In May, 1868, Rev. Dennis C. Moran was appointed pastor, and the church in this town being insufficient to accommodate all the Catholics of Uxbridge and Northbridge, so rapidly had their numbers increased, that this pastor caused St. Patrick's Church in Whitinsville to be built in the year 1870, and thus gave relief to the overcrowded St. Mary's.

In 1871, Rev. Henry L. Robinson, a gentleman of great erudition and eloquence, was appointed pastor, and is still occupying that position, loved and honored by his congregation, and highly respected and appreciated by Christians of other denominations. So highly have his labors in this field been valued by the head of his Church, that the additional title of "Doctor of Divinity" has been accorded to him, and is, we know, well deserved and modestly worn.

In the year 1876 St. Mary's was repaired and handsomely frescoed at an expense of over two thousand five hundred dollars. The present parish includes the towns of Uxbridge and Northbridge, with St. Mary's as the parish church. Dr. Robinson has charge of both churches and congregations, and is assisted by a curate. The number of souls belonging to the parish is over two thousand, and its average Sunday attendance is very much larger than any other congregation in the town.

CHAPTER XXVII.

UXBRIDGE.—(*Continued.*)

Schools and Libraries.—It will be observed that the act of incorporation of the town required not only

that there should be maintained public worship, but also required to be maintained "a school-master to instruct their youth in writing and reading." The schools in Uxbridge rest upon this foundation.

In January, 1732, the town voted "that they will sett up and keep a school in ye town of Uxbridge," and "voted to have a school-dame for ye 1st 7 or 8 months, to keep a school in each part of the town proportionable," and "voted that ye selectmen shall provide a school-dame, and state ye places that she shall keep ye school att."

There must have been some difficulty in providing a *school-dame*, for on March 7th the town voted "to make choice of a school-*master* to keep a school in town, and that John Read, Senior, be the school-master."

Whether some doubting Stephen considered the employment of a school-dame an evasion of the requirement in the aforesaid act, that "a school-*master* be maintained," etc., and caused the town to reconsider its first vote, or no female teacher could be persuaded to bury herself in the wild-woods of this then thinly inhabited town, is an open question. But it is of record that the first school was taught by John Read. What salary he received, and how many weeks in a year his school was in session, is not recorded. His successor, George Woodward, was chosen May 3, 1733, and the town voted to board him and to give him twenty pounds for his year's services. Mr. James Emerson boarded the teacher, and was allowed seven shillings a week. January 7, 1734, the town chose Edmund Rawson teacher, and increased his salary to twenty-five pounds. The same year we find mention made of school districts as "squadrons," and each squadron had the liberty of choosing its teacher—a woman—and the selectmen were to approbate the teachers.

In 1736 John Rawson was elected teacher, and was allowed forty-five pounds for teaching school. The expenses of maintaining the schools up to the year 1756 seem to have been met from the income derived from the grants of land made to the town by the General Court, one of which was a grant of five hundred acres, in the northerly part of the province, in what is now New Hampshire; though in what part of that State it is difficult to determine, though it is said to be in Coos County. In the year 1756 the town began to raise money for schools by direct tax, helped out from time to time by sale of the school lands, and the use of the proceeds for school purposes.

The first mention made of a school-house is in the month of December, 1738, when the town "voted to build a school-house." Tradition says the meeting-house was previously used for this purpose; but as we have seen, the primitive meeting-house had but poor accommodations for use on the Sabbath, and it is hardly probable that it was made use of for school purposes in its then unfinished and uncomfortable condition. It is more probable that the schools were kept in private houses, as the selectmen were required to open schools in different parts of the town. The school-house erected in 1738–39 must have been almost as crude and uncomfortable, in many respects, as the meeting-house, for the town voted October 17, 1740, "to allow forty-four pounds, three shillings and three pence for what had been done and for what was to be done to the school-house"—a sum equivalent to a little over two hundred dollars, which in these days of plenty would pay for a very uncomfortable barn, if it was not too large. In 1760 the town voted to divide the town into districts, and each district was to enjoy the privileges of schooling in proportion to the money raised by them. The division took effect in 1761, and the town was divided into thirteen districts; the children of specified families were to attend specified schools, and each district was to have a sum of money allotted it, in proportion to the number of scholars in that district. The sum of sixty pounds was raised for schools each year from 1762 to 1771, in 1776 forty pounds, in 1777 sixty, in 1778 one hundred and twenty, and in 1779 *three hundred* pounds, showing by this sudden increase the effect and the purchasing power of the depreciated currency in the time of the Revolutionary War. In 1783–84 the appropriation again fell to forty pounds, the money value of the currency having improved by the emission of a new and better national promise to pay.

In 1788 we find the first mention made of a grammar school, the town having then "voted that three pounds, thirteen shillings and six pence, raised at the last meeting, should be applied to a grammar school the present year." In 1796 the town was redistricted and divided into eleven school districts and substantially remained so divided up to 1825. In 1797 the town voted to raise two thousand dollars for building school-houses in the several districts, and in case the inhabitants of the district were unable to agree where their school-house should be placed, the committee were to fix upon a proper site. For a good description of these old school-houses I am indebted to Hon. Charles A. Wheelock, who speaks from personal experience in the following language:

"The old school-houses! What queer buildings they were when compared with the modern school-house! The writing-desk was a plank running round three sides of the room; the seat was a slab, its flat side uppermost, with holes bored in it in which were driven cart-stakes for legs. The scholar had no back to his seat unless he should turn round and face the centre of the room, when his back might rest against the edge of the plank writing-desk. The big stone fireplace was filled with blazing logs in winter and the child must roast and freeze by turns. The dungeon—that dreadful place—to which the unruly ones were consigned sometimes to regale themselves upon the good things the prudent had brought to sustain themselves in their arduous labors while delving among the mysteries of the three R's, and the heavy

ruler was there and that never-to-be-forgetten birch which was so quickening to the mental faculties when properly administered."

Gradually but surely the expense attending the schooling of the children increased, so that while in the year 1800 the amount appropriated was only about four hundred dollars; in 1835 it had increased to one thousand dollars. With the increased appropriation better school advantages were secured. The average wages of female teachers in 1835 was only $5.73 per month, and male teachers $13.93, exclusive of board. The schools were kept twenty weeks in a year, women teaching summers and men in the winters; and, therefore, it is to be presumed that the ten weeks of summer school were principally for the benefit of the younger children, while the grown-up sons and daughters, whose labors were essential to the family support in summer, attended school ten weeks in the winter, and were taught by a man, on account of the necessity of having some one who could *handle* them and compel obedience. As the town increased in population, as it did rapidly after 1835, it became necessary to provide better accommodations for the school-children. The appropriations gradually increased, new school-houses were erected to take the places of those so graphically described by Mr. Wheelock, and more and better teachers were employed.

In 1855, it having been ascertained that the town had a population sufficiently large to bring it within the provisions of the statutes requiring a high school to be kept, the town voted that the School Committee should procure a place and open such a school, and six hundred dollars was appropriated for the support of the school until the next March meeting. The committee subsequently employed Mr. Nathan Goldthwaite as principal of the school, which was opened in the old academy building on the northerly end of the town's common. This "old academy building" was erected in 1819 by Solomon's Temple Lodge of Free Masons and the citizens of the town by contribution, the citizens building the lower story and the Masons the upper. In February, 1819, this article appeared in the town warrant: "To see if the town will permit the erection of a private school-house on the north end of the Common, between the cartway leading to widow Fanny Willard's back-yard, and the wall south of where the old blacksmith shop stands; provided said building can be erected by private munificence."

On March 3d (annual town-meeting) it was voted that liberty be given to build a school-house on the town common—of certain specified dimensions—provided it be built within three years from this date. The Masonic Lodge, recently formed in the town, which had been holding its meetings in the hall at the Spring Tavern, in the north part of the town, desired better accommodations and effected an arrangement with the committee of citizens by which the Masons and the citizens should erect the building at joint expense, the Masons completing and occupying the upper story and the citizens the lower part for private school purposes. The building was of brick and was so far completed December 25, 1819, that the Masons occupied their new hall. The private school, which was afterward known as the "Uxbridge Academy," was opened by Mr. Abiel Jaques, a Harvard graduate, in the fall of 1820, and was used for an academy and select school for young ladies under several different teachers of both sexes, until about the time the town took it for a high school room in 1855.

In 1865 a three years' course of study was arranged for the high school, which, in 1869, was changed to one of four years. The schools and school system of Uxbridge have always been its especial pride. The town has freely voted its money for their support, and, notwithstanding the carping criticisms of a few, who, if they knew more about the schools, would use better judgment, they are excellently and economically managed, and are producing grand results. The wages of teachers at the present time average as follows: Female teachers, thirty-five dollars per month; male, high school only, one hundred and ten dollars, for ten months only. There are now seventeen common schools and the high school, and the average length of the schools is thirty-three weeks for common schools, and thirty-eight for the high school.

In 1869 the Massachusetts Legislature passed a law abolishing school districts, and requiring the towns to take possession of all the school-houses and other school property owned by the several districts in their corporate capacity, within one year thereafter, and pay the districts for the same such sum as a committee agreed upon by the town and the districts should appraise the property at—the same to be paid to the several resident and non-resident tax-payers of the districts, in proportion to the amount of property liable to taxation therein, by deducting from such tax-payer's annual town tax for that year the amount apportioned to him for his interest in the school property.

By this law Uxbridge bought of the several school districts property aggregating, by the appraisal of the committee, something over $23,000. Since 1870, therefore, the school district system has ceased to exist, and all the schools and school property is in the charge and control of the general School Committee, consisting of twelve members, and instead of repairs and expenses attending the building of new houses being now paid by direct tax upon the inhabitants of the district, where the school-house may chance to be located, as was formerly the case, all the school expenses, inclusive, are assessed in one sum to the inhabitants of the town, as other town charges are assessed. This, of necessity, makes the per cent. of increase of money raised for town purposes since 1860 appear larger, in proportion to the increase of the previous period referred to in the first chapter, than it otherwise would; for the amount of money usually

required annually for repairs of school-houses is quite an item in the list of school expenses, and liable to mislead the careless critic who attempts to show the extravagance of school management to-day over the management of twenty years ago. A careful examination of the records and the other items of town expenses will show conclusively that the percentage of increase in school expenses has only kept pace with the increase in population, valuation and general progress of both town and State.

No town in the county can show better schools or better accommodations for the scholars for the amount expended. The grading of the schools is comparatively higher than obtains in many of the neighboring towns, and applications are frequently received from pupils in adjoining towns for leave to attend the grammar and high schools in Uxbridge. The schools for the past three years have been under the charge of school superintendents, whose personal attention to the minutest details of grading, instruction and discipline has done much to produce the good results obtained. Cheap, unskilled labor in any business is dear at any price; and a poor teacher, more than a poor laborer in any other vineyard, can do immense damage, and should never be intrusted with the education of the young, even though she is willing to work for small wages. The success of a school, like the success of a woolen-mill or a machine shop, depends upon the degree of skill possessed by the managers, and the consensus of public opinion is in favor of that kind of management which produces good results and makes the business a success.

We have neither time nor space to give an account of the different private schools which, since the inauguration of Uxbridge Academy, have met with varying success. At the present writing not a single private school is in existence in the town, nor has there been for several years. The broad and liberal instruction given in the public school seems to meet the requirements of all classes, and no occasion offers for the establishment of schools for private emolument and gain.

From small beginnings, under most discouraging and disheartening circumstances, the public-school system of Uxbridge has constantly advanced, until it has become one of the proudest monuments to the good sense, sagacity and philanthropy of her people.

Libraries.—The earliest circulating or public library in this town, of which there is any record, was called the "Uxbridge Social and Instructive Library," and was kept and managed by George Southwick, who was born in 1747, and died in 1807. A book was found many years ago by Jonathan F. Southwick, which contained the name Uxbridge Social and Instructive Library, with the number 103, and the date 1775. Mr. Southwick (now deceased) said that he remembered a meeting of the stockholders, for the purpose of dividing up the books, and closing the affairs of the library, in 1812. So that it probably existed some thirty-five or forty years.

It is not easy to trace the history of libraries in the town, prior to the establishment of the "Uxbridge Free Public Library," by vote of the town in April, 1874; as they, and the records concerning them, have passed out of existence. Hon. C. A. Wheelock remembers that there was a "Social Library" in the town in 1821, and how much earlier he is unable to tell. As its name was "Uxbridge Second Social Library," it is very probable that it began its existence soon after the year 1812—the date of dissolution of the Uxbridge Social and Instructive Library.

Another library was formed as early as 1830 or 1831, which continued to live with varying degrees of usefulness until the establishment of the "Free Public Library." As many as a thousand volumes may, at one time, have belonged to it, as we have seen volumes which were numbered as high as nine hundred and fifty. In the forty years of its existence it was used by a large number of persons. From a report of the Hon. Benj. Adams, dated January 11, 1836, it appears that this library was formed in January, 1828. In 1865 the name of this library was called "Uxbridge Library Association," and for several years the writer of this history had charge of the same as librarian, it being then in the room occupied by him as an office in the Union building. In the spring of 1873 the Library Association offered the books belonging to the association to the town as a nucleus for a public library; provided the town will establish such a library. About the same time the "Uxbridge Agricultural Library Association," an association of farmers, who for several years had been contributing books and funds for an agricultural library, and who owned a few hundred volumes and pamphlets, made a similar offer, with the same condition.

At the annual town-meeting in March, 1874, there being an article in the warrant for the consideration of the subject, the town voted to establish a Free Public Library, appointed a committee to report a plan, etc., of the same at an adjourned meeting to be held in April, and voted to appropriate the "Dog Fund," amounting to about $275 to the uses of the library. At the adjourned meeting, April 6, 1874, the report of the committee and its recommendations and rules for the management of the public library were accepted and adopted, and a board of trustees was chosen, as provided by law.

The Free Public Library thus established went into operation for the delivery of books January 20, 1875, and had on its shelves six hundred and eighty-nine volumes. In thirteen years the library, under the judicious management of Hon. Chas. A. Wheelock and his associates on the board of trustees, and the generous annual appropriations of the town, has become one of the best in the county; is patronized by all classes of society, has a catalogue containing nearly *five thousand volumes* of the best literary and standard

works, suited to all ages and conditions of life, and has so nearly outgrown its present quarters in the north end of the new town hall that, at no distant day, it will be necessary to move to a building by itself, which we hope some public-spirited citizen will build, and present to the town for that purpose.

The advantages of a Free Public Library cannot be overestimated—it reaches the homes of the poor as well as the rich, and furnishes the means of a home education and culture, otherwise unattainable by many. To the scholars in the public schools, who have frequent occasion to consult the valuable reference books and encyclopædias; to the mechanic and the farmer, seeking scientific demonstration of their respective theories; to the professional man, and the average reader, it has proved a real blessing and source of constant gratification and enjoyment. If it adds something to the burden of taxation, all pay it cheerfully, feeling that it is money well invested, and its rapid growth and constantly increasing use proves that the projectors of the "Free Public Library" made no mistakes when they induced the town to take its action of 1874. At the present rate of increase, averaging some four hundred volumes per year, the "Uxbridge Free Library" will soon be entitled to honorable mention on the records of the National Library at Washington.

CHAPTER XXVIII.

UXBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

MANUFACTURING.—While Uxbridge takes no inferior rank as an agricultural town, she ever points with becoming pride to her manufacturing establishments, which, more than anything else, have been the means of increasing her population and her valuation.

At an early date in her history the ingenuity of her mechanics began to manifest itself in the production of better facilities for carrying on of mechanical business. More than one hundred and fifty years ago dams were built across the water-courses, and the giant "*aquæ fluentes*" was harnessed to the forge, the saw-mill, the grist-mill, the wheelwright-shop and finally the factory, until to-day, the busy whir of the spools and spindles, the rattle of the loom and the clatter of the bobbins, on every stream, fill the air with their music and tell the glad story of a happy, prosperous and intelligent people.

Hon. Charles A. Wheelock, one of the oldest and most intelligent manufacturers now living in the Blackstone Valley, to whom I am indebted for many valuable hints and facts in the preparation of this history, gives me the following account of the manufacturing industries of this, his native town.

It is well known that Samuel Slater, about 1790, was the first to manufacture cotton goods in this country; but it is not so generally known that John and Arthur Schofield, who came from England in March, 1793, introduced the manufacture of woolen goods.

In 1810 Daniel Day built his first mill in Uxbridge; size, twenty by forty feet, two stories high, and located where now stands the mill of S. W. Scott. In the same year he put into the mill a billy, a jenny with thirty spindles and a hand-loom. In 1812 he added four looms, making five in all. Everything except the picking and carding was then done by hand, and no looms were run by water-power, until a number of years after.

In the same year the first movement was made towards the manufacture of cotton goods in Uxbridge. This was seen in the building of the works of the "Uxbridge Cotton-Mills" in that year by Mr. Benjamin Clapp.

The next attempt at woolen manufacturing was made by the Rivulet Manufacturing Company, which was incorporated in 1816, although the company was formed, the buildings erected, and the business of manufacturing begun in 1814. This company used a billy and jennies, which were built in this town by John & George Carpenter, and the mill was superintended by Jerry Wheelock, a practical mechanic, well acquainted with the construction and operation of machinery. The weaving was all done by hand-looms, and the goods were chiefly satinets, although some broadcloths and cassimeres were made.

Cotton manufacturing kept pace with woolens, and this same year, 1814, the Ironstone Mill was built on Forge Brook (now Ironstone Brook), in the south part of the town, by William Arnold and others.

After this time, for a few years, there were no mills erected in this town; but important improvements were made in the construction of machinery. The next mill built was the Capron Mill, thirty-three by sixty feet, and three stories high, in the year 1820, and went into operation in the winter of 1821–22. It was started with one set of cards, one billy of forty spindles, two jennies of one hundred and twenty spindles each, two cotton-spinning-frames of sixty-four spindles each, with the preparations, and a warper and dresser for making satinet warps, and twelve power satinet-looms,—the first satinet power-looms ever built, it has been said, and they were built on the premises by Luke Jillson, of Cumberland, R. I. In 1824 an addition was made of a set of cards, a billy of fifty spindles and a jenny of one hundred and twenty spindles, built by the Messrs. Carpenter; a jenny of one hundred and fifty spindles, built by Jerry Wheelock; eight satinet-looms, two cotton-cards and two spinning-frames of sixty-four spindles each, built in Woonsocket.

In 1837 sixty feet were added to the length of the Capron Mill, and in 1855 forty feet more were added. At first it ran two sets of machinery; now it runs six. This factory has been a remarkably lucky one

for its owners and lessees; has never been burned, and has made money for every one who has occupied it. In 1851 Moses Taft and J. W. Day, under the firm-name of Taft & Day, hired this mill and conducted the business for several years, when Wm. C. Capron, one of the owners of the mill, was admitted to the firm, making it Taft, Day & Co. J. W. Day shortly afterwards withdrew, and Taft & Capron continued till about 1861, when R. & J. Taft bought them out and carried on the business until the close of the war, when their lease expired. They were succeeded by Henry and Charles C. Capron, under the name of H. & C. C. Capron. Mr. Charles C. Capron soon withdrew from the firm, and was succeeded by William E. Hayward, when the firm became Capron & Hayward; they in turn being succeeded by the Capron Woolen Company, composed of Henry Capron, Charles C. Capron and Royal C. Taft, of Providence, R. I., who now run the mill.

In the autumn of 1824 the dams were built for the Luke Taft Mill,—now the Wacantuck, owned and operated by C. A. & S. M. Wheelock,—and the Uxbridge Woolen, now the Hecla; also to carry the water of the West River to the mill of Mr. Day,—now Scott's. The next year, 1825, witnessed the erection of the Luke Taft Mill, thirty-four by sixty feet, three stories high; the Uxbridge Woolen-Mill, thirty-six by eighty feet, three stories high; and an addition to the Day Mill, making it forty by forty-five feet, three stories high. New and improved machinery was put into these mills, and they were soon in operation. Taft's and Day's Mills were started on satinets in the winter of 1825, and the Uxbridge Woolen-Mill on cassimeres, late in the fall of 1826.

In August, 1828, the Uxbridge Woolen-Mill, the largest of all the mills in town, was destroyed by fire, and within a week a woolen-mill was burned in Milford, and another in East Douglas. As this was contemporaneous with the remark of the British Minister that "he would not allow America to make a hob-nail," and also at a time when the country had become much excited on the subject of duties for the protection of domestic industry, many persons expressed the opinion that the English manufacturers had emissaries here who were to burn the woolen-mills, and in that way accomplish the object of defeating the effect of the protective tariff.

The Uxbridge Woolen-Mill was immediately rebuilt of brick, forty by eighty feet, three stories high. Since the erection of the former mill, John Goulding, of Dedham, had invented and obtained letters patent for improvement in carding and spinning wool, and his new machinery for that purpose was coming into general use, so that the new Uxbridge Woolen-Mill was supplied with it, to the great advantage of all concerned. The Uxbridge Woolen Manufacturing Company was a corporation, receiving its charter in the winter of 1826–27. Its corporate existence continued until about the year 1848, when the property passed into the hands of Josiah Seagrave and M. D. F. Steere, who operated the mill for about ten years. In 1850 the mill was greatly enlarged, the machinery increased to twelve sets, with about fifty Crompton fancy looms. In 1852 the mill was again destroyed by fire. It was soon rebuilt, and filled with the most improved cassimere machinery then known. In 1857, Mr. Steere went to Amesbury to take charge of the Salisbury Mills, and Mr. Seagrave operated the mill alone. In February, 1859, the devouring flames again seized upon this unlucky property, and destroyed the finishing-mill and dye-house. This last loss was too much for the proprietor, who had so long been harassed and troubled with misfortune, and, though he rebuilt the destroyed buildings with the insurance money, he was unable to continue the business, and soon after died. The property then passed into the hands of the mortgagees, J. C. Howe & Co., of Boston, who soon sold it at auction to William D. Davis, of Providence, R. I., who took it just in time to receive the advantages the Civil War gave to manufacturers. About 1868, Mr. Davis sold the mill to Robert & Jacob Taft, who made extensive repairs, additions and improvements, operated it two or three years, then resold it to Mr. Davis, who again operated it for several years. In 1884 the Calumet Woolen Company, then owning the mill at New Village, bought of Mr. Davis the entire Uxbridge Woolen property, including mills, tenements, machinery, farm, etc., and have since expended upon it, in permanent improvements, additions and new machinery, over eighty thousand dollars, making it by far the finest manufacturing property in the town, and the finest woolen-mill in Worcester County. It has all the modern improvements, is lighted with electricity, has telephone connection with the other mills owned by the corporation, and has started out to redeem itself from the reputation its former bad luck has given it, and under the charge of its present managers will certainly succeed.

The old Day Mill, the first mill built in the town, was burnt in 1844, and was rebuilt in the course of a year or two by his son, Joseph Day. Afterwards it was operated by J. W. Day, son of Joseph Day, for four or five years, or until 1849 or '50, when Samuel W. Scott took a lease of it for a term of years, and manufactured satinets on contract. In 1859 Mr. Scott bought the mill and farm of Mr. Day, and has continued to operate it to the present time; the past ten years in company with his brother, J. R. Scott, the firm now being J. R. Scott & Co., who lease the mill of S. W. Scott. The mill was burned to the ground in the summer of 1878, but was rebuilt in an enlarged and greatly improved manner, with first-class machinery in every respect for making satinets. The village is now appropriately named Elmdale, and its genial proprietor is entitled to great credit for the determination and courage he has manifested in

achieving victory over his troubles, and accomplishing his deserved success.

The mill built by Luke Taft, on the West River, in 1825, seems always to have been a lucky mill, with a single exception.

Luke Taft operated the mill alone, until his son Moses Taft was taken into the concern, about the year 1833. In 1840, J. Wheelock & Son—C. A. Wheelock—bought one-half of the Luke Taft Mill, taking into the business Silas M. Wheelock, making the firm J. Wheelock & Sons. The other half of the mill was run by Moses Taft, till he sold out, in 1846, to C. A. & S. M. Wheelock, Mr. Jerry Wheelock, the father, retiring from the business. The mill originally built by Luke Taft was burned in the winter of 1837–38, but was immediately rebuilt upon a larger scale, and supplied with new and improved machinery. C. A. & S. M. Wheelock named their mill, which they greatly enlarged and improved, "the Wacantuck Mills," the name Wacantuck being the Indian name of the town. They manufactured satinets and plaids until 1852, when they also made cassimeres. Since 1855 they have made cassimeres exclusively, and have ever since continued to produce an excellent quality of these all-wool goods, which find a ready sale in the market, and keep this mill constantly at work. Many of the help at this mill have grown gray in its service and, like the proprietors themselves, take great pride in the success of the mill and the beauty of its village. Several of the employés own their homes, and, as a rule, all the employés are well-paid, contented and happy, and have an unbounded respect for their neighborly employers.

In 1852, Moses Taft laid the foundation for the mill formerly known as the Central Mills, now the Calumet. It was completed the next year, and leased to Israel M. Southwick and Richard Sayles, under the name of Southwick & Sayles, who continued to operate the mill till 1859, when they sold out their lease to Bradford, Taft & Co., of Providence, R. I., Mr. Sayles continuing to superintend the mill and act as agent till January 1, 1864. Daniel W. Taft then took charge of the mill as superintendent, and continued in charge until he took the lease in his own name in 1869. Mr. Moses Taft sold the mill to R. & J. Taft in 1865, and these gentlemen made great additions and improvements thereto, and by building a new dam at Rice City, in the northerly part of the town, and flowing about one hundred acres of land, greatly increased the water-power, and made it more permanent. These enterprising gentlemen also put in an eighty horse-power steam-engine as extra power in dry weather, and thus became sure of constant operation of the mill in all seasons. At the conclusion of Mr. D. W. Taft's lease, in 1883, the Calumet Woolen Company was incorporated, with Isaac Fenno, of Boston, for president; S. M. Wheelock, of Uxbridge, treasurer; and Arthur Wheelock, agent and general superintendent, and purchased of Messrs. R. & J. Taft, all the mill estate, inclusive, and of Mr. D. W. Taft certain machinery and fixtures owned by him. This corporation immediately expended over twenty thousand dollars in new machinery and improvements, widened the canal, raised its banks and increased its capacity largely, and are to-day turning out handsome, high-grade cassimeres, the best ever manufactured in the town. As hereinbefore stated, this corporation also owns and operates the Hecla Mill, about one-half a mile easterly of the Calumet; the two mills being connected by telephone and under the charge of Arthur Wheelock, agent and general manager. The purchase and enlarging of these two mills by this corporation, at an expense of over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, has given an impetus to the prosperity of the town which it has never known before. Employing more help, the population of the town has increased from three thousand and fifty in 1880 to three thousand five hundred in 1888. The weekly payments of the corporation amount to about twenty-five hundred dollars, and this amount is added to the trade accounts of all the retail dealers in town, making business in all branches correspondingly better. About one-third of the capital stock is owned by residents of the town, so that the town not only gets the benefit of the large tax upon the real estate, but also gets a large return from the State, in the shape of corporation taxes, returned to the towns in which the stockholders reside. The gratitude of the town is due to Hon. S. M. Wheelock, by whose efforts this corporation was established and located in this town.

In 1864 Richard Sayles and D. A. McBride bought of Dea. Chandler Taft the old Rivulet Mill and water-power, which had been idle for a number of years, made extensive repairs, and manufactured shoddy till 1866, when Mr. Sayles purchased Mr. McBride's interest, and soon after sold it to Israel M. Southwick, taking Mr. Southwick as his partner. The next fall Sayles & Southwick put in steam-power, enlarged the property, and fitted it up to receive new machinery, on an extensive scale, for the manufacture of shoddy. In November, 1866, Mr. Southwick sold out to Mr. Sayles, and Mr. Sayles soon after sold one-half interest in the property to Zadok A. Taft; and Messrs. Sayles & Taft put in the shoddy machinery and ran the mill till 1869, when they leased the mill to E. S. Bradford & Co., of Providence, R. I., for the manufacture of knitting yarn, and it was run on this work until the mill was burned in October, 1872, a few weeks before the great Boston fire. It was rebuilt the next year in a much improved manner. At first cotton machinery was put in, but it soon gave place to woolen machinery, with which Mr. Sayles was better acquainted. Messrs. Sayles & Taft ran the mill until October 1, 1878, and then leased the mill and machinery to Sayles, Taft & Co., the company being Henry S. Morse; then in January, 1882, Taft left the

manufacturing firm, and it became Richard Sayles & Co. These gentlemen operated the mill with great success until the death of Mr. Sayles, in 1887. The property is now owned by the three sons of Mr. Sayles, who carry on the manufacture of satinets under the same name as the old firm—Richard Sayles & Co.

About the year 1834 Alvin Cooke purchased a small building on the Emerson Brook, which was formerly used for a cabinet shop. He enlarged it, and put in woolen cards, spinning machinery and looms, but no finishing machines. He operated the mill under contract for Effingham L. Capron, who was then operating the Capron Mill, making satinets. In 1837 Mr. Cooke was obliged to succumb to the financial pressure, and never again engaged in manufacturing. From 1837 to 1879 the mill has been practically idle and unoccupied. Since 1880 Mr. D. M. Lee has utilized it for the purpose of a shoddy-mill. Mr. Lee has greatly improved the property, built a new dam and reservoir on the stream, and is determined to make it a success.

In 1865 or '66, Mr. Zadok A. Taft bought the property on the Emerson Brook which was formerly known as the Leonard Taft Saw and Grist-Mills. These mills had not been used for many years and had fallen into decay. Mr. Taft erected a new mill, into which he at first put machinery for making cotton warps. Subsequently he removed this and substituted satinet machinery. Mr. Taft operated the mill for several years and then leased it, and it has been operated by several different firms for that purpose till the present time.

In 1832 the Ironstone Mill—built in 1814 as a cotton-mill—was burned. It was rebuilt by Jonathan F. Southwick, fitted with woolen machinery, and operated by Fairbanks & Messinger for the manufacture of Kentucky jeans. In 1865 fire again visited this property and destroyed the factory. Subsequently a roof was put over the basement walls, which remained standing, making a one-story mill, which for several years was used by Joseph C. Keith & Co. for a shoddy mill. It afterwards passed into the hands of Abijah Esty, of Millville, and at his decease it ceased to be used for manufacturing purposes, and the mill and the brick tenements and store-houses which once denoted a prosperous village are fast becoming dilapidated ruins. About the year 1880 Mr. Charles C. Capron erected in the mill-yard of the Capron Mills a well appointed shoddy-mill, and in a few years his largely increasing business occasioned the building of another mill near to the other, into which he put, in addition to shoddy cards and pickers, two sets of yarn machinery for making woolen yarn for carpets. This part of the business was subsequently given up, and the entire plant devoted to the manufacture of shoddy. In addition to the water-power of the Mumford River, these mills and the Capron Satinet-Mills are supplied with adequate steam power, and under the management of the Messrs. Capron are, as usual, successful.

The old Shuttle Shop on Drabble Tail Brook was at one time devoted to manufacturing purposes, cotton yarn and shoddy being among its principal productions. The machinery was operated by Zadok A. Taft and B. Stetson, and afterwards by J. C. Keith.

One of the principal industries of Uxbridge from an early date was the manufacture of cotton goods. The first factory erected for that purpose was erected in 1810, by Forbes & Benjamin Clapp, at what is now known as Rogerson's Village, in North Uxbridge. They sold out in 1815 to Harvey & Mellen, and they soon after sold to Robert Rogerson. The mill was a small building, which was afterwards removed and converted into a factory tenement-house. There they manufactured cotton thread until about the year 1816, when the venture proved a failure. They had been stocked by Mr. Robert Rogerson, who was at that time a merchant in Boston, and upon the failure of Harvey & Mellen the property passed into his hands. Mr. Rogerson continued the business then until about the year 1825, when he removed the Clapp Mill and began the erection of his first stone factory. Near it, and in accordance with his original plan, he erected a second stone factory, and the two mills have since been united. He expended thus, in buildings and machinery, the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. He laid out a village, which at that time had more of the quality of perfection than almost any other manufacturing village in New England. It is laid out with great taste, and the stone work of the dams, canals, bridges and arches under the mill are marvels of good workmanship, which constant use of more than fifty years has not detracted from. These mills and this beautiful village will long stand, built as they are in lasting stone and brick, a fitting monument to the genius and public spirit of Robert Rogerson. In the financial troubles of 1837, Mr. Rogerson was obliged to give up the property, and it passed into the possession of the mortgagees. A new corporation was formed, called the Uxbridge Cotton-Mills, and the mill is still called by that name, although the original incorporators have nearly all died or sold their interest in the property. In 1851 the Whitin Brothers, of Northbridge, were the principal owners and managers of the corporate stock and property, and under their excellent management, which has continued to the present time, the property has continued to improve, and is now a first-class cotton-mill in every respect. This is the only cotton-mill in town, and with the single exception of the mill at Ironstone, originally built for a cotton mill, is the only one ever erected here solely for cotton goods.

There have been several other manufacturing establishments started, continued for a short time and then given up; which, as they did not contribute materially to the prosperity of the town, will not be noticed at length. Among these were the Uxbridge

Card Clothing Co., the Bay State Arms Co., and the Wilder Screw Machine Co., neither of which met with success, and none are now in existence.

One of the industries of the town, of which brief notice should be given, was the carriage manufactory of Theodore B. Whiting, in Mechanics' Square, on Drabble Tail Brook. About the year 1850, Mr. Whiting purchased the cluster of buildings formerly used for a tannery and cooper shop, etc., in rear of Union Building, and began the manufacture of carriages and harness, and also did a general wheelwright and blacksmithing business. Many excellent carriages were made by Mr. Whiting, and they were so well made that some of them are in use to-day, after more than thirty years of service. The style, of course, is somewhat antiquated, but the carriages are good for the balance of the century. A thoroughly good and honest man himself, his reputation suffered no injury from his handiwork. It needed no warranty, and none was asked by those who knew the genial, upright, dignified gentleman who received their orders. At his lamented death, which occurred in 1866, the business was divided, the wheelwright, the blacksmith, the painter, and the harness-maker each striking out for himself; and as a result, the business of manufacturing carriages soon became a business of carriage repairing. Prentiss Whiting several years before had started a carriage factory at the Rivulet, but it did not prove a success, and a man named Gardner is said to have manufactured carriages for awhile in the old shop now owned by Merrill Greene, on North Main Street.

BANKS.—*The Blackstone Bank* was incorporated August 27, 1825, with a capital of $100,000, divided into one thousand shares. It was originally, and until 1865, a period of forty years, a State bank, and was the only bank of discount and circulation in this part of the Blackstone Valley.

In 1865 it became a National Bank, under the banking-laws of the United States, and its name was changed to the Blackstone National Bank. Its capital remained the same, and, under its excellent management, it has always had a surplus, so that its capital stock has seldom been obtainable in the market for less than $120 per share. It has had but four presidents since 1825, and only three cashiers—Jonathan Gregory being cashier from 1825 to 1836, E. W. Hayward from 1836 until his death, in 1875, a continuous service of nearly forty years. Moses Taft, Esq., has been president of the bank since 1865, and, although nearly eighty years of age, is hale and hearty and a shrewd and capable financier. The bank occupies a room in Robert Taft's block, under a very peculiar lease. The advantage of having a bank in Uxbridge was of such moment to the then owners of the old brick store, which has since been remodeled into the modern business block, that, as an inducement for it to locate here, the room was fitted up, and a long lease given, in which the stipulated rent was "one barley-corn per year," and this singular rent is all that the bank has been required to pay for the use of its banking-rooms to this date. Whether the *rent* has actually been handed over each year, and what the landlord does with it, are open questions, which no one seems able or willing to answer.

The Uxbridge Savings-Bank was incorporated June 3, 1870, and elected for its president Moses Taft, Esq., who still holds that position.

In the eighteen years of its existence this bank has grown in the confidence of the people, and its deposits now amount to over $335,000. As its management is rather conservative and its loans made at low rates of interest, its dividends are not, as a rule, quite up to those paid by city banks, but are generally satisfactory to depositors. A little more public spirit exhibited by the management, in the way of a banking-house built and owned by the bank, would give it better facilities for doing business, and, as an investment, would pay full as well as loans on mortgages at five per cent., and the general public would be highly gratified.

A good first-class business block on the site just south of the National Bank, arranged for stores, banking-rooms and offices, would supply a much-needed want, and would be occupied at good rent as soon as completed.

CHAPTER XXIX.

UXBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

THE REVOLUTION.—In the year 1774, on the 6th day of July, the town, at a meeting called to consider the difficulties existing between the colonies and the mother country, passed a vote to appoint a committee of nine citizens and freeholders, "to correspond with committees that now or shall be chosen by any towns in this province for the purpose, on any *matur* that may respect the present difficulty, that now or may subsist between Great *Britton* and North-*america*."

In October, 1774, it was voted in town-meeting, "to purchase five barrels of powder, and as much shot as was proper;" and a committee was chosen "to provide for soldiers who may be called to march." In January, 1775, the town voted "to carry the resolves of the Continental Congress into execution;" and a committee was appointed "to see them strictly adhered to in this town." At this meeting Mr. Benjamin Green was elected a delegate to the Provincial Congress to be held at Cambridge; and in May, of the same year, Mr. Abner Rawson was chosen to attend the Provincial Congress at Watertown.

The fires of patriotism now burned brighter and steadier, and the increasing military ardor of the citizens of this town, was made manifest, in the unanimity with which they voted to stand by the action of the Continental Congress.

At a meeting of the inhabitants held in May, 1776, in the spring previous to the Declaration of Independence, an article of which the following is a copy was voted almost unanimously in the affirmative: "To see if the town will vote, if the Honorable Congress should, for the safety of the United Colonies, Declare themselves Independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain, whether that they will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure."

In July, 1776, it was voted, "to grant six pounds to each person who shall Enlist in behalf of this town to go to Canada, or the Northern Department agreeable to the late act."

In May, 1777, there were evidently some *Tories* living in Uxbridge; for the town chose, "by written votes," Seth Read "to procure and Lay before the Court the evidence that may be had of the *Inimical disposition of any Inhabitant of this town* towards this or any of the United States, who shall be charged by the freeholders and other inhabitants of said town, or if their residence within this State *is lookt upon to be dangerous to the public peace and Safety.*"

That the inhabitants of Uxbridge had pretty determined ideas as to what sort of government the new nation needed and should have, is apparent from the fact that in said meeting they voted "to instruct our representative not to vote for the proposed form of constitution and form of government;" but as the record gives no information as to the form of Constitution and government they did desire, we must suppose, in view of their very decided opposition to Great Britain, that the form of government, etc., proposed by Congress was not sufficiently antagonistic to the mother country.

In March, 1778, it was voted "to send to the soldiers now in actual service in the Continental Army, in behalf of the town of Uxbridge for three years or during the war, two shirts, one pair of tow breaches, two pair of stockings, and one pair of shoes;" and "that a committee be chosen to procure s'd cloathing and a man to carry it to them;" this last being no slight undertaking, when it is remembered that there was no public conveyance of any kind, and a journey of even a few miles was attended with great danger and fatiguing labor.

In 1778 two thousand pounds were raised "to provide for soldiers in the Continental army," and in the same year "men were sent to Rhode Island, and men as guards to Rutland."

The sending of substitutes into the army was allowed, for in January, 1779, the warrant for the town-meeting contained this article: "To see what sum of money the town will give or *allow to such Persons as have Procured a man to do a turn for them* in the Continental Service for three years, or during the war." No action appears of record upon this article. In April, 1779, two thousand five hundred pounds were appropriated "to carry on the Continental War." In June, 1779, the town voted "that the Committee for Hireing Soldiers for s'd Town be Directed to Engage to Such Soldiers as they may hereafter Procure to Engage in the present war, in Consequence of orders Received for that purpose (for the Hire of such Soldiers), either Continental Currency, or the produce of the land Raised amongst us, Acting *Deferentionarily* in Engaging either Money or produce as to the sum of Money or Quantity of produce, and at what price as they with such soldiers may agree."

In November, 1780, one thousand pounds were raised to supply the army with beef; also in January, 1781, *twenty-three thousand pounds* (probably Continental currency) were appropriated for the same purpose; also fifteen "hard dollars" (probably silver) were voted to hiring "Continental men," and on August 28, 1781, the town voted "to raise one hundred and fifty pounds 'hard money' for the supply of beef called for by the General Court."

The following is a true copy of an original document now in the possession of the writer. The paper is yellow with age, but the writing and the original signatures of the members of the committee are as plain and legible as though recently written:

COMMITTEE CHAMBER, Boston, March $\frac{17}{18}\frac{84}{}$

These Certifie that Nathan Tyler Sr. and Others Selectmen of Uxbridg Procured for the Use of this Commonwealth, in the year 1779:

thirty Nine Shirts @ £6 each	£234 0
thirty Nine Pr Shoes @ £7—4 pr pr	280 16
thirty Seven Pr Hose @ £4—pr pr	148 0
Selectmen allowance for Trouble	25 —
Do Transportation	15 —
Total	£702 16

which sum of Seven hundred & two Pounds Sixteen Shillings was allowed by the Committee on accounts on the 11th of March 1780.

Attest

SETH WASHBURN, CHARLES TURNER, J. BARNUM, EZRA SARGEANT, JOSEPH HOSMER } Committee on Accounts

The signatures are the genuine signatures of the members of the Committee of the General Court of 1784, so that it is probable that the account, which was allowed in March, 1780, was not paid to the selectmen until after a renewal of the approval in 1784, as above set forth. Money, or what represented money, was of such small value in 1780 that we may suppose the delay was occasioned by a disagreement as to the kind of money the bill allowed was to be payable in. To show how great a depreciation must have taken place in the value of the currency, the town records state that in November, 1780, the town, at a regular meeting held to provide for town charges and expenses, "voted to raise (25,000) *twenty-five thousand pounds*, to defray town charges," and the same year they voted the sum of *ten thousand pounds* to buy beef for the army.

The records of the town do not contain a list, or anything that purports to be a list, of its citizens who served in the Revolutionary army. But from actual votes passed and recorded, I find the following names

referred to as having served in the different divisions of the service as volunteers or substitutes. It is probable that there were many others.

Capt. Edward Seagrave.
Lieut. Abner Taft.
Lieut. Bezaleel Taft.
Lieut. Robert Taft.
Sergt. Noah Taft.
Sergt. Paul White.
John Prentice.
Nathan Dowse (or Druce).
Joseph Cleaveland.
Peter Sibley.
Nathaniel Fish.
A. Aldrich.
Jeremiah Chillson.
Oliver Murdock.
Joseph Rawson.
John Falkner.
Oliver Thayer.
Samuel Hayward.
Moses Taft.
Jabez Thayer.
Oliver Taft.
John Hall.
Charles Philips.
Benjamin Cogswell.
Capt. Simeon Wheelock.
James Hall.
Aaron Brown.
John Beals.
James Keith.
Ichabod Keith.
John Seagrave.

An interesting episode of the Revoluionary period was the visit of General George Washington to Uxbridge, in the year 1789, on his journey from Boston to Hartford. General Washington, then President of the United States, passed a night at a tavern kept by the father of Warner Taft, at North Uxbridge, and was so well pleased with the attention he received, that at Hartford, on the 8th of November, 1789, on his way home, he wrote the following letter to Mr. Taft, near Uxbridge, Mass. :

Sir,—Being informed that you have given my name to one of your sons, and called another after Mrs. Washington's family, and being moreover much pleased with the modest and innocent looks of your two daughters, Patty and Polly, I do for these reasons send each of these girls a piece of chintz; and to Patty, who bears the name of Mrs. Washington, and who waited on us more than Polly did, I send five guineas with which she may buy herself any little ornaments she may want, or she may dispose of them in any other manner more agreeable to herself. As I do not give these things with a view to have it talked of, or even to its being known, the less there is said about the matter the better you will please me; but that I may be sure the chintz and money have got safe to hand, let Patty, who I dare say is equal to it, write me a line informing me thereof, directed to "The President of the United States, New York." I wish you and your family well, and am your humble servant. G. WASHINGTON.

This house is still standing, and in a good state of preservation, retaining its same style as when the father of his country honored it with his presence. It is now owned and occupied by some of the heirs of Warner Taft, and should be long preserved for its historical associations. A desk once owned by the Tafts, and at which Gen. Washington is said to have sat and written a dispatch or letter to be sent to Boston, is now owned by the writer of this history, and is most highly prized.

THE CIVIL WAR.—The record of Uxbridge in the War of the Rebellion was one of which she may well be proud, having furnished two hundred and ninety (290) soldiers, seventeen more than her quota, as called for by the State. The first "war meeting" was held in the basement of the Unitarian Church, then occupied for town-meetings, on the 11th day of May, 1861, which was addressed by several spirited and eloquent speakers. At the close of the speaking it was unanimously voted to give each volunteer belonging to the town twenty-one dollars a month while in service, and one dollar a day for drilling previous to enlistment, not exceeding twenty days of eight hours a day. Fifteen hundred dollars was appropriated to purchase uniforms, and one hundred dollars to defray the expenses of forming a company of riflemen. On May 3, 1862, the town appropriated two thousand five hundred dollars to pay State aid to families of the volunteers, and a committee was chosen "to ascertain the names of the soldiers belonging to the town, that their names may be preserved to posterity, by causing the same to be entered upon the records of the town." On July 23d the town voted "to give a bounty of one hundred and fifty dollars to each volunteer for three years, who should be accredited to the town's quota." On August 23d the same amount was voted to those who entered the service for nine months, to be paid when the town's quota was full; if not filled by volunteers and a draft was made, then no bounty was to be paid.

March 2, 1863, the town voted to raise four thousand dollars for aid to be paid to the families of volunteers during the year. September 28th the aid was extended to the families of drafted men.

On May 25, 1864, a bounty of one hundred and twenty-five dollars was voted to be paid to the three years' volunteers who should enlist upon the quota of the town, whether residents of Uxbridge or otherwise. As before stated, the town had no difficulty in filling its quota at these liberal bounties, and the voters were not sorry that the number furnished was so many in excess of the calls.

The whole amount of money expended for war purposes was twenty thousand two hundred dollars ($20,200); for State aid to families about fourteen thousand six hundred dollars ($14,600). About ten thousand dollars was contributed by citizens in addition to the above. Large quantities of clothing, stockings and shoes were also contributed by the Ladies Soldiers' Aid Society and other patriotic workers, and many hundred dollars' worth of articles intended for the comfort of the boys at the front were forwarded, of which no estimate can be made.

The following list contains the names of soldiers in the army of the United States engaged in putting down the Rebellion and preserving the Union, who enlisted as *residents* of Uxbridge. The list does not include, therefore, those who helped to fill the quota, but who resided in other towns; as their names are no doubt honored in a fitting manner by the towns which were honored by them. Those whose names are marked with a (*) died either in actual service or as prisoners of war. Let all unite to do honor to these brave sons of old Uxbridge!

Aldrich, G.
Aldrich, Gideon M.
Aldrich, James G.
Aldrich, John A.
Aldrich, Moses A.
Aldrich, W. D. F.
Andy, J.
Johnson, Stephen C.
Johnson, John R.
Kavanough, James.
Keeting, Francis.
Kemp, David.
Kenny, Geo. W.
Kenny. ——

Anson, Henry.
Anthony, Sylvanus.
Arnold, Edmund C.
Bacon, Joseph M.
Ballou, G.
Barnam, W. H.
Barrows, Chester.
Barry, J.
Bennett, James.
Bent, Ferdinand A.
Blanchard, William.
Bolster, Andrew J.
Bolster, Geo. W.
Boyce, James.
Bradford, Charles.
Braman, Charles E.
*Braman, Palmer E.
Brashaw, J.
Brick, Orville.
Brown, George.
Bryant, Perry.
*Burrill, Abram B.
Bush, Augustus.
Chipman, S. R.
Cadwell, Jerome.
Carpenter, A.
Carpenter, John H.
Chappell, J.
Christy, W. J.
Clarke, Elmore.
Cleveland, Charles B.
Cole, Geo. E.
Cole, Granville.
*Cole, Wm. J.
*Chollar, H. A.
Cooney, Andrew.
Cosgrove, Lewis.
Coyle, Patrick.
Cummings, Julius E.
Carmody, John.
Dexter, Joseph W.
Donnell, E. Mc.
Duffy, John A.
Dugan, Michael.
Duffee, Owen.
Daley, James.
Eames, A. M.
Engley, E.
*Engley, H. M.
Farris, Daniel P.
Finchon, Thomas.
Fitch, George Otis.
Fitch, H. N.
Fitz Gerald, W.
Fitz Simons, A. T.
Fuller, Clifford.
*Garside, Andrew J.
Gibney, Luke P.
Gibson, H. O.
Gifford, Jos. H.
Graham, Henry H.
Guild, Oliver A.
Haskell, Abner H.
Hall, Chandler.
Hall, George.
Hall, Stephen.
Hamilton, Thomas.
*Hayden, Frank.
*Hayden, Walter.
Hayward, H. C.
*Highland, T.
Hill, Ezra J.
Hill, Reuben.
Hinchcliff, J.
Hollis, A. J.
Holroyd, Geo. H.
Horton, Andrew J.
Kenness, J.
Keinnay, James H.
Kelly, J.
Kingston, Harrison.
Kinny, Geo. W.
Kernes, Peter.
Lackey, Eugene.
Lackey, Saml. W.
Legge, Geo. W.
*Legge, Henry H.
Lynch, James.
Magee, John A.
Mahony, J. F.
McArthur, W. S.
McArthur, Walter.
*Metcalf, A. B.
Metcalf, Wm. H.
Minott, Franklin.
Minott, William Henry.
Morrisey, John.
*Mowry, Arnold.
Mulligan, James.
Murdock, Walter L.
Murphy, J.
Norbery, Frank.
Olney, Edward.
O'Sullivan, James.
Rawson, Chas. C.
Rawson, Orrin F.
Reed, James.
Reed, Levi.
Richardson, Dexter F.
Russell, James F.
Ryan, Edward.
Ryan, Wm.
Ryder, James.
Rugg, Chas. H.
*Sabin, Richard M.
Sawyer, Millard W.
Scarborough, Elias.
Schofield, Ed.
Seagrave, Charles S.
Seagrave, Frank B.
Seagrave, James E.
Seagrave, Geo. L.
Seagrave, Lawson A.
Smith, Farnum.
Salmon, Hugh.
Seagrave, A. M.
Seagrave, Wm. H.
Seagrave, Orville B.
Searles, Andrew J.
Sheehan, Napoleon T.
Sherman, Albert A.
Sprague, Geo. W.
Smith, Chas. M.
Smith, James.
Smith, J.
Smith, Samuel W.
Smith, S.
Taft, Albert.
Taft, Frank M.
Taft, Henry L.
Taft, Isaac D.
Taft, James.
Thompson, Chas. H.
Thompson, Eli D.
Thompson, Geo.
Thompson, Saml. C.
Toomay, Farrell.
Vibberts, Geo. L.
Vets, John.
Wilber, Daniel.
Wilber, Joseph H.
Wilcox, Noah.
Wilson, Charles.
Wilson, Hiram.
Horton, Henry C.
Horton, Jerome.
Howard, Charles H.
Howard, W. C.
Hall, Benj. F.
Hall, Hezekiah.
Johnson, Albro A.
Wheeler, Chas. E. L.
White, Addison R.
Whitmore, Hannibal.
Wood, William.
Whitcomb, John.
Wright, Edward E.

All honor, then, to him whose humble name
Is here emblazoned on the rolls of fame.
Ages to come, and children yet to be,
Inheriting our priceless liberty,
Shall sound the praises of these boys in blue,
Who bravely fought, to self and country true;
Of these brave men who stand recorded here,
All future times in history shall hear,
And bless their memories with a sacred tear.

CHAPTER XXX.

UXBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

MISCELLANEOUS—*Representatives to Congress.*—In 1820 and 1822 Benjamin Adams was elected Representative to Congress and served his district and State with great fidelity and ability. He is the only citizen of Uxbridge who ever had the honor of a seat in Congress.

The Representatives to the General Court since 1750 have been as follows: Daniel Read, 1755; Nicholas Bayliss, 1758; Solomon Wood, 1760–62; Ezekial Wood, 1766–71; Joseph Read, 1772, '74; Abner Rawson, 1775, '76; Joseph Read, 1777; Nathan Tyler, 1778–80; Nicholas Baylies, 1781; Bezaleel Taft, 1783; Seth Read, 1784–86; Samuel Willard, 1787; Nathan Tyler, 1789–91; Bezaleel Taft, 1794–97, and 1802–4; Joseph Richardson, 1805; Bezaleel Taft, 1806; Peter Farnum, 1808; Benjamin Adams, 1809–13; Samuel Read, 1814; Daniel Carpenter, 1815; Samuel Read and John Capron, 1816; Samuel Read and Bezaleel Taft, 1817, '18; Samuel Read and Daniel Carpenter, 1819; Samuel Read and Bezaleel Taft, 1820; Bezaleel Taft, Jr., 1821–23; Joseph Thayer, 1824, '26; Bezaleel Taft, Jr. (Senator), 1828; Joseph Thayer and Daniel Carpenter, 1829; Samuel Read and George Willard, 1830, '31; Samuel Read and Joseph Thayer, 1832; Effingham L. Capron and Joseph Thayer, 1833; Joseph Day and Samuel Read, 1834; John W. Capron and George Willard, 1835, '36; John Carpenter and Ellery Holbrook, 1837; Asa Thayer and Samuel Read, 1838; Francis Deane, Jr., and Gideon Mowry, 1839; Jonathan F. Southwick, 1840; Otis Wilcox, 1841: Chandler Taft, 1842; Henry Chapin, 1844; Moses Taft, 1845; Cyrus G. Wood, 1854; Charles E. Taft, 1855; Jacob Taft, 1856; Samuel W. Scott, 1857; Joshua Garside, 1858; Scott Seagrave, 1859; Newell Tyler, 1860; William C. Capron, 1861; Scott Seagrave, 1863; R. D. Burr, 1865; Harrison C. Whitmore and A. A. Sherman, 1870; Charles A. Wheelock, (Senator), 1869, '70; George W. Hobbs, 1871, '72; George W. Taft, 1873; Charles C. Capron, 1875; Zadok A. Taft, 1877; Charles E. Seagrave, 1881; James

Daley, 1883; Michael Reilly (2d) 1885; Daniel W. Taft, 1887; Silas M. Wheelock (Senator), 1887, '88. During the next decade Uxbridge will be represented only every third year.

Post-offices.—The first post-office in Uxbridge was established in the village of Ironstone, then the largest village in the town. In 1810 an office was established in North Uxbridge, in the house of Samuel Read, on the Boston and Hartford turnpike, where it remained until 1852, when it was removed to Rogerson's Village, near the Mills, where it remained until 1885, when it was removed to Chase's Corner, near its original location.

The postmasters of this office have been Samuel Read, George Adams, C. E. Whitin, A. S. Sweet and H. C. Chase, the present incumbent. This office accommodated for many years the towns of Northbridge and Douglas.

In 1825 a post-office was established at the Centre Village, in the brick store then owned by the Messrs. Capron. John W. Carpenter was the first postmaster, and his successors have been Sullivan, Thayer, Thomas Aldrich, R. D. Mowry, Charles B. Rawson, Charles A. Taft and Henry S. Farnum, the present incumbent. This office is now the principal post-office in the town and pays its postmaster an annual salary of about twelve hundred dollars, an increase of about four hundred dollars in the last eight years.

In 1872 *a District Court* for Uxbridge, Blackstone, Northbridge and Douglas was established for civil and criminal business, having jurisdiction of all civil actions, when the *ad damnum* in the writ does not exceed three hundred dollars. Court is held every week-day alternately in Uxbridge and Blackstone; on Mondays for civil business in Blackstone and on Saturdays for civil business in Uxbridge. A. A. Putnam, Esq., was appointed justice of the court and still presides over it. The associate justices are Francis N. Thayer, Esq., of Blackstone, and W. J. Taft, Esq., of Mendon, the latter gentleman having an office in Uxbridge.

The members of the legal profession who have resided in the town and assisted in building up its prosperity are as follows:

Nathan Tyler, Benjamin Adams, Bezaleel Taft, Jr., George Wheaton, Joseph Thayer, Francis Deane, Henry Chapin, Lucius B. Boynton, George S. Taft, George W. Hobbs, Frederic B. Deane, George F. Bancroft, A. A. Putnam, O. B. Pond, George S. Taft (2d).

Uxbridge has also had good reason to be proud of its medical profession, for its physicians have been uniformly men of skill and excellent character, who have done much for the health and prosperity of the town. Among them are the honored names of Dr. Wood, the first physician to settle in the town; Dr. Samuel Willard, Dr. George Willard, Dr. Augustus C. Taft, Dr. Smith, Dr. A. W. Bennett, Dr. J. W. Robbins, Dr. J. M. Macomber, Dr. Chauncey A. Wilcox, Dr. Wm. L. Johnson, Dr. L. D. White, Dr. W. L. Sanders and Dr. Benj. Joslyn. Dr. A. W. Fuller and Dr. F. J. Partridge have recently moved into town. It would be a pleasing task to write the biographies of many of these professional laborers of both the professions, but the space allotted to Uxbridge in the history of the county peremptorily demands brevity and condensation; so their many friends "must take the will for the deed."

Newspapers, etc.—The first and only newspaper published in Uxbridge was started by Geo. W. Spencer, a printer who had formerly published the *Douglas Herald* and conducted a small job-printing office in East Douglas. Mr. Spencer, believing Uxbridge a better field for his labors in the newpaporial line, removed his presses and type to this town, and in August, 1872, issued the first number of his paper, which he called *The Worcester South Compendium*, Spencer Bros., proprietors. The firm consisted of Geo. W. Spencer and Charles A. W. Spencer, the elder brother being the editor and general manager of the paper, while the younger took charge of the job-printing, which soon grew to quite a business. The paper was a well-edited, spicy little weekly, Republican in politics and progressive in its ethics. In 1877 C. A. W. Spencer retired from the firm and Mr. L. H. Balcome suceeded him; the firm then became Spencer & Balcome. In 1879 Mr. Balcome bought out his partner and became and has since been sole proprietor. In July, 1880, Mr. Balcome finding the old name too long and desiring to make his paper still more a local organ, changed the name of his publication to *The Uxbridge Compendium*—which name it still retains—and was issued as an eight-page paper. For several years Mr. C. W. Greene was the editor, but Mr. Balcome for the past two years has been sole editor and manager, and, with a good corps of reporters to gather up the news, would have the credit of publishing a good country weekly. The old presses used by Spencer Bros. have been thrown out and new power-presses run by steam-power have been substituted. One of the busiest places now to be found in the centre of the town is the *Compendium* office. If the increasing business of the office will warrant it, *The Daily Compendium* will at no distant day be welcomed in every household.

The Uxbridge Water Company was incorporated in 1881, for the purpose of supplying the inhabitants of Uxbridge with pure water for domestic purposes. Its reservoirs, on Lawler Hill, are fed by springs, and will contain half a million gallons. Pipes are laid through the principal streets, and the water supply is excellent and sufficient. A number of hydrants placed at convenient distances furnish adequate protection against damage by fire, and the company is entitled to great credit for its service to the public.

The Judson Memorial.—In the year 1869 Deacon Willard Judson, an esteemed citizen of the town, and a son of Rev. Samuel Judson, formerly pastor of

the Orthodox Church, desiring to manifest his great interest in the town in a quiet, unassuming manner, instructed his attorney, Geo. W. Hobbs, Esq., to purchase of the Howard Watch and Clock Company, of Boston, one of its best tower clocks, and ask the town, at its annual meeting, then soon to be held, to accept the same, as a gift from one who preferred that his name should not be made known until after his decease, imposing as the only condition that the town should keep the clock in running order.

Mr. Judson also desired that the clock should be placed upon the Unitarian Church, as it could be seen more generally than if placed elsewhere. When the matter was brought before the town, great interest was manifested by the citizens, and the gift was accepted without a dissenting voice. The knowing ones, of course, knew who gave the clock, and many different gentlemen were named, but not a single guesser guessed aright. Mr. Judson died in May, 1882, and then, for the first time, his name was published by his attorney, as the donor of the clock. For nearly twenty years it has faithfully recorded the passage of time, and its resounding strokes, upon the sweet-toned church bell, marking the hours as they fly, serve to remind the people of their benefactor, and call attention to this unique memorial of a public-spirited citizen.

Farmers' Club.—In the year 1878 the farmers of Uxbridge and Mendon formed a Farmers' Club, and gave annual exhibitions for about five years, when, the Worcester Southeast Agricultural Society, located at Milford, having surrendered its charter, the Farmers' Club was discontinued, and its members applied for, and received, a charter as an agricultural society, to be located at Uxbridge, under the name of the Blackstone Valley Agricultural Society.

The new society purchased extensive grounds, and erected cattle-sheds and pens, and built a track for the trial of farm and family carriage horses only, horse-racing for purses being expressly prohibited.

It has started out with the intention of being a *farmers'*, and not a jockeys' society; and thus far has proved by its success the wisdom of its plans.

The fame of its fairs, and exhibitions of cattle, second to none in the State, calls to its annual exhibitions the best flocks and herds in the county, and so great is the demand for space that new sheds and pens must soon be erected. The fall exhibition is always exceptionally fine, and attracts great crowds of visitors. It is an institution of which the farmers of the Blackstone Valley may well be proud.

No other town, of the size and population of Uxbridge, had been more successful in bringing up a large number of active and energetic business men than this. Of those who have left behind them pleasant memories, I may name the following: John Capron, Daniel Day, Ananias Gifford, Jonathan Whipple, Samuel Read, Ephraim Spring, Alpheus Bayliss, Frederick Taft, Eastman Taft, Jerry Wheelock, Amariah Chapin, Jonathan Gregory, Abiel Jaques, George Willard, Deacon Daniel Payne, Adolphus Spring, Daniel Carpenter, Cato Willard, Daniel Farnum, Peter White, Manley Scott, Bezaleel Taft, Joseph Thayer, Orsmus Taft, Willard Judson and numerous members of the families of Taft, Thayer, Seagrave, Spring, Wood, Farnum, Thompson, Williams, Wheelock, Sayles and others, whose names are household words. Uxbridge has also sent such men as Stephen C. Greene, Josiah, Royal and Amory Chapin, Jacob, Josiah, Edward and Geo. W. Seagrave, John, Paul, Peter, Moses and Welcome Farnum, Sylvanus Holbrook, Effingham L. Capron, Asa Newell, Joseph Carpenter, Daniel Day, Royal C. Taft (now Governor of Rhode Island), Caleb Farnum, David F. and Cyrus G. Wood, Geo. T. Murdock, Stephen and Jason Emerson, Newell Tyler, Daniel Seagrave, Dr. William Bayliss, Nicholas Bayliss, Willard Preston, D.D. and a host of others whose names are preminent in the professional and commercial world, and who are proud to acknowledge themselves children of Uxbridge to the manor born.

There are larger and older towns in Worcester County than Uxbridge, but there are none more beautiful, healthy and delighful to live in than this.

With no debt, and light taxes, with pleasant, sociable neighbors and townspeople; with fine churches, excellent schools, no license and high morality, surely we may be pardoned for the pride we take in claiming a place in the front rank of Worcester County towns.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

MOSES TAFT.

Moses Taft, who is well known as having been, for more than half a century, largely engaged in the manufacture of woolens, was born in Uxbridge, Mass., January 26, 1812, near where Daniel Day, in 1810, built the first woolen-mill in this town.

His father, Luke Taft, the fifth in descent from Robert Taft, the Puritan ancestor, who came from England and settled in Mendon, Mass., about 1680, was born in Uxbridge June 3, 1783, and was brought up as, and followed the occupation of, a farmer till about 1816, when, probably attracted by the hum of the spindle and the thud of the loom of the near-by Day Mill, he was led to procure a jenny of twenty spindles and a hand-loom (there were no others at that time), which he set up in his house and began the manufacture of satinets.

This machinery in the house gave Moses, at an early age, an opportunity to observe some of the processes of manufacturing, and, at the age of seven

Moses Taft

years, was given his first work in the business,—that of winding bobbins for the weaver. This was the extent of his manufacturing experience till his father, in 1821, hired room and power in the Day Mill, when he was inducted into the mysteries of piecing rolls and tending carding-machines.

In 1824 his father bought a water-power on the West River, with land suitable for factory, dwellings and other necessary buildings, and built his dam and canal in the autumn of that year and his factory the next year. The factory was put into operation in the fall of 1825, with two sets of cards and twenty power-looms,—the goods made being satinets.

Moses was here employed in the various departments suitable to his age, attending the usual short terms of the winter schools, with an occasional term in the academy in this town, till 1827, when he received the advantage of a term at the Friends' School, then a popular school, in Bolton, Mass., of which Thomas Fry was the instructor.

The few advantages the district schools afforded with those named above, together with the application made by him to obtain an education, and the practical advantages received in the business life he followed in his younger days, has enabled him to discharge, in an efficient and highly satisfactory manner, most important duties, as will be seen as the narrative proceeds.

On his return from Bolton he again took his place in the mill till the spring of 1829, when he took up the occupation of clerk in the store of John Capron & Sons. The business of that company having been closed up by failure, Moses returned to his home, and entered at once upon the business of manufacturing in his father's mill,—making himself expert in every department, from the ability to make a proper selection of stock for the goods that were to be made, to the putting up the finished goods for market.

At eighteen years of age he was competent to take full charge of the mill, after which time his father devoted his time principally to his farm and other business interests.

In 1837 Mr. Taft entered into partnership with his father and brother-in-law, Caleb T. Chapin, under the style of "The East River Manufacturing Company."

From this time Luke Taft practically left the business of manufacturing – simply holding his estate and giving his sons the advantage of his advice and credit.

If any manufacturer *remembers* as far back as 1837, it will be with almost a shudder, as it comes back to him, as to how he lived through that year of trial and failure on all sides of him, and yet contrived to pay one hundred per cent. on all his bills.

This company, though severely tried, as every one was in that year from the integrity of its members, never compromised any of its debts, but paid in full all claims against it.

In 1840 Luke Taft sold one-half of his manufacturing real estate and power to J. Wheelock & Son, and retired entirely from the risks and cares incident to manufacturing,—his son, Moses, taking the other half of the property and machinery,—Mr. Caleb T. Chapin giving up his interest in the "East River Manufacturing Company," and taking the superintendency of a cotton-mill in Northbridge.

From this time (1840) till April, 1846, Moses Taft ran his half of the mill successfully. At this last period he sold his share of the estate and machinery to C. A. & S. M. Wheelock.

Soon after the sale to C. A. & S. M. Wheelock, he, in company with Mr. Samuel W. Scott, who had been in his employment several years, hired a mill in Burrillville, R. I., where the present Mohegan Mill stands, and engaged in the manufacture of satinets, under the style of Taft & Scott, which continued till the burning of the mill, in the winter of 1849–50, when the business of this firm was closed up and the firm dissolved.

In 1849 he entered into partnership with James W. Day, a grandson of Daniel Day, the pioneer woolen manufacturer of Uxbridge, under the style of Taft & Day, and hired the Capron Mill, in this town, and commenced there the manufacture of satinets.

After a few years' successful business in the Capron Mill, Deacon Wm. C. Capron became a partner, when the firm took the style of Taft, Day & Co., which was shortly changed to Taft & Capron by the withdrawal of Mr. Day from the company.

The firm of Taft & Capron continued till about 1862, when the business and unexpired lease of the mill was sold to Messrs. R. & J. Taft, and the firm of Taft & Capron was dissolved.

Before selling his interest in the factory built by his father to C. A. & S. M. Wheelock, Mr. Taft had conceived the idea of building a factory on the west side of the Blackstone River, above the dam of the "Uxbridge Woolen Company."

To do this it would be necessary to secure all the interest of the "Blackstone Canal Company," in water and canal together, with a release from each individual owner on the river of the right to divert the water and to procure all necessary land for the erection of factory, tenements and other conveniences required for such an establishment.

Having obtained all the necessary titles and releases to the estate in 1852, he laid the foundation for the mill, which was built the following year, with tenements and other necessary buildings.

This mill, which was known for some thirty years as the "Central Woolen Mill," was leased first to Messrs. Southwick & Sayles, till 1859, then to Messrs. Bradford, Taft & Co., of Providence, R. I.

In 1865 Mr. Taft sold his "Central Mill" estate to Messrs. R. & J. Taft, who, in 1883, sold the property to the "Calumet Woolen Company," a corporation that now holds the estate.

Since retiring from the "Capron Mill" Mr. Taft has been, and now is, interested in several woolen-mills, namely—the "Caryville Mill," in Bellingham, Mass., with seven sets of machinery; the "Douglas Woolen Mill," in East Douglas, Mass., with five sets of machinery; the "Chattanooga Mill," in Ashland, Mass., with five sets of machinery; besides an interest in the "Putnam Woolen Company," in Putnam, Conn., and the "Calumet Woolen Company," in this town.

Not alone as a manufacturer has Mr. Taft been known. Since 1865 he has been president of the "Blackstone National Bank of Uxbridge, Mass.," besides being a member of its board of directors for several years previous to that date. He has also been president of the "Uxbridge Savings Bank" from its organization, in 1870.

Nor has he been negligent of his duties as a citizen or failed to receive the confidence and honors in the gift of his fellow-townsmen, having been elected and served several years on the Board of Selectmen of the town and as chairman of the board. In 1845 he represented the town in the General Court for that year. He has served "Uxbridge Lodge, No. 120, I. O. O. F.," some fifteen years as its treasurer.

In the parish of the "First Congregational Society" he has often been called upon to discharge the duties of various committees and to assist in matters of great importance.

In all the affairs of business life, in all the various duties of social life, as citizen, as neighbor, as friend, he has been conscientious, faithful and considerate, helping where help has been needed, and giving good advice where advice was the best thing to give.

When Moses Taft is withdrawn (may it be long before it shall be!) from the business and duties of life, it may be truly said *a man* will be missed.

JERRY WHEELOCK.

Jerry Wheelock, born in Uxbridge, Mass., September 19, 1784, was well known in this vicinity (Uxbridge, Worcester County, Mass.) as an ingenious mechanic, both as a builder and operator of woolen machinery in the early days of woolen manufacturing.

He was of the sixth generation from the original immigrant of the race, Ralph Wheelock, who was born in Shropshire, England, in 1600. He was educated at Clare Hall, Cambridge, was a dissenting preacher, and came from England in 1637, when the tide of persecution ran highest. After remaining in Watertown one year, he removed to Dedham at the time of its settlement, and was active in the formation of the church there; was a freeman in 1639. He was the founder of Medfield, which was set off from Dedham in 1650, and received the first grant of a house-lot in that town.

Simeon Wheelock, the father of Jerry, was born in 1741 in Mendon, Mass. The first we hear of Simeon is on a memorandum book kept by him as an orderly at "Crown Point, dated Aug. 4, 1760; then under the command of Christopher Harris, Colonel of the R. I. Regiment."

He came to Uxbridge probably in 1763, as he appears in the registry November 28, 1763, as declaring intention of marriage with Miss Deborah Thayer, of Mendon.

He was a blacksmith by trade, and bought the land now owned by the heirs of Royal Jefferson and others, a little north of the "First Congregational Society's Meeting-house," of John Harwood in 1768, and built the house now standing there, and where most of his children were born. His blacksmith-shop is said to have stood opposite his house, and about where the academy building now stands. He was town clerk of Uxbridge from 1773–77, and was also a soldier in the War of the Revolution.

He joined the government forces in suppressing the Shays' Rebellion, and died at Springfield in consequence of injuries received from a fall on the ice in descending Arsenal Hill, leaving a widow and eight children; Jerry, the youngest, being in the third year of his age.

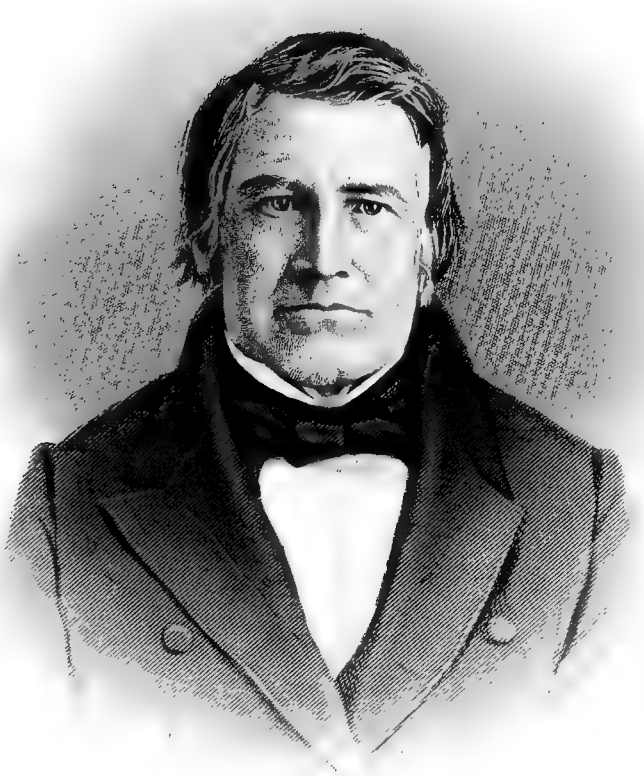
The family was left in somewhat straitened circumstances, and the more so from the fact that the father had sold his estate in the centre of the town, and bought a place some three miles away, which, after his death, was found to be mortgaged; and to save what had already been paid, nearly as much more was paid by the widow.

At this time it is evident that Jerry, at the age of a little more than two years, was left to the care of a mother in straitened circumstances, with other children of tender age, who were likewise dependent on the same over-burdened care.

We, whose children find everywhere the best appliances for obtaining an education, can scarcely conceive of a time when the best means for obtaining *any* education was to lie on the hearth before a fire of blazing pine-knots with such books as those times afforded; or, when attending the schools of that day for the short time they were kept, to be told "You must give up your seat to ——. You pay nothing for your schooling, and he pays."

After a discussion in a town-meeting on the subject of appropriating money for educational purposes, in which the writer took a part, his father said to him, and with more feeling than he ever saw him manifest on any other occasion: "Charles, I never want any child told as I have been—'You pay nothing for your schooling, therefore you must give your seat to ——, who pays.'"

His education, and it was *good* for the times, must have been principally obtained from his mother, who, from papers in my possession of her preparation, must have had a superior education for a woman of those times.



Jerry Whelock

S. M. Wheelock

At a suitable age he learned the trade of a "Set workman," a trade now made entirely *obsolete* by the large factories that by power machines turn out hundreds of cedar pails and tubs daily.

He next took up the trade of turner, and made bobbins and spools for John Slater. Afterwards he took up the business of chair-making, which he followed for several years.

In 1810 Daniel Day built the first woolen-mill in this vicinity. The first machinery was put into the mill in 1811.

Jerry Wheelock having married the eldest daughter of Mr. Day, became a member of the manufacturing firm of Daniel Day & Co. Having natural taste for mechanics and tact in the management of machinery, after a few years he left the company and went into the employment of Artemas Dryden, Jr., of Holden, Mass., who was then, and for many years after, noted as a builder of woolen-carding machines, and was engaged, principally, in setting up and putting into operation machines of his make in various places; and was setting up machinery in Falmouth, Mass., in 1814, during its bombardment by the British ship-of-war "Nimrod."

In 1814 the association—afterwards incorporated—known as the "Rivulet Manufacturing Company" was formed. Jerry Wheelock became a member of the association, and was the mechanical manager and superintendent of the mill till the spring of 1819, when he gave up the place and returned to his old home and immediately commenced the building of woolen machinery.

This business he continued till 1834. He was well known, not only in this immediate vicinity, but in parts of Connecticut, New Hampshire and the eastern part of New York, as a thorough workman and as making great improvement in the machinery he built, both in its workmanship and in the ease and perfection of its operation.

In 1834 he abandoned the building of machinery and went into manufacturing in company with his sons, which he continued till 1846, when he retired from active business.

Strict integrity and the most perfect workmanship possible with the means possessed for doing work, it is believed, are the characteristics that would be ascribed to him by those best acquainted with him.

Of the former, when advised by his sons that, considering the risks of business and his age, it was best for him to withdraw from business, after considering the matter with regard to reflections that might fall on him in case of failure of his successors, he said to the writer: "Charles, I am not going to shirk any responsibility or have it said I left the business to escape from it; and I want you to remember all my interest in this property must be considered as much at stake as if my name stood as a member of the firm."

Fortunately, by good luck or good management, no risk was incurred and no call was made upon his property to make good the failure of his successors.

Of his workmanship, the greatest fault ever found with it, was that the unimportant with him, was just as important as the most important in the eyes of others; and at times many careless persons would consider time thus spent to be spent to a useless purpose.

Whether, in view of the great inclination to slight work without regard to consequences that may follow, this should be written down against him as a grievous fault is left for others to judge.

As a citizen he was honored by his townsmen with the various municipal offices of the town, the duties of which he discharged with the same faithfulness as he did all other works.

As a neighbor he was trusted, respected and loved.

As a husband and father he was not only beloved, but was deserving of all the love and honor they could give him.

He died October 10, 1861, after a distressing sickness of more than five years, lamented by all who knew him.

SILAS MANDEVILLE WHEELOCK.

Mr. Wheelock, well known as a manufacturer and business man for some fifty years, was born in Uxbridge, Mass., November 11, 1817, at the time his father, Jerry Wheelock, was superintendent and mechanical agent of "The Rivulet Manufacturing Company." He has always been a resident of the town of his nativity, and never lived without the limits of the school district of his early boyhood.

He early manifested an ability for the management of affairs, and whatever work he was called upon to perform, he was always able to find playmates ready to assist him in his work while he did the planning and superintending; and it may safely be said, and, as his life will show, this faculty has never been lost.

His opportunity for obtaining an education was very limited. The district school of about ten weeks of a male teacher in winter, and about the same length of time of a female teacher in summer, to which was added three or four terms to a select school in this town, taught by young college graduates, among whom were Mr. E. Porter Dyer, afterward Congregational minister in Shrewsbury, in this county, and Mr. C. C. Jewett, afterward Prof. Jewett, librarian of "Smithsonian Institute" and of the "Boston Public Library."

Early in life, in his ninth year, he began work in a woolen-mill at almost the only work that children of that age could be employed,—piecing rolls.

From that time he has been constantly connected with woolen manufacturing in some form,—as workman in its various branches, as superintending in some of its departments, and as manager and financier of private companies and corporations, and in having

charge of the woolen department in a commission house in Boston and New York.

In 1846 the business firm of C. A. & S. M. Wheelock was formed, the business being the manufacture of satinets, plaid linseys and tweeds. This business was continued till 1855, when, after making a very considerable enlargement of its factory and putting in steam-power, it entered upon the manufacture of fancy cassimeres, giving up its other manufactures. This business has been continued to the present time, now nearly forty-three years, during which time S. M. Wheelock has been the general business manager and financier.

In 1870 he bought the Harriss Woolen Company's property in Putnam, Conn., consisting of a factory, twelve sets of woolen machinery, water-power, one-fourth of the Quinnebaug River at this point, together with dwelling-houses and other property.

This purchase, in connection with business men, was organized under an act of incorporation by the Legislature of the State of Connecticut as "The Putnam Woolen Company." After an increase of the capital stock in 1880, a second factory with machinery power, one-fourth of the Quinnebaug houses and other property, was bought and added to the previous purchase. S. M. Wheelock was chosen treasurer of the company and business manager, which position he maintained till the fall of 1887, when other business occupied so much of his attention as to make it expedient for him to resign the treasurership of this company.

In 1883 he purchased the Central Mill property in this town, consisting of factory, machinery, power, the whole of the Blackstone River at this point, houses and other property. A company of business men being formed and incorporated under the general corporation laws of Massachusetts as the "Calumet Woolen Company," took the property, and after making extensive repairs and changes and additions, began the manufacture of fancy cassimeres, S. M. Wheelock being the treasurer and principal manager of the company.

In 1886 he purchased the property known as the Uxbridge Woolen Factory, which included buildings, machinery, power, the whole of the Blackstone River at this point, dwelling-houses and other property. The Calumet Woolen Company, after an increase of its capital stock, took this property, and after making very great alterations and additions, have put it into operation as "The Hecla Mill."

Since this last purchase and putting into operation of the Hecla Mill, he has continued, as before, the management of the Calumet Mills, and also the Wacautuck Mills, by which name the mills of C. A. & S. M. Wheelock are known.

S. M. Wheelock has manifested but little ambition for political life, although he has discharged the duties of one of the Board of Selectmen of this town for some three or four years, and served on various committees appointed for temporary purposes.

In 1887 his friends thought his age and practical ability fitted him for the discharge of the duties appropriate to a member of the Massachusetts Legislature.

At a Republican convention held for the purpose of nominating a candidate to represent the Second Worcester Senatorial District in the then next General Court he received the nomination for that position, which was duly confirmed by his election in November following to the Senate of Massachusetts by a majority that showed him and his immediate friends that it was not merely as a partisan he owed his election, but for his qualities as a man of practical ability.

He has this year—in accordance with the general rule of the political parties in relation to Senators—been again elected to the same position by a gratifying majority.

It is not as a politician on which the reputation of S. M. Wheelock is to stand, but as a thorough, practical business man, for which he early in life manifested a striking ability; for stern integrity in business matters, worth more than millions obtained by fraud and chicanery. For more than fifty years of business life, during which time revulsions in business have been encountered that have swamped those apparently the most strongly prepared to endure the storm, he has been able to fulfill all his engagements, never paying less than one hundred per cent. But in doing this it has sometimes been felt as a hardship to be obliged to compete with those who, after settling their obligations for fifty per cent. or less, still continued to meet him in the business mart.

RICHARD SAYLES.

Richard Sayles was born September 13, 1819, at Gloucester, R. I., situated in the northwestern part of the State, in Providence County. Here he lived with his parents, attending school until eleven years old; he then went to live with a farmer a few miles distant from his home, receiving for the first year a compensation of eleven dollars and board, and during the winter months a few weeks of schooling. Out of this sum he clothed himself and saved nearly one-third of it. He was well liked by his employer and continued with him on the farm until sixteen years of age, each year receiving an advance in wages and saving a large part. At sixteen he left the farm and entered a grocery-store in Providence, R. I., as clerk, retaining the position about five years. In 1840 he came to Uxbridge and attended school in the Old Academy building for one year, having earned and saved the money to pay his tuition while a clerk at Providence. He was a diligent student, and, with characteristic energy and industry, employed his time in a profitable manner outside of school hours: in company with a fellow-student of his own age, he hired a piece of land, from which they raised a large crop and disposed of it at a profit, all the work of cultivation

Richard Sayles

Daniel Drummond

being performed out of school hours. At the end of his year's schooling at the Old Academy he entered the employ of the Uxbridge Woolen Company, and remained with them about three years. He then returned to Providence and bought out his former employer in the grocery business, at the corner of Charles and Randall Streets. The business proved successful, and he continued in it three years, and then returned to Uxbridge again and entered the employ of the Uxbridge Woolen Company as book-keeper, filling the position some six years with great credit to himself and to the entire satisfaction of the company, who offered him an interest in their business to remain with them. January 1, 1846, while in the grocery business, in Providence, he was married to Sarah Eddy McBride, who was born at Bolton, Mass., October 14, 1822, at the time of her marriage residing at Northbridge, Mass. Her parents were members of the Society of Friends. April 1, 1853, Mr. Sayles entered the employ of Mr. Moses Taft, of Uxbridge, and superintended the building and equipment of the Centreville Woolen-Mill, now known as the Calumet Mill, on the completion of which, in the summer of 1853, he, in company with his brother-in-law, Mr. Israel M. Southwick, hired the mill, and, under the firm-name of Southwick & Sayles, commenced the manufacture of a fine grade of fancy cassimeres, which they continued successfully until July 1, 1859. They then sold out to Messrs. Bradford, Taft & Co., of Providence, R. I., Mr. Sayles remaining with the new firm in the capacity of agent and superintendent, and Mr. Southwick as master-mechanic. Messrs. Bradford, Taft & Co. were succeeded by Messrs. Taft, Weeden & Co. Mr. Sayles remained with them until January 1, 1864. During a part of the time, from July 1, 1859, to January 1, 1864,—that is, from the breaking out of the War of Rebellion,—the mill was engaged in the manufacture of a fine grade of indigo blue goods for officers' overcoats and suitings, all of the product being contracted direct to the United States Government, and receiving the highest commendation. The mill for a time was run day and night upon this line of goods, requiring sixteen blue vats for the coloring of the wool. During this period of manufacture for the army the duties devolving upon Mr. Sayles were excessive, often requiring his presence at the mill until late at night; this close application to business proved too severe a strain upon him and resulted, January 1, 1864, in a severe shock of paralysis, from which he did not fully recover for several months. After a partial recovery, having severed his connection with Messrs. Taft, Weeden & Co., he leased, about April 1, 1864, the Laurel Ridge Woolen-Mill, in the town of Burrillville, R. I., and village of Pascoag, operating it for one year in the manufacture of satinets, residing during the time with his family in Uxbridge. May 28, 1864, in company with David A. McBride, a brother-in-law, he bought of Mr. Chandler Taft the old Rivulet Mill property, situated in the north part of the town. After moderate improvements and repairs, they commenced the manufacture of shoddy, supplying Mr. Sayles' mill, in Pascoag, and also manufacturing for the market. They continued this business successfully for about two years. On February 9, 1866, Mr. Sayles purchased Mr. McBride's interest in the property and sold the same to Mr. Israel M. Southwick, his former partner at the Centreville Mill. Immediately they commenced extensive additions to the property with the intention of manufacturing fancy cassimeres; but owing to the great depression in the business, which soon followed, the project was given up, and the property remained unoccupied for several months.

November 13, 1866, Mr. Sayles purchased Mr. Southwick's interest, and soon after sold it to Mr. Zadock A. Taft, of Uxbridge, a copartnership was formed under the firm-name of Sayles & Taft, and the manufacture of shoddy was commenced on an extensive scale, and was continued with success until July, 1869. They then leased the property to Messrs. E. S. Bradford & Co., of Providence, R. I., who commenced the manufacture of fine and medium grades of woolen yarns; this firm was succeeded by Messrs. Pierce & Paine, of Providence, and they continued the business until October, 1872, when the mill was burned to the ground, making a total loss. The following year Messrs. Sayles & Taft commenced the rebuilding of the property on an enlarged scale, and when completed began the manufacture of cotton warps and yarns, and continued the business for about one year, and then sold the cotton machinery and replaced it with machinery for the manufacture of satinets, which business they commenced and continued under the firm-name of Sayles & Taft, until October 1, 1878, when they associated with them Mr. Henry S. Morse, of Uxbridge, the firm-name becoming Sayles, Taft & Co., the manufacture of satinets being continued. January 1, 1882, Mr. Taft retired from the firm, and Mr. Sayles and Mr. Morse continued under the firm-name of Richard Sayles & Co. The various business interests of Mr. Sayles in his connection with the Rivulet Mills property have proved successful, as is reflected in the appearance of the village, its improved streets and lands, substantial mill buildings, neat and comfortable houses, all of which point to the enterprise, industry and integrity of Mr. Sayles, its projector, who, in every respect, was a self-made man; broad and progressive in his views, his aim was to have his village and its people surrounded by the best influences, and to that end contributed liberally of his means and effort. Largely to his influence was due the erection of the handsome Baptist Church near his village, he being elected and serving as chairman of its building committee, and contributing generously to its fund and also to its support. In his religious views he combined those of the Universalists and Unitarians; in

politics a stanch Republican and strong advocate of protection to American labor and American industries. He several times refused public office, devoting all his time to his business and improvements in his village. He was a strictly temperate man, and a man of very decided opinions, always expressing them in a straightforward and honest manner. As an employer, he was kind and generous, doing all in his power for the comfort and welfare of his employés, always kind-hearted and genial, ever ready to lend a helping hand and speak a word of encouragement. It was a pleasure to meet and converse with him. He was a man in every sense of the word, a man of the strictest integrity and sterling honesty.

May 23, 1887, after several weeks of extremely painful illness, he passed away in the sixty-eighth year of his age, although in appearance a much younger man. He leaves a wife, three sons and a large circle of friends. He was a lineal descendant from John Sayles and Mary Williams, daughter of Roger Williams. John Sayles was a native of England, and Mary Williams was born at Plymouth, Mass., in August, 1633.

Esek Sayles, the grandfather of Richard Sayles, was born at Gloucester, R. I., November 26, 1753, and was married, January 9, 1788, to Mary Harris, his second wife, who was born at Gloucester, R. I., October 16, 1763, by whom he had eight children,—six sons and two daughters,—all born at Gloucester. Amasa Sayles, the oldest child, was born November 18, 1788. and was married November 22, 1811, to Mary Keach, who was born at Gloucester, R. I., January 10, 1794, and were the parents of Richard Sayles, he being the fifth of seven children,—six sons and one daughter,—all born at Gloucester. But two of the family survive—Mrs. Israel M. Southwick and Rensselaer Sayles, both residents of Uxbridge.

DANIEL FARNUM.

Daniel Farnum was of the fifth generation in descent from John Farnum, an early settler at the ancient town-seat in Mendon, and a little later in the southerly part of Uxbridge.

The lineage is John, Moses, Moses, David, Daniel. His grandfather Moses was an eminent minister in the Society of Friends, whose memory is still fragrant in many bosoms. Mr. Farnum lived through all the mature part of his life in Northbridge, near the border of Uxbridge. He was the oldest son of a large family, and is survived only by his youngest brother, Samuel J., now a resident in or near Poughkeepsie.

Daniel Farnum was born with a good constitution, which he preserved well by regular and temperate habits, experiencing but little sickness, and retaining his faculties in remarkable vigor till within the last year of his life. His was emphatically a sound mind in a sound body; he was characterized for sound common sense, a strong sentiment of justice and honesty, insistence on his own rights, and respect for those of others; economy, simplicity and hospitality in domestic affairs; was provident, faithful and kind in the family circle; a serviceable, judicious and trustworthy townsman, honored with the principal municipal offices, including those of selectman and Representative in the Legislature; a reliable counselor in financial matters; a lover of his country and its liberties; a firm opposer of slavery and oppression; sparing in religious professions, of broad tolerance toward all denominations; liberal in theology, and a steadfast hoper in the final triumph of good over evil. These were qualities and characteristics which in Mr. Farnum overshadowed the incidental imperfections common to human nature. He was warmly attached to the interests of the town, and was a constant attendant on town-meetings, the last one he attended being in 1878, when in his ninety-fourth year. Among the positions of public financial trust he occupied was that of director in the Blackstone Bank, of Uxbridge, over twenty years. He had been expecting his departure for three years, expressed his entire resignation to the Divine disposal, and passed away in the confident assurance of the life everlasting, December 10, 1879, aged ninety-five years and eighteen days.

CHAPTER XXXI.

AUBURN.

BY REV. S. D. HOSMER.

TOPOGRAPHICAL.—Auburn lies on the map an irregular pentagon in form, its eastern boundary and base line touching Millbury, with Worcester on the north, Leicester on the west and Oxford on the south. Its area covers about 10,000 acres, with a diameter of five miles in its extreme length. The centre, or the Congregational Church, lies five miles distant south by west from Worcester City Hall. The Norwich and Worcester Railroad threads the eastern side of the town, with depots at Auburn and Stone's Crossing; the Boston and Albany Railroad runs through the western part. It has no station, but Jamesville and Rochdale depots are respectively within a half-mile and a mile of the town line. In 1885 the Webster Branch was opened, whose junction with the Albany road is in Auburn. This branch has a station at West Auburn. Thus railroad facilities are good.

The surface is hilly, though without very high summits. The water-courses, trending northerly and easterly, join their channels to make the southern branch of the Blackstone River. These brooks and ponds are frequented by anglers, and three water privileges serve manufacturing uses and have for nearly a century. Pakachoag Hill extends two miles in the easterly part of Auburn, passing into Worcester, where it is crowned by the College of the Holy

Cross. From its broad plateau one gets a fine view of Stoneville, Leicester steeples on the western horizon, Millbury, Grafton and Shrewsbury, Mt. Asnebumskit and blue Wachusett. Grassy Hill borders on West Millbury, Prospect Hill stretches from West Auburn across the Oxford line, Crowl and Beer's Hills rise in the northwest corner. We find our Auburn not the "loveliest village of the plain." The population is fairly distributed, the factory precinct of Stoneville being the more thickly built up. Pondville lies east of the centre. The inhabitants generally are farmers whose great barns show the tons of hay produced and the quantity of stock raised. Towns adjacent have a larger territory and population, and, with the exception of Millbury, a more ancient record. Our history narrates the origin, the doings and the present condition of an average New England rural community.

CIVIL HISTORY.

In Council, June 19, 1773, ordered that Gershom Rice, Israel Stevens, David Bancroft, Jonathan Stone, Daniel Boyden, Jacob Stevens, Thomas Drury, Thos. Drury, Jr., Henry Gale, Wm. Bancroft, Jas. Nichols, Darius Boyden, Jas. Hart, Thos. Baird, Jas. Hart, Jr., Thos. Baird, Jr., Oliver Curtis, Comfort Rice, Elizabeth Boyden, Phebe Bancroft, Jno. Boyden, Daniel Bancroft, Chas. Hart, Jas. Nichols, Peter Boyden, of Worcester; Benjamin Carter, Chas. Richardson, Timothy Carter, Phineas Rice, Benjamin Carter, Jr., Rachel Buck, Daniel Roper, Gershom Bigelow, Gershom Bigelow, Jr., Peter Hardy, Daniel Cummings, Charles Richardson, Jr., of Sutton; Samuel Eddy, Levi Eddy, Peter Jenison, Ruth Stone, Jesse Stone, Isaac Pratt, Abraham Fitts, Alexander Nichols, David Gleason, of Oxford; John Crowl, Jr., Andrew Crowl, Jonathan Phillips, John Hart, Thomas Scott, William Yong, Jonathan Stone, of Leicester; be and hereby are, with their Families and Estates, erected into a Precinct, and shall enjoy all the powers and privileges which other Precincts in this province by Law enjoy; and it is further ordered that all other persons (with their Families and Estates) living in the towns of Worcester, Leicester and Oxford, not further than three miles (as the roads are now trod) from the Place hereinafter fixed for building the meeting-house upon, together with all such others in Sutton that live not further than one mile and a half from said place, who shall signify their desire to belong to said Precinct by lodging their names in the Secretary's office within nine months from this date, be and hereby are Incorporated and made a part of the Precinct aforesaid—ordered that the spot for erecting the meeting-house upon be at the following place (viz)., at an Oak stump with stones upon it, Standing on the Westerly side of the County road leading from Worcester to Oxford, near the centre of two acres of Land which Thomas Drury conveyed to Jonathan Stone, Daniel Boyden and David Bancroft; the said two acres of land lieth on the gore of land that was annexed to the town of Worcester.

The gore of land above named lay originally in Leicester, and had been annexed to Worcester in 1758.

These persons expressed their wish to join the new precinct, and did accordingly: Samuel Holman, Gershom Rice, Jr., Israel Stone, Wm. Parker, Joseph Phillips, Samuel Learnard, Israel Phillips, Jacob Work, Jonathan Cutler, David Stone, John Harwood, Thomas Gleason, William Phips, Isaac Putnam, Joseph Gleason, Jonas Bancroft, Elisha Livermore, Gardner Chandler (for my land within the limits), Nathaniel Scot, David Bates, Nathan Patch, David Richards.

July 27, 1773, the precinct was organized and chose its officers; among others, Jacob Stevens, clerk, and Jonathan Stone, treasurer. The freeholders met at the tavern of Thomas Drury, Jr., inn-holder. The principal doings of the South Parish of Worcester, as it was called, will come in review under matters ecclesiastical, which mainly occupied attention during the five years of precinct municipality. One fact, however, deserves notice. On the proprietors' book stands, in the clear hand-writing of William Phips, the Declaration of Independence, with the subjoined order from the Council of Massachusetts:

That the Declaration be printed and a copy sent to the ministers of each parish of every denomination within this State, and that they severally be required to read the same to their respective congregations, as soon as Divine Service is ended in the afternoon, on the first Lord's Day, after they shall have received it, and the town or district clerks are then required to record the same in their books, to remain as a perpetual memorial thereof.

April 10, 1778, the precinct became an incorporated town, named Ward, in compliment to Major-General Ward, the commander of the colonial forces, at Cambridge, till Washington arrived. Heath, Gardner and Warren similarly commemorate other Revolutionary officers. Road-making, parish affairs, with the patriotic furnishing soldiers and supplies for the army, occupied our townsmen. In 1780 a committee reported on the adoption of the proposed State Constitution, favorably on the whole, yet suggesting their decided preference for legislative representation as towns, rather than based on the number of polls, and emphatically disapproving the proviso that the Constitution should not be amended for fifteen years. In 1795 the town voted thirteen to seven in favor of a revision of that instrument. September, 1786, "Voted not to take any notice of the petition or address of the town of Boston;" but what the metropolis desired of the country cousins, to be treated so curtly, is not apparent.

Ward, like other towns, was considerably implicated in the uprising of Shays' Rebellion. Taxation was oppressive; Middle and Western Massachusetts was in a ferment. A company of armed men from Ward, under Captain Goulding, joined other insurgents, gathered at Worcester to prevent the sitting of the court. Some days later, after a chilling snow-storm, the insurrectionary soldiers indulged quite freely in stimulants from merchant Waldo's stock of liquors, but detected a queer taste that suggested to some the thought of poison. Fortunately, Dr. Green, of Ward, being at hand, relieved their fears and imaginary pains in the discovery that the favorite fluid had been plentifully seasoned with snuff.

The town addressed several petitions to the General Court, Governor and Council, and Major-General Lincoln, in behalf of their misguided brethren, who became amenable to justice, particularly craving pardon for Henry Gale, under sentence of death as a rebel. He finally obtained life and liberty through the pardon granted by the executive to the condemned insurgents. The town expressly affirmed "that the hostile measures adopted and pursued by sundry persons to oppose known laws were unjustifiable in their nature and tendency." These

petitions were able papers and proved to be in the line of governmental policy.

Captain Samuel Eddy was chosen representative to the General Court in 1787, and in a long document received the explicit instructions of his constituents. I quote some of them: "The setting of the General Court, in the town of Boston, is a matter which the citizens of this Commonwealth are not generally satisfied with, as in transacting the business of an Infant Nation, imbarassed with debts, it is highly incumbent to study economy and dispatch, for which great purposes the town of Boston is by no means adapted." The next section demanded the abolition of the Court of Common Pleas; they also asked for a convention to revise the Constitution, and that inn-holders and retailers be licensed by the selectmen of their respective towns. Article thirteen complains "of the pernicious practice of the Law, as tending to the imbarassment, perplexity and expense of the people. If the general prosperity and happiness of the people can be effected by proper checks and restraints on the practitioners of the law, we do not insist upon the total annihilation of the order, but if upon investigation it should appear conducive to the happiness of the people, that the order be annihilated, you will act conformably, for it is better that a few suffer than a People to sink beneath oppression."

Sometimes the town voted not to send a Representative to the Legislature. Two of its ablest men, at the same town-meeting elected representatives, each in turn refused the honor. In 1794 Joseph Stone, surveyor, was empowered to take a map or plan of the town, agreeable to a resolve of the Legislature. Next year the town agreed to help Joseph Stone against a loyalist's claim to certain property. In May, 1796, "Voted unanimously that, alarmed by the reports current, that ye Treaty lately concluded between the United States of America and the Government of Great Britain, and duly ratified by the Constituted Authorities, meets with impediments and delays in carrying into effect, on the part of these States by the Majority of the Hon. House of Representatives of the Federal Congress; it is the wish and desire of this town, that the said Treaty be fully carried into effect without further delay." This vote was sent to the Hon. Dwight Foster, Representative in Congress.

During Jefferson's administration Ward by vote sustained the government in ordering the embargo, so unpopular in New England. John Clark, Esq., was the delegate to the convention for the revision of the State Constitution in 1820. Fifteen years later manufacturing was starting on a larger scale than the smithies, saw and grist-mills, home-looms and spinning-wheels of earlier times. That fact, with the construction of the two railroads, brought in a foreign element of population which is now mainly Canadian French. Church records chronicle with refreshing simplicity sixty years ago the death of an Irishman, a black woman, a foreigner from Sweden, the merely naming the race or nationality affording sufficient personal identification. Tything-men were chosen as late as 1839.

The name of our town, Ward, because of confusion with Ware, was changed in 1837 to Auburn, proposed, we think, by Joseph Stone, Esq., who served as town clerk twenty-four years. Indeed, the recording the town's doings fitly belongs to the clan of Stones, the most frequent family name from the first; the present capable town clerk, Emory Stone, having filled that office thirty-two years. In 1850 the Legislature annexed to Auburn certain estates, which, by their owners' choice, in virtue of the act of incorporation of Ward, had paid taxes and exercised suffrage in the towns adjoining. Our growth has been slow but sure, without the rush, inflation, depression and crash that have scathed some communities. Probably more building went on from 1865 to 1875 than in any other decade. The population was in 1790, 473; 1810, 540; 1830, 690; 1850, 879; 1880, 1317. State census of 1885, 1268; the number of polls, 316; and the valuation, $487,421.

CHAPTER XXXII.

AUBURN—(*Continued.*)

ECCLESIASTICAL.—The first settlers took prompt action in church affairs; for in August, 1773, they voted "to begin Preching as soon as may be," and planned to build the meeting-house. The pews were dignified, and taken by families in 1775, though the church was not finished until ten years were gone. It was a nearly square structure, standing more on the Common than at present. The proprietors' book shows the plan of the floor with large square pews against the wall, gives the pew-owners' names and prices paid. Various ministers were heard, and three unsuccessfully called. The church was formed with the presence and sanction of Rev. David Hall, of Sutton, Rev. Mr. Maccarty, of Worcester, and Rev. Mr. Chaplin, of Sutton Second Church (which is now the first of Millbury), Thursday, January 25, 1776. Eleven men and as many women made up its original membership. Rev. Mr. Hall officiated at their first communion observance, June 9th. The first pastor, Rev. Isaac Bailey, a native of Sterling, graduated at Harvard College in 1781, and was ordained here November 4, 1784. He had studied divinity with Rev. Daniel Emerson, of Hollis, N. H., whose daughter, Elizabeth, he married. His was a useful pastorate of thirty years. He died April 10, 1814, and sleeps with his deacons and congregation in the old church-yard.

March 1, 1815, Rev. Enoch Pond (Brown University, 1813) was ordained pastor, who labored diligently and successfully till 1828. He then became editor in Boston of the periodical *Spirit of the Pil-*

grims; and somewhat later began his life-work, at Bangor Theological Seminary, where he died, full of years, service and honor, in 1881. This church greatly flourished during his ministry, more than doubling its membership in two extensive revivals. He published sermons, reviews, lectures, beside preparing young men for college. Anecdotes are told by those who remember him showing his pleasant and, at times, jocose disposition and ready wit. His dwelling looks to-day very much as when he abode there, and the long school-room and study, now two chambers, is our veneration, as is Luther's home and study to the residents of Wittenberg.

Rev. Miner G. Pratt preached twenty years. He married Caroline, daughter of Maj. Thos. Drury, afterward resided at Andover, and died at Rochester, N. Y., 1884, aged eighty-four years. He organized a parish library, and was also postmaster. In 1887 the church building was moved back fifty feet, and the belfry and spire added.

Several clergymen came with shorter terms of stay, among whom was Rev. L. Ives Hoadley, a relative by marriage of Dr. Pond. Rev. Elnathan Davis, from Fitchburg, a graduate of Williams College in 1834, began labor in November, 1869. He did noble work as a citizen as well as preacher. The church was raised up, galleries removed and the interior quite remodeled. The church's centennial was joyfully celebrated in January, 1876; but the only printed record is the newspaper column. Mr. Davis' ministry of ten years greatly strengthened the church. Sincere was the sorrow at his funeral, April, 1881. Rev. N. A. Prince preached two years; and the present incumbent, Rev. S. D. Hosmer, of Harvard, 1850, began his labors January 1, 1883. The chapel near to the church has served at times as a school-room. In it hang three portraits of former pastors—Rev. Dr. Pond, Rev. Charles Kendall and Rev. Elnathan Davis.

On the town records we catch glimpses of persons not in accord with the standing order ecclesiastically. In 1779 provision was made to supply the deficiency caused by "taxes sunk by being laid on several of the Baptist persuasion in a late Ministerial Rate." Ten years after the selectmen were empowered "to abate Minister's taxes set to those who bring Certificates of their Congregating otherwheres besides in this town, as they may think proper." Liberty was given Elder Rathborn (at the desire of Jas. Hart) "to preach in the meeting-house at any time when they may not have occasion to make use of it themselves." March, 1812, the town "allowed the Dissenters from the Congregational Society the Privilege of occupying the Meeting-House on Week Days for Lectures; when the aforesaid Congregationals do not want to occupy the said house themselves."

A church was erected through the efforts of Colonel Goulding and Samuel Warren in West Auburn, next the burial-ground, in 1814. This was the Baptist house of worship. When that society migrated to North Oxford, this building, bought by the Warren Brothers, and moved to the site of their tannery, was used for business purposes till it was burned, about 1863.

The Baptist Church in Sutton called a council of elders and delegates, who met April 9, 1815, and constituted the First Baptist Church of Ward, with eleven male and seventeen female members. Elder Pearson Crosby, of Thompson, Conn., preached the sermon text (Matt. 16: 18), and Elder Thomas L. Leonard, of Sturbridge, gave the right hand of fellowship to the new church.* Deacon Jonah Goulding, Samuel Warren, David Hosmer and several persons of the Jennison and Gleason families were original members. Elder Dwinel seems to have been the first pastor, afterward Elias McGregory, and Rev. John Paine was the preacher from 1830 till 1837, when the larger part of the church, which counted near one hundred members, were transferred to become the Baptist Church in North Oxford. Also in 1837 Rev. Jonah G. Warren was chosen to prepare the history of this church. The Oxford Church and congregation to-day are largely composed of Auburn families.

The Roman Catholic Church at Stoneville began as a mission in 1870. It is now under the pastoral supervision of Father Boylen, who lives in Oxford. They have a neat sanctuary on the hill, with a fine view of the Holy Cross College in Worcester, distant less than two miles.

EDUCATIONAL.—In 1779 two hundred pounds were given for schooling, and the town divided into five squadrons or districts, "Each squadron to draw their money, and it to be a free school for the Town." The first committee chosen in 1780 were Jonathan Stone, Darius Boyden, Jesse Stone, John Prentice and Andrew Crowl. In November three thousand pounds were added to the sum granted last year for schooling. It must have been the depreciated currency of the day, for soon after thirty pounds became the annual appropriation. Who were the school-dames or masters then, we know not. Joseph Stone may have been one. In 1784 Ward refused to allot any part of the school-money "to be held in the Center for the sole purpose of teaching Large Scholars." Two years later the committee were seven in number, viz., James Hart, Jr., Joseph Dorr, Esq., Lieutenant Thomas Drury, Jonah Goulding, Levi Eddy, Deacon Ezra Cary and Abel Holman. The apportionment of the school-tax on the lands of non-residents in 1789 names the Sutton Squadron, Leicester Squadron, North and South Squadrons on Prospect Hill, Bogachoge and Deacon Stone's Squadron. November, 1790, Lieutenant Thomas Drury was annexed to the southeast squadron, provided said squadron shall erect their school-house on the height of land south of Messrs. Cary & Green's

Potash; and a new squadron was formed; the families of Abel Holman, Richard Bartlett, Eliphalet Holman and Paul Thurston set off from the southeast district. In June of the next year the three western districts were consolidated, and preparations made to build a school-house. A little later forty pounds was the usual annual appropriation. Like other towns fifty years since, a prudential committee looked after the school finances and a visiting committee attended to the literary attainments of teachers and pupils. The pastors have generally served with others on the School Committee, and the town has a few times recognized their merit by placing ladies on the educational board. A report of the School Committee was accepted at town-meeting in 1843; but the earliest printed school report I have seen came out in 1851.

A school of a higher grade was held in the fall of 1875, whose pupils enjoyed the thorough instruction in High School studies of a Yale graduate, resident still in town. We have two hundred and forty children between five and fifteen years old, six school-districts, with seven schools; the Stoneville building, erected in 1872, housing two schools, with an annual appropriation of $1,300, added to which is the State school fund and the dog-tax.

Rev. Mr. Pond taught a private school some seven years in his own house. He fitted many young men for college, took rusticated collegians into his family, and, with wonderful diligence and versatility, heard lessons, directed his scholars, wrote sermons and articles for the press at the same time. He prepared a new arrangement of Murray's English Grammar. At times there were thirty or forty pupils. Hon. Albert G. Wakefield, of Bangor, Maine; Rev. Artemas Ballard, D.D., of St. Louis; Virgil Gardiner, from the South; Mr. Burrill, of Providence, R. I.; and Rev. Gideon Dana were of those who studied here. Since Mr. Pond's departure select schools have at different times been kept in the chapel.

Some of the elders here in their youth attended Leicester Academy, whose centennial was kept in 1884. At present our young people take advantage of the nearness and excellence of Worcester's varied institutions of learning.

A paper-covered little book is still preserved with Jonathan Stone's autograph as owner in 1760. His son, Joseph Stone, Esq., who died in 1835, had a good library for the time. Among his varied capabilities he exercised the craft of a bookbinder. Traces exist of a social library about 1830; Joseph Stone, Abijah Craig, Oliver Baker and others being share-holders. There was, too, a parish library in Rev. Mr. Pratt's day, of which he was custodian. Mr. William Craig willed to the town one thousand dollars, provided the town added another thousand to establish and maintain a free public library, only the interest to be expended. He was a man eccentric in dress, economical in his habits, of bright faculties, quick at repartee, an active Whig. He died in 1871. The library was opened in October, 1872, with two hundred volumes, and was for several years in charge of Miss Hannah Green, at her residence; thence moved to an ante-room of the town hall. It has outgrown its present quarters. A portion of the library, mostly theological works, of the style read by our devout grandfathers, once belonged to Joseph Stone. The residue (fifteen hundred volumes) are a well-selected collection, diligently conned by the young people of Auburn. Miss Lucy P. Merriam is the trusty librarian. A catalogue was printed in 1885. We need for our library a copy of every book and pamphlet written in or about this town or its vicinity; and then a commodious hall for their use, preservation and increase. The town also owns a large case, filled with law works and the public documents of the State.

CHAPTER XXXIII.

AUBURN—(*Continued.*)

MANUFACTURES.—In the last century every housewife was skilled, like Solomon's virtuous woman, in seeking wool and flax, and deftly handled the spindle and distaff. The whirr of the spinning-wheel and jar of the loom made the home music. On early records the potash of Dr. Green and Recompense Cary is named as the starting-point of a new road. An official document in 1794 mentions two grist-mills, four saw-mills and one fulling-mill. A wind-mill, too, caught the breezes upon Prospect Hill. Charles Richardson's mill utilized the water privilege, now called Pondville, known as Rice's mills fifty years ago. From Mr. Rice the property passed through several owners to Otis Pond, who changed the business from a saw and grist-mill to the making of yarn. Then, with his brother as partner, it became a satinet-mill. At this time, 1862, Mr. B. F. Larned took an interest in the business, which, at first with others, and then alone, he sustained till 1883. The Auburn Mill was widely known for its woolen goods, sold through Boston and New York commission houses. By a freshet causing the reservoir to give way, the mill was damaged in 1873. Mr. A. Henry Alden was drowned in the flume by the bursting in of the bulkhead gates June 18, 1879. A six-families tenement-house, office and store-house were built, and a set of cards put in, making five sets in the mill, in the spring and summer of 1880. Three times has the plant been wholly burned,—in 1865; August 25, 1870; and August 21, 1880. Each rebuilding was a marked improvement. A very pleasant festival and charitable gathering of towns-folk and friends from abroad, with a bright speech by Hon. John D. Washburn and a poem by Rev. E. Davis, celebrated

the completion of the new mill in the month of February, 1881. Mr. Larned sold the property in 1883 to L. J. Knowles & Brother. The mill is now managed under the firm of Kirk, Hutchins & Stoddard as the Auburn Woolen Mill.

The Drury family, for three generations, owned a grist and saw-mill at the outlet of the pond near the Southbridge and Stoneville roads. Colonel Alvah Drury built the house now Mr. Hilton's residence, and prospered in his business. The site afterward became known as Dunn's Mill. Albert Curtis and B. F. Larned bought the water privilege, and Dunn's shoddy mill, owned by B. F. Larned, was burned, with a loss of over four thousand dollars, May 2, 1877. Mr. James Hilton carried on the same business, and his premises were burned in 1887, but immediately rebuilt and enlarged.

Dark Brook, the outflow of Eddy's Pond, at two points has turned the wheels of manufacturing industry.

Plows, scythes, wooden-ware for farmers' tools and shoes were made here from 1820 to '40. Ichabod Washburn, the wealthy and liberal wire-maker of Worcester, served his apprenticeship with Nathan Muzzy, whose blacksmith-shop stood behind the church. He received his freedom suit of clothes, made by Mrs. Muzzy, at the expiration of his service.

In 1837 Auburn could show one woolen mill, a paper mill, a card factory, three shingle mills, a lath mill and a sash and blind factory. Daniel Haywood's paper mill, a four-story structure on the stream above Stoneville, was swept away by a flood in 1856. John Warren & Sons carry on the tannery in West Auburn. This industry has been successfully prosecuted on the same spot, and kept in the family since Jonah Goulding started that business nearly a century ago.

In 1834 Jeremy Stone began to improve the water-power on Young's Brook by erecting a brick mill and houses for the operatives. He died at the South before his plans were completed, but the village at Stoneville marks his business foresight. Edward Denny, of Barre, next owned the property. About 1850 Mr. A. L. Ackley bought him out, changing the woolen to a cotton mill. John Smith, of Barre, took it in 1858, whose sons, C. W. and J. E. Smith, coined money by shrewd business operations in the war-period, from 1861 to '65. At C. W. Smith's death, a few years since, the mill lay idle awhile. Mr. George H. Ladd acted as superintendent till the last sale of the property and his removal to Clinton. Mr. Hogg, the carpet manufacturer at South Worcester, is present owner, the business-name being the Stoneville Worsted Company, making yarn for the Worcester Carpet Mill.

When the Lynde Brook reservoir broke loose, the damage at the Stoneville dam and bridge cost the town alone three thousand dollars. The dwellings of the operatives under the maple's shade, the neatly-kept pine grove on the near hillside, its height crowned by the Catholic Church and the public school, form as attractive a New England factory village as you may find.

The Darling Bros. (Messrs. D. W. & J. T.), contractors, reside on the Rochdale road in Auburn. Specimens of their skill, fidelity and success as builders are seen at the Polytechnic, Worcester, and public edifices at Ware and Springfield. Through the influence of James Alger, a veteran engineer on the Boston and Albany Railroad, some twenty of our young men are firemen and engineers on several railroads.

AGRICULTURE.—Rev. Peter Whitney writes of this town in 1793: "The soil in general is fertile, rich and strong, suitable for orcharding and all kinds of fruit; well adapted to pasturage and mowing, and produces large crops of rye, oats, wheat, barley, Indian corn and flax. It is not very rocky, but affords stone sufficient for fencing in the farms." And Major Gookin, a century before, noted the famous crops of Indian corn at Pakachoag, the Indian civil plantation, and translated the significance of the aboriginal word, the village named from "a delicate spring of water there."

I suppose wool-raising in the olden time was profitably pursued. Different ear-marks of the stock-owners are recorded by the town clerk. The minister's glebe counted its acres by the scores, and the good parson, like his congregation, was expert in using the plough, scythe and sickle. There must have been double the amount of woodland. In recent times the supply of railroad ties, and hundreds of trees cut down for fuel, explains the lesser area of the forest. For a mile one rode along a shaded avenue a few years since on the Southbridge road; alas! that the fact should be but a pleasant memory now. Some farms still belong to descendants of their first owners. Our yeomen quite generally are busied in supplying milk to the neighboring city. Mr. A. S. Wolf conducts a well-managed market produce farm, and finds a ready disposal for all he raises. He employs, winter and summer, a number of men, and his fruitful acres remind one of the Arlington and Belmont market-gardens. Other persons cultivate the small fruits and realize, we hope, the pecuniary profits a well-known novelist gave as his experience on the banks of the Hudson. The yearly harvest exhibition shows an attractive display of flowers, vegetables and fruit.

The Auburn Grange, No. 60, P. of H., was organized July 2, 1874, with twenty-three charter members. It now numbers over one hundred, and is in a flourishing condition. A few years since the grange spent a bright May-day, before Arbor Day was recognized, in the adornment of the public green by setting out thrifty young maples to grow beside the half a dozen lofty elms, the bequest to us of our thoughtful predecessors a century ago.

We note some of the chief agricultural results in Auburn, found in the tables of the State census in 1885 for the year previous:

Milk, gallons	250,716
Value of dairy products	$47,164
Hay, straw and fodder	30,927
Vegetables	19,391
Animal products	9,152
Wood products	7,368
Poultry products	6,874
Aggregate of agricultural products	$132,032

There were ninety-one farmers, with eighty-five additional farm laborers.

A sentence from the town's instructions to its representative, in 1787, might serve well as a grange motto: "The industrious husbandman, on whom this commonwealth will probably ever depend for its greatest strength." True of the United States to-day, though not as applicable to Massachusetts as when originally penned.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

AUBURN—(*Continued.*)

MILITARY AFFAIRS.—Military titles abound in the names of the first residents. Some had seen service in the French and Indian Wars. The commission of Comfort Rice as first lieutenant in the Third Company of Foot, Micah Johnson, captain, in the regiment of militia in Worcester County, whereof John Chandler is colonel, signed by Governor Hutchinson, June, 1773, is yet preserved. Two companies marched from Worcester on the Lexington alarm, April, 1775. Captain Timothy Bigelow led the minute-men. A few in his company and one certainly in Captain Flagg's were from this South Parish. The State archives contain the muster-roll of Captain John Crowl's company from this place, twenty-six men in all. They were attached to Colonel Larned's regiment, and marched to Roxbury in the alarm of April, 1775. They were paid for a hundred miles' travel and from six to twelve days' service. Total amount allowed for this company and receipted for by their captain January 24, 1776, £28 2*s*. 7½*d*. When the parish became a town its records attest its earnest loyalty to freedom, in offering good bounties for army recruits, in forwarding beef, grain and clothing to the soldiers in service. The following document is a sample:

To Capt John waight, Agent for Solder clothing for the county of Worcester, we the Selectmen of Ward have apprised and sent the following artikels, viz.:

28 shirts at 48*s* per shirt	£67 4 0
14 pair of shoes 48*s* per pair	33 12 0
14 pair of Stockings 36*s* per pair	25 4 0
Total	£126 0 0

Ward, Nov. 30, 1778.

CHAS RICHARDSON, NATHAN PATCH, JONATHAN CUTLER } Select Men

The town also purchased five guns and ammunition. There must have been a home company, as its officers were associated in 1780 with the town's Committee of Correspondence.

The part Ward took in Shays' Rebellion has been already told. October, 1796, a quarter of a pound of powder was allowed each soldier for the muster at Oxford that shall bear arms on said day. Next year the records state, "Voted to give One Dollar to each of the men called for from the military Company in this town, who shall be Volunteers to fill the Levy; also to such of the Cavalry and Artillery, who are inhabitants of this Town, who may be detached from their respective Corps, in proportion to the Levy on the Infantry; also that the town will make up the pay to each and every of said Soldiers, including whatsoever they shall be entitled to receive from the public equal to $10 per month they may serve, after they shall be called into actual service, consequent to said Levy."

The town's powder was stored in the attic of the church until a powder-house was built on the hill-top south of the old burying-place. Men still living, in their younger days trained with their townsmen on the Common, or went through the military evolutions in a field near Major Drury's house; marched to Leicester, Oxford or Worcester, joining other companies for regimental review. Gradually the military spirit died out in the piping times of peace, till the black war-cloud looming up on the Southern horizon summoned the citizen soldiery of the North. Auburn enlisted seventy-seven men; three of these entered the navy. The Twenty-fifth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Militia received the most of these of any one regiment, but Auburn had soldiers also in the Fifteenth, Twenty-first, Thirty-fourth and Fifty-first, and scattered individuals in yet others. A few joined the Heavy Artillery. Three were killed; four more died of wounds or sickness in the hospitals. On the soldiers' monument, raised in 1870, are inscribed the names of fifteen soldiers, deceased. The little fluttering flags mark the resting-places of these and others since mustered out from life's march and bivouac.

John A. Logan Post, No. 97, G. A. R., was organized with thirty-six comrades and was largely efficient toward the erection of the soldiers' monument. But so many of its members left town that after three years the post disbanded. No uniformed soldier is met on our quiet streets; the nearest approach to the stormy times of '63 is the distant boom of the holiday salutes of Battery B in Worcester or the crack of the sportsman's rifle intent on shooting sly Reynard or a harmless rabbit. The grandson of the first pastor became distinguished as Prof. Jacob Whitman Bailey at West Point. Would that one of our tall forest trees might stand as a flag-staff on the Common to display on fit occasions the Stars and Stripes above the greenery of those towering elms.

CEMETERIES.—In January, 1775, a committee was chosen "to pick upon a buruing yeard." They reported "upon a Diligent and faithful tryal of y°

Ground near the Senter of the parish, the most Sutable place on the Rode from the meeting-house to oxford, on the Southerly Corner of Mr. Thomas Drury's Cleared Land," eleven rods each way, containing three-quarters of an acre. This old burying-ground joins the Common and is thickly planted with the memorial stones of our predecessors. The oldest bears the date April 13, 1777—the stone of Mrs. Deborah Thurston, aged nineteen years. The epitaphs chronicle the family genealogies of the town to a large extent, as for forty years here was the only burial spot, and till 1846 the principal one. Our forefathers' tomb-stone poetry was usually alarming in its address to the living; but these lines on the stone of a four-years-old child answer darkly the mooted question, Is life worth living?

> When the archangel's trump shall blow,
> And souls to bodies join,
> What crowds shall wish their lives below
> Had been as short as mine.

An ancient graveyard beside the thronged city's street seems terribly out of place, only interesting to some Old Mortality of an antiquarian; but in the country the open fields around, singing birds loving its tree-tops, wild flowers and creeping vines bordering its stone walls, the sunset glow of a summer evening lighting up its glades, give a tranquil beauty and serenity better felt than told. The poet's matchless elegy could have been written only of a country church-yard.

For seventy years the graveyard near School-House Number Four has been the burial-place for the west part of Auburn. The first interment was that of Mr. Gleason in 1814. Colonel Goulding's tomb is here. A small enclosure on Prospect Hill near the Oxford line has one monument and several graves. It belonged to the Cudworth family. The Burnap field, on land of Thomas S. Eaton, is where that family buried their dead, but the stones have been all removed.

The new cemetery, laid out in 1846, occupies about six acres midway from the church to the depot. A simple plinth and marble shaft, resting on a granite base, the soldiers' monument, crowns the crest of the slope opposite the gateway. For forty years this garden of the dead received the faithful care of, and nearly every grave was dug by, the sexton, John G. Stone, from whose broad acres this land was purchased. Our town name recalls the designation of that first extensive garden-cemetery, Mount Auburn, near Boston. As our necropolis has never been named, from its fair prospect over the near water to the distant hills, let us designate this beautiful spot our Mt. Pisgah.

The Old Tavern.—The residence of Otis Pond, at the Common, is perhaps as old and as little changed as to the interior, as any house in town. This was the tavern, with swinging sign-board between the two supporting timbers, suggesting accommodation for man and beast. It was kept by mine hosts Drury, Sturtevant, Cary and Wiser, and not on a temperance platform, as stories of the older inhabitants assure us. Here reined up the stages from Worcester to Norwich, which, in 1831, left Worcester every Wednesday and Saturday at 3 A.M., the passengers reaching Norwich the same afternoon, and, by the steam packet "Fanny," New York the next morning. The summer arrangements for 1838 read: Monday, Wednesday and Friday the stage leaves for the Norwich boat at 6.30 A.M., but on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday on the arrival of the first train from Boston. The Southbridge stage also passed through this town. A town-meeting, awaiting a committee's report, would take a recess at the inn so accessible. The first parish-meeting convened there, and its best room, I fancy, witnessed Sabbath worship, till the church was ready for use. Dr. Pond speaks of a memorable ball at the tavern, which was the precursor of a great revival. The post-office and store were at the Common, but years since left the geographical centre of the town for its travel centre—the depot. But the sign "Groceries" remains,—an epitaph on business departed, perhaps capital buried beyond resurrection. Like an old palimpsest, too, it carries an older inscription of the store-keeper's name, easily decipherable beneath the last-painted word.

Personal Sketches.—We glance at a brief outline of some whose lives have shaped our local history. All that occurred before 1773 belongs to Worcester's chronicles or the other mother towns. Yet a word of some then active where now lie our farms may not prove amiss.

September 17, 1674, Rev. John Eliot and his coadjutor, Major Daniel Gookin, visited Pakachoag (Lincoln's "History of Worcester" gives thirteen ways of spelling that name), preached and appointed civil officers among the Indians. John Speen, a Natick convert, had already preached and taught here two years. Gookin locates this Indian village seven miles from Hassanamesit,—*i. e.*, Grafton,—and three miles from the Connecticut Path, which led westward. That way ran just north of Lincoln Square, in Worcester. Wattasacompanum, as ruler among the Nipmucks, aided Eliot and Gookin. But next year the wily Philip seduced the natives from their loyalty to the English, when they burned deserted Quinsigamond, and were present at the Brookfield disaster. Wattasacompanum, or Captain Tom, as he is called, paid the penalty of his weakness at his execution on Boston Common. Matoonas, who had been chosen constable at Packachoag, met a similar fate.

Col. Timothy Bigelow, who served in the French and Indian Wars and led Worcester's company of minute-men on the Lexington alarm, was born in what was Worcester, but soon became included in Ward. His beautiful memorial column on Worcester Common records his soldierly service.

Rev. Wm. Phips, of the colonial Governor Sir Wm. Phips line, lived near the Oxford bound-

ary, east of Prospect Hill. Born at Sherborn and a graduate of Harvard College in 1746, he preached at Douglas till dismissed in 1765. We find no trace of him as a minister here, but he was active in church, precinct and town matters, a capable man and a firm patriot. His daughter Sukey married Wm. Craig and was the mother of Abijah and William Craig and their as peculiar sister, Miss Patty. Mr. Phips died in reduced circumstances at Oxford in 1798.

A resolution passed at town-meeting in 1787 rings out its sweeping "Woe unto you lawyers!" Nevertheless, even in those troublous days, one of the most useful and honored citizens was the Hon. Joseph Dorr, born in Mendon, graduated at Harvard, 1752. Leicester and Brookfield also claim him as a resident. His services are conspicuous on our annals from 1786 to 1795. Having assisted in framing the State Constitution and filled already the position of State Senator, he was exceedingly valuable here in drafting petitions for clemency to those engaged in Shays' Insurrection, and was sent as the town's intercessor to lay their appeal before the Governor and Council. His youngest son, Edward, born in Ward, was a large land-owner in Louisiana and died there. Two older sons became eminent in mercantile and financial circles in Boston. Joseph Dorr held the office of justice of the Court of Common Pleas twenty-five years and was judge of Probate for Worcester County eighteen years. He died at Brookfield in 1808.

Deacon Jonathan Stone, of the third generation from Deacon Simon Stone, of Watertown, the immigrant ancestor and the third successively named Jonathan, came from Watertown about 1753, and settled on lands then in Leicester. In 1757 he and others asked to be joined to Worcester, which took place next year. Still later his acres fell into the new parish, soon becoming the township of Ward. His descendant, Emory Stone, Esq., owns the ancestral possessions, the venerable homestead standing till within forty years. Jonathan Stone's name occurs as owner of pew No. 47 in the Old South Church, Worcester, in 1763. He marched with Captain Bigelow to Cambridge, April, 1775, his son, Lieutenant Jonathan, going with Captain Flagg. Most of the family name here now are descended from Deacon Jonathan. He was active in the organization of the church and served as its first deacon. As appears in the original plan of the edifice, he bought pew No. 15, on the right of the pulpit, and paid the best price (sixty pounds) of any proprietor. The school District where he lived is named as Deacon Stone's District. After his day that section was known at one time as New Boston. Old family Bibles record his three marriages and the goodly array of his nine sons and daughters. He lived to be over eighty years and his stone stands near the cemetery wall close by the chapel.

His son, Joseph Stone, Esq., has been already spoken of. As teacher, surveyor, bookbinder, and even occasional printer, he was variously and largely useful. Fond of reading and study, he gathered quite a library, and the annotations in his pamphlets and almanacs afford many a desired fact to the antiquary. Specimens of hymns and tunes he composed are preserved. In 1793, with Abraham Wood, he published a singing-book, which circulated widely. The town records, in his clear chirography are a feast to the eye and a delight to the investigator. Some of our elders remember the cloaked figure of this aged worshipper at church. He had been often chosen to public office, and faithfully discharged every trust. He outlived his wife sixteen years, and died childless, at the age of seventy-nine, February 22, 1835. He gave some of his property to Bangor Seminary, and a memoir of him was written by Dr. Enoch Pond.

Jonah Goulding settled in the west part of the town, coming thither from Grafton. He became noted as the captain of the Ward company, that joined Shays' forces. One Boyden was the lieutenant. After the rebellion collapsed he was arrested at his home and confined forty days in Boston Jail. His business was that of a tanner, and he built the mansion occupied by his grandsons, the Messrs. Elbridge and John Warren. He filled the place of school committeeman and selectman. Naturally firm in purpose, keen in judgment and outspoken in speech, he acted with emphatic earnestness. He was the principal mover in the formation of the Baptist Church, and its life-long strong pillar. He died in 1826.

Rev. J. G. Warren, D.D., his grandson, and son of Samuel and Sally Goulding Warren, born September 11, 1812, fitted for college at Leicester Academy and graduated at Brown University, 1835, Newton Theological Institute, 1838. He was ordained at North Oxford, September, 1838, and had pastorates at Chicopee and North Troy, N. Y.; but his chief service was done as a secretary of the American Baptist Missionary Union from 1855 to 1872. At a critical period he filled this position with marked capacity and success. He retired in enfeebled health, and died in Newton, February 27, 1884. He was a trustee of Brown University and Newton Theological Institute.

For seventy years and four generations the Drury family were important persons; but none of the name are now resident. They owned a large estate, at one time two hundred and fifty acres, reaching from the church site well up on Pakachoag. Thomas Drury, the elder, probably came from Framingham. His name appears, in 1772, on the Worcester records among those eligible for jury duty. His grave-stone dates his death November 3, 1778, in the fifty-ninth year of his age. His son, Lieut. Thomas, had gone forth with Captain Bigelow's minute-men on the Lexington alarm. He deeded to the town, in 1781, the land around the church, two and one-half acres; improved the water-power, long known as Drury's Mills, and died, aged ninety-one, in 1836. His daughter,

Phebe, married, in 1799, Rev. Z. S. Moore, then pastor in Leicester. Soon he became a professor at Dartmouth College, then the second president at Williams, and died while first president of Amherst College. She is well remembered as a lady of fine character and dignity, a widow many years, and at her death her property was left to Amherst College.

Major Drury, often named as Thomas, Jr., well sustained the family reputation. His residence, from its high location, commands fine views to the north and east, from Cherry Valley across the southern part of Worcester. Rev. Mr. Davis owned the place recently, and the old-time hospitable mansion is now owned and occupied by Mr. John J. Holmes. The worthy major's twin daughters, Almira and Caroline, greatly resembled each other, occasioning amusing mistakes of personal identity. Miss Caroline married Rev. M. G. Pratt, for twenty years pastor of the Congregational Church.

Colonel Alvah Drury (each generation has a separate military title) showed remarkable business enterprise. He built the house just above his mills, now Mr. Hilton's, and was much relied on by his townsmen for his capability and public spirit. He died in his prime, the result of an accident in his mill, and with the removal of his family that well known and oft-spoken name passed out of Auburn annals.

For so small a town, Ward, in its early days, was favored with skilled physicians. Dr. Thomas Green, from Leicester, settled here, probably at the time of Dr. Campbell's removal. Dr. Green had served as surgeon's assistant during the Revolution. He was town clerk in 1784–85. This branch of the Green family, for a century and a half, have manifested aptitude for the study and practice of the healing art, which Dr. Thomas followed in Ward for twenty-five years. He died in 1812, and was succeeded in his profession by his half-brother.

Dr. Daniel Green, also of Leicester, was born November 9, 1778, a son of Thomas Green, and grandson of Rev. Thomas Green, a noted physician and surgeon, as well as pastor of the Baptist Church in Leicester. Dr. Green was of the sixth generation of those who came to Massachusetts from England in 1630. About 1811 he established himself in Ward, and for over fifty years was the esteemed and successful physician, with a practice extending into all the neighboring towns. A man of excellent judgment, with keen powers of observation, and integrity of purpose, he was the trusted practitioner till over eighty years of age. He was an active worker in the anti-slavery cause in its earlier days, as well as an earnest advocate of temperance. He married, January 13, 1814, Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Emerson, of Hollis, N. H. June 1, 1861, he died, aged eighty-three years. "He was closely identified with the best interests of the town through all these years, and is remembered accordingly."

John Mellish, Esq., was born at Dorchester in 1801, came to Auburn in 1839, was a justice of the peace thirty-five years, held the office of school committee-man until advanced in years, having held the same position in Oxford and Millbury, and was employed as school-teacher, generally in the winter season, for many years. He took the census of Auburn in 1840 and 1850. His son, John H., graduated at Amherst College in 1851; Andover Seminary, 1854; was ordained at Kingston, N. H., February 14, 1855; is now preaching at North Scituate, R. I. Another son, David B., learned the printers' trade; became an expert reporter and stenographer, in New York City; had an office in the Custom House, was elected Representative in Congress and died while filling that post in 1874 at Washington, D. C. A daughter, Mary Louisa, married Rev. Franklin C. Flint, of Shrewsbury, and died in 1881.

The Eddy family have held a prominent place in town for a hundred years. A recent death removes this landmark, and the widow and children have migrated. A boy, Samuel, is the ninth in successive generations bearing that name.

These then form the annals of our quiet neighborhood. Less in area and population than places adjacent, less of the factory element and more of the yeoman's toil, Auburn follows the even tenor of her way. Its century and a decade of municipal life have been in general uneventful years, aloof from the swirl and roar of the city's whirlpool, yet growing, though slowly. In other States the name Auburn marks thriving cities; here it best comports with rural scenes. Still-life one might disdainfully count this, if restless and ambitious as most Americans are. But a town so accessible to Worcester will some day share its growth, and number residents by thousands. Upon the creditable past may our citizens plan for and attain future thrift, growth and the common weal.

CHAPTER XXXV.

ASHBURNHAM.

BY EZRA S. STEARNS, A.M.

ORIGINALLY the town of Ashburnham included about one-third of each of the adjoining towns, Ashby and Gardner. It is situated in the northeast corner of Worcester County, and is bounded on the north by New Ipswich and Rindge in New Hampshire; on the east by Ashby, in Middlesex County, and by Fitchburg; on the south by Westminster and Gardner, and on the west by Winchendon. Since 1792, except the addition of two farms, the gift of Westminster, the boundaries and area of the township have remained unchanged. The present area is about twenty-four thousand five hundred acres, including about one

thousand five hundred acres of ponds and reservoirs. Situated in the line of the water-shed between the Connecticut and Merrimack Valleys, the course of numerous streams is outward; the only waters flowing into the town are a few small brooks which have their source in Rindge and New Ipswich on the north. There are eight natural ponds in the town; four are tributary to the Connecticut and four to the Merrimack River. Here the Souhegan and Squannacook and important branches of the Nashua and Miller's Rivers have their source. The altitude exceeds that of the surrounding country on the east, south and west. The summit on the line of the Chesline Railroad, one and one-half miles northwest of station at South Ashburnham, is one thousand and eighty-four feet above tide water, while the old burial-ground on Meeting-House Hill exceeds the summit by two hundred feet. The rounded form of Great Watatic on the dividing line between Ashburnham and Ashby, towers to the height of one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven feet. In the north part of the town are several lenticular hills with rounded outlines and arable to the summit. These remarkable accumulations of hill are also found in Rindge, Ashby and Gardner, but only a small proportion of Ashburnham falls within the area of this glacial drift. The soil is that common to the hill towns of Worcester County. When placed in comparison it is stubborn and rocky, yet generally arable and productive. The subsoil is clay retentive of moisture, and numerous springs gushing from the hill-sides are the perennial source of brooks and rivulets winding through the valleys, and supporting the crystal lakes nestled among the surrounding hills. The fauna and flora of the locality are topics discussed in the general history of the county.

Lunenburg, including Fitchburg and a part of Ashby, and Townsend, including a more considerable part of Ashby, were originally granted 1719, and within those grants numerous settlements were made in rapid succession. For several years the territory at the west of the new settlements was unbroken, and the future town of Ashburnham remained the border of the wilderness on the line of the settlements. In 1735 six grants of land, containing three thousand eight hundred and fifty acres, were located within the present township, and are minutely described in the "History of Ashburnham," recently published. Also in 1735, and while these individual grants were being located and surveyed, the General Court made grants of several townships to the surviving soldiers or the heirs of those deceased who served in the expedition to Canada in 1690. The companies from Dorchester, Ipswich, Rowley and other towns each received the grant of a township, and preserving at once the names of the towns in which the soldiers resided and the military service in which they had engaged, the new grants which were located in this vicinity were called Dorchester Canada (now Ashburnham), Ipswich Canada (now Winchendon), and Rowley Canada (now Rindge). The township of Dorchester Canada was surveyed in January, and the grant confirmed by the General Court June 1, 1736. For nearly twenty years and until the date of incorporation, the government of the township was proprietary. In accordance with the conditions imposed by the General Court, three sixty-thirds were reserved in equal shares for the first settled minister, for the ministry and for the support of public schools. The remainder was divided from time to time equally among the sixty proprietors, who individually made sale of their land to speculators and to settlers.

The early roads and mills and the first meeting-house were ordered and controlled by the proprietors, and by them the call was extended to the first settled minister. Between 1736 and 1744 considerable progress was made in the settlement. A saw-mill was built in 1738, and in 1739 or 1740 the first meeting-house was erected. The number of families residing in the township during these years is not known, and the names of only a few of the settlers have been preserved in the records. At the outbreak of the French and Indian War two houses were fortified, but before the close of the year 1744 the settlement was deserted. During the ensuing five years there were no meetings of the proprietors, and no family remained within the township.

In 1748 active hostilities between England and France were suspended, but during that and the following year parties of Indians, accompanied by French soldiers, continued to menace the exposed and poorly-defended line of the settlements. The northern part of Worcester County was wholly deserted, or continually in a state of alarm and anxiety. Not until 1750 did a feeling of security invite an occupancy of the frontiers. One by one the hardy pioneers founded homes in the town, and through the efforts and encouragement of the proprietors, the settlement of this town slowly increased until the return of peace opened the door to an increasing tide of immigration to the towns in this vicinity. It appears that during the first twenty years of effort and danger, dating from 1735, there were a considerable number of temporary residents in this town, and that among these, on account of the insecurity of the times, there were not over a half-dozen families who settled here previous to 1755 and became permanent inhabitants of the town.

Deacon Moses Foster, of Chelmsford, and James Colman, of Ipswich, cleared land and built houses in the northeast part of Dorchester Canada previous to the permanent renewal of the settlement. The sites of these early homes are now in Ashby, having been included within the limits of that town when incorporated in 1767. In times of expected danger they removed their families to Lunenburg, and prosecuted their labor in this town with many interruptions. About 1750 Deacon Foster removed to the centre of the town, and subsequently was an inn-holder many

years. He died October 17, 1785, aged ninety-four years. Mr. Colman was a prominent citizen, and was a member of the first Board of Selectmen. He continued to reside at the scene of his early labor in this town, but, after 1767, he was a citizen of Ashby, where he died August 15, 1773. Elisha Coolidge removed from Cambridge, 1752, and settled at Lane Village. He was a mill-wright, and a useful citizen. He died August 29, 1807, aged eighty-seven years. Jeremiah Foster, from Harvard, and a native of Ipswich, removed to this town with his family in 1753, and settled on the Gamaliel Hadley farm. He was a man of character, and influential in the new settlement. He died December 12, 1788, aged seventy-eight years. Next in order appear John Bates, Zimri Heywood and Benjamin Spaulding, an enterprising trio in the northeast part of the town, who were subsequently included in Ashby. Enos Jones, from Lunenburg, at the age of nineteen years, settled on a farm in the north part of the town, on the Rindge road, which still perpetuates a name that remains prominent in the annals of Ashburnham. Omitting mention of several families that removed from town after a few years' residence, to the settlement was added Jonathan Samson, a native of Middleborough, who removed from Harvard in 1762, and settled on the Merrick Whitney farm. He was a useful citizen, and late in life he removed to New Hampshire, where he died at an advanced age. Ebenezer Conant and Lieutenant Ebenezer Conant, Jr., from Concord, settled near Rice Pond in 1763. Both died in this town. Their descendants have won a merited distinction in several scholastic callings. In the midst of these arrivals several German families settled in the eastern part of the town, in a locality which still bears the familiar appellation of "Dutch Farms." Soon after their arrival in the colony, and while temporarily living near Boston, Henry Hole, Christian William Whiteman, Jacob Schoffe, Simon Rodamel, Peter Perry, John Rich and John Kiberling, in 1757, purchased one thousand acres of land, and early the following year removed hither, except Peter Perry, whose name does not again appear. At the same time, purchasing land of them and locating among them, came other Germans, Jacob Constantine, Jacob Selham, Andrew Windrow, Henry Stack and Jacob Barkhardst, while John Oberlock and Philip Vorback settled near the site of Cushing Academy. A few years later Jacob Wilker settled on the farm still owned by his descendants. These were born in Germany, and nearly all of them were married in their native land. They were educated, intelligent people, and in full sympathy with the settlement in religion and in hatred of tyranny. By assimilation and intermarriage, in language and manner of living they quickly became equal and common factors in the body politic, and in social relations. No traces of caste, or prejudice of race, appear in the records or the traditions of the town. In the second and subsequent generations the name of Hole was written Hall; Kiberling or Kiblinger became Kibling; the Oberlocks assumed the name of Locke; Rodamel was changed to Rodimon, and later to Dimond, while Windrow was Anglicized in Winter. After the Revolution, in which they manifested a conspicuous patriotism, members of the second generation of several of these families removed to Northern New Hampshire.

Among the non-resident proprietors, who were most active in forwarding the settlement, appear many names familiar in the annals of a former century. Timothy Tilestone, of Dorchester, was the first petitioner for the township and for several years a ruling spirit of the organization. He was ably supported by Judge Joseph Wilder, of Lancaster, the Sumners, of Milton, and by Benjamin Bellows and Edward Hartwell, of Lunenburg. The fortunes of the second or permanent settlement of the town were supported and encouraged by Richard and Caleb Dana and Henry Coolidge, of Cambridge, Colonel Oliver Wilder and the brothers, Joseph Jr., and Captain Caleb Wilder, of Lancaster, Jonathan Dwight and Hezekiah Barber, of Boston, Rev. John Swift, of Framingham, Hon. Isaac Stearns, of Billerica, and many others whose association with these primitive affairs of the town adorn the early pages of its history.

Ashburnham, hitherto known as Dorchester Canada, was incorporated February 22, 1765. The proprietors and inhabitants in a joint petition for incorporation, expressed a desire that the town be called Ashfield, but the General Court, with an accommodating regard for an assumed prerogative of the royal Governor in the act of incorporation, left a blank, in which Governor Bernard caused to be written the euphonious name of Ashburnham in honor of an English earl.

At the first town-meeting, holden March 25, 1765, William Whitcomb was chosen town clerk, and Deacon Samuel Fellows, Tristram Cheney, James Coleman, John Rich and Jonathan Gates selectmen. A long list of minor town offices were selected with unanimity, and certainly with a rare measure of impartiality, which bestowed an office upon nearly every citizen. From this date to the Revolution the town was prospered in its internal affairs and made considerable advance in population. The more prominent settlers who arrived immediately preceding and subsequent to the date of incorporation were: Jonathan Taylor, Jonathan Gates, Nathan Melvin, Stephen Ames, David Clark, John Conn, Samuel Salter, John Adams, William Benjamin, Joshua Billings, Amos Dickinson, Jacob Harris, Joseph Metcalf, Abijah Joslin, Samuel Nichols, Ephraim Stone, Oliver Stone, Caleb Ward, Samuel Wilder, John Willard, Jacob Willard, Oliver Weatherbee and Phinehas Weatherbee.

ECCLESIASTICAL.—Very early in the proceedings of the proprietors a committee was selected to locate a tract of land for a burial-ground and the site of the

future meeting-house. The committee promptly reported November 10, 1736, that the meeting-house lot, containing ten acres, had been located "on a hill 180 rods south of a great pond (Upper Naukeag), and has a very fair prospect." To the present time the original boundaries on the southwest and north sides have suffered no change, while on the east side a narrow strip has been severed from the public grounds and added to the farm now of Benjamin Cushing. The first meeting-house, erected 1739 or 1740, was not injured during the years the settlement was abandoned, and it silently invited occupancy twenty years before the organization of a church and the settlement of a minister. During the later years of this period several sums of money were appropriated for the support of preaching, but the amount raised for this purpose clearly indicates that the meeting-house was occupied only a small part of the time. A considerable number of the settlers were members of the church in Lunenburg, and there many of the children born in Dorchester Canada previous to 1760 were baptized. In 1759 a more liberal appropriation was made, and Mr. Jonathan Winchester was here during a considerable part of the year. A call was extended November 27, 1759, and he was ordained April 23, 1760. The same day a church was organized. The covenant bears the signature of Mr. Winchester and of twelve male residents of the settlement, six of whom were Germans. The membership during the first eight years was above fifty. The peaceful and successful ministry of Mr. Winchester was abruptly ended by his death, after a brief illness, November 26, 1767. Rev. Jonathan Winchester was of the fourth generation of his family in this country. He was born in Brookline, April 21, 1717, and was graduated at Harvard University, 1737. He was a son of Henry and Frances (White) Winchester, grandson of John and great-grandson of John, the emigrant ancestor. He was a teacher in his native town twenty years, and entering the ministry late in life, his first and only settlement was at Ashburnham. The superior merit and character of the man are clearly reflected in the records and traditions of the town. In him firmness was softened with mercy, and the ministerial austerity of his time was tempered with mildness of manner and gentleness of heart. With these qualities of mind and of heart he secured the willing love and confidence of his parish. He married, May 5, 1748, Sarah Crofts, of Brookline, where six of their ten children were born. Mrs. Winchester died in this town July 27, 1794.

The second minister was Rev. John Cushing, D.D., who was ordained November 2, 1768, and who conducted a successful ministry until his death, April 27, 1823. These many years of service were crowned with the rewards of faithful labor and a peaceful administration of parochial affairs. From the "History of Ashburnham" the following lines are borrowed:

In stature, Mr. Cushing was tall and portly; in bearing dignified and erect. He moved with precision and with the incisive mark of strength and vigor. As the infirmity of age grew upon him, his step was slower but never faltering; his form became slightly bowed but lost none of its original dignity and commanding presence. His mild blue eye and the serenity of his countenance were undimmed even when his whitened and flowing locks were counting the increasing furrows of age in his face.

As a preacher he adhered to the fundamental doctrines of his creed and supported them with frequent quotation from the Scriptures. The plan of his discourse was lucid and his methods of reasoning direct and logical. If he was tenacious in the use of set terms and forms of speech, he invariably applied them with aptness and precision. He did not rely on the abundance of words or the exhibition of emotion, but upon the weight and sequence of the central truths which formed the theme of his discourse. His voice was clear, strong and pleasing. He read his sermons closely and without gesture. In delivery he was moderate, earnest and impressive.

He was pre-eminently a minister of the olden time. His parish was his field of labor and no one was neglected. His charge was his constant thought and duty, and while he watched for the fruit of his labor, he toiled on with unfailing hope and courage. Even in the decline of life and under the weight of nearly eighty years his service was acceptable and his parish united in their love and respect for their venerable teacher. At every fireside the serenity of his countenance, the wisdom of his speech and the purity of his life and example were continually deepening the impression and enforcing the influences of his public ministrations.

It seems that the affection of his parish increased as he paled and grew feeble in their service. And when death came and stilled the pulsations of his warm and generous heart, his people paid a fitting tribute in the lines of sorrow engraved on every countenance. From that hour the voice of tradition began to assert that his genius was solid; his understanding clear; his judgment strong; his memory faithful; his emotions cool and restrained, yet his sympathies tender and his affections warm; that his resolution and perseverance were unusual, that he was faithful to every trust and that his heart was so honest, his friendship so sincere and his tongue under such control, that his smile was a benediction and his speech a sermon.

Rev. John Cushing, D.D. (Harvard University, 1764), was born in Shrewsbury, August 22, 1744. He was the son of Rev. Job and Mary (Prentice) Cushing, and a lineal descendent of the Cushing family of Hingham. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Harvard University, 1822. He married, September 28, 1769, Sarah Parkman, daughter of Rev. Ebenezer and Hannah (Breck) Parkman, of Westborough, who died in this town March 12, 1825. Until near the close of the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Cushing the churches, not only in this vicinity, but in a more extended circle, were closely allied in doctrinal views and declarations of covenant. In many places there were dissenters and here and there independent churches, but a large majority assented to the doctrines of the "standing order." In the midst of more diversity of creed during the past half-century or more, the first church in Ashburnham has remained in full relations with the orthodox or Trinitarian Congregationalists. Since the death of Mr. Cushing nine ministers have been installed over the church, and six have supplied about thirty years. The ministry has been continuous, and no serious contention has arisen between the pastor and the people. In presenting the names of these many pastors the limits of this sketch will preclude extended notices.

The third minister was Rev. George Perkins, son of Dr. Elisha and Sarah (Douglas) Perkins, born in Plainfield, Conn., October 19, 1783; ordained at Ashburnham, February 25, 1824; dismissed at his re-

quest July 3, 1832; died at Norwich, Conn., September 15, 1852. Rev. George Goodyear, born in Hamden, Conn., December 9, 1801, son of Simeon and Hannah (Beadsley) Goodyear; installed October 10, 1832; dismissed November 16, 1841; died at Temple, N. H., November 18, 1884. Rev. Edward Jennison, son of William and Phebe (Field) Jennison, born in Walpole, N. H., August 26, 1805; installed May 12, 1842; dismissed May 12, 1846; died in Conway, Mass. Rev. Elnathan Davis, son of Ethan and Sarah (Hubbard) Davis, born in Holden, Mass., August 19, 1807; installed September 16, 1846; dismissed May 21, 1851; died April 9, 1881. Rev. Frederick A. Fiske, son of Rev. Elisha and Margaret (Shepard) Fiske, born in Wrentham, Mass., April 15, 1816; installed December 30, 1851; dismissed April 17, 1854; died at North Attleborough, Mass., December 15, 1878. Rev. Elbridge G. Little, son of Joseph and Rebecca (Webster) Little, born in Hampstead, N. H., November 11, 1817; installed August 22, 1855; dismissed May 13, 1857; died at Wesley, Mass., December 29, 1869. Rev. Thomas Boutelle, son of James and Abigail (Fairbanks) Boutelle, born in Leominster, Mass., February 1, 1805; supplied from the spring of 1857 to January, 1863; died in Fitchburg, Mass., November 28, 1866. Rev. George E. Fisher, son of Rev. George and Mary (Fiske) Fisher, born in Harvard, Mass., January 22, 1823; installed May 21, 1863; dismissed September 2, 1867. Rev. Moody A. Stevens, son of David and Elizabeth (Ryder) Stevens, born in Bedford, N. H., February 7, 1828; supplied from 1867 to 1870. Rev. Leonard S. Parker, son of William and Martha (Tenney) Parker, born in Dunbarton, N. H., December 6, 1812; supplied 1870 to 1876. Rev. Daniel E. Adams, son of Rev. Darwin and Catherine (Smith) Adams, born in Hollis, N. H., June 22, 1832; supplied from July 16, 1876, to July 5, 1885. The past three years has been an era of temporary supplies.

At intervals between the pastorates, Rev. Josiah D. Crosby has supplied a longer time than several of the pastors named. During the last forty years of a useful life, with brief interruptions, he resided in this town. He was a son of Fitch and Rebecca (Davis) Crosby, and was born in Ashburnham, March 1, 1807. He died June 8, 1888. The second meeting-house, built 1791, was located on the Old Common, and near the site of its primitive predecessor. The third and present church edifice was erected in Central Village, 1833, and dedicated February 19, 1834.

In the autumn of 1793 Rev. Jonathan Hill preached the first Methodist sermon in this town, and a society was gathered the following year. Rev. Lorenzo Dow, Rev. John Broadhead, a presiding elder, and Bishops Whatcoat and Asbury are included among the early preachers at the house of Silas Willard, Esq. In 1831 the Ashburnham and Westminster Societies were united, and constituted a station. A meeting-house was built on Main Street, and dedicated July 4, 1832. This building is now owned and occupied by the Catholic Society. The present commodious edifice was built 1870. Previous to 1832 sixty-five preachers were assigned to the station to which the Methodist Church in Ashburnham belonged, and since that date thirty-six appointments have been made by the Conference. From the first the organization has been perpetual, and a vigorous society has been maintained.

To accommodate families in that portion of the town, a meeting-house was erected at North Ashburnhan, 1842, and a church with Evangelical proclivities was embodied February 21, 1843. At no time has the membership been large, and public ministrations have not been continuously sustained. In 1860 the church was disbanded, and the "Second Congregational Church of Ashburnham," with an amended creed, was organized.

The Catholics of Ashburnham held services in the town hall several years, and since 1871 have owned and occupied the edifice erected by the Methodists in 1832. The church is under the spiritual direction of Father John Conway, who is also in charge of the church in Winchendon.

Military History.—That the inhabitants of a typical New England town were patriotic during the Revolution can safely be assumed; that they met the trials of the times with heroism and uncomplainingly assented to the severest exactions of their country can be asserted without fear of contradiction. The Revolutionary sketches of towns which crowd the pages of the *Gazetteer* laboriously demonstrate that which never has been denied. Many of these local histories of the Revolution written upon the suggested plan are interchangeable. Each possesses so many features common, to them all that the conventional sketch, with a change of local terms, with equal truth would apply to any other town. The repeated requisition of the government for men, for money, for food and for clothing were demands alike upon all the towns of the infant Commonwealth, and quotas were distributed with equal impartiality. The volume varied with the population of the several towns, yet the demand was applicable to them all. The scene and the players were new in every town, yet the drama was universal and everywhere the same.

The population of Ashburnham in 1776 was five hundred and fifty-one. On account of the immigration from the older and more exposed towns near the seaboard, there was a considerable increase in population in this and other towns in this vicinity during the war, yet probably the number of inhabitants did not exceed eight hundred during the years of the Revolution. The records of Ashburnham do not contain the names of any who were in the army. The record of service presented in the following paragraphs has been compiled from the archives of the State, from papers filed in the Department of Pensions and from

papers in the possession of societies and individuals. As early as 1773 the under-current of public sentiment found expression in a warrant for a town-meeting, "To see if the town will consider the general grievances that are laid upon us by acts of Parliament, and disposing of our monies without our consent." Whatever debate ensued, there is no record of a vote at this time; but in July, 1774, the town was again assembled, and it was then voted, "that the Covenant sent from Boston be read, and accordingly it was read; then a motion was made for an alteration and that Doctor Senter, George Dana, Elisha Coolidge, Samuel Nichols and Jonathan Samson be a committee to alter said Covenant, and adjourned said meeting for half an hour, and then said Covenant was altered to the acceptance of the town. Voted that Elisha Coolidge and Samuel Nichols be a committee to keep the Covenant after it is signed." The covenant which was sent to all the towns for signature was a solemn pledge that those who subscribed would abstain from the purchase and use of specified articles of British merchandise, and that at the risk of life and fortune they would resist the officers holding commissions under the oppressive acts of Parliament. About this time the town was represented by Jonathan Taylor at the memorable Worcester Convention, which recommended the several towns within its influence to immediately appoint military officers, to organize minute-men, to procure arms and ammunition, and to provide for any emergency that may arise. In September of this year, and in harmony with the vote of the surrounding towns, it was voted to indemnify the officers in the event they were harmed for not returning a list of jurors, as required by Parliament. At the same meeting Jonathan Taylor was chosen a representative to the Provincial Congress, which assembled October 11th, at Concord.

Following the recommendations of the Worcester Convention the town, September 3, 1774, voted "to buy half a hundred of powder, one hundred of lead and ten dozen of flints as a town stock." At this meeting Abijah Joslin was chosen captain, Deliverance Davis lieutenant and Ebenezer Conant, Jr., ensign, of the minute-men. A committee of Safety and Correspondence was also chosen; they were Samuel Nichols, Jonathan Samson, Deliverance Davis, Abijah Joslin and Jonathan Taylor. With these preparations for the future, the town awaits the events of another and a more eventful year. Early the following spring Deliverance Davis and Jonathan Gates were captains of the companies in this town, but there is no record of their election or appointment. A prominent, and subsequently an honored, citizen is not named in these initial proceedings, and there is a tradition that Samuel Wilder was a little tardy in espousing the cause of American independence, and that he was waited upon by a self-constituted committee. His hesitation, if any existed, was of brief duration, and his subsequent opinions and conduct were approved by his townsmen, who frequently elected him to office during the war and many succeeding years. Swiftly following these measures of preparation, the sudden intelligence that a detachment of British troops had left Boston and were marching inland, was brought to Ashburnham in the afternoon of April 19th, and an alarm was immediately sounded. A company of thirty-eight men quickly assembled, and marched that afternoon under the command of Captain Jonathan Gates. Other men from the remoter parts of the town continued to assemble on the old Common, and with hasty preparations awaited the dawn of another day. In the gray of the morning a second company, containing thirty-three men, and commanded by Captain Deliverance Davis, hastened forward to scenes of anticipated danger. These companies, in connection with many others simultaneously summoned to the field, marched to Cambridge and remained there with the gathering army about two weeks, and until they were discharged. When these companies were disbanded, nineteen by re-enlistment continued with the army and the remainder returned to their homes. The rolls of the two companies contain the following names:

Jonathan Gates, captain; Amos Dickinson, lieutenant; Ezra Atherton, lieutenant; George Dana, William Wilder, Joseph Metcalf and Ebenezer Burgess, sergeants; Daniel Hobart, Peter Joslin and Francis Lane, corporals; Joseph Stone, drummer; Amos Lawrence, Phinehas Wetherbee, Moses Russell, Nathaniel Parker, Henry Gates, Samuel Joslin, Jonathan W. Smith, David Robinson, Jacob Kiblinger, Henry Hall, Amos Kendall, Henry Winchester, Samuel Willard, Philip Locke, Aaron Samson, Samuel Salter, John Gates, Jonathan Winchester, Daniel Edson, Joseph Wilder, Nathaniel Harris, John Whitney, Joshua Holt, Ebenezer Wood, Philip Winter, David Clark, Jr. Deliverance Davis, captain; Ebenezer Conant, Jr., lieutenant; John Conn, lieutenant; Oliver Stone, John Adams and Samuel Cutting, sergeants; Shubael Hobart, Timothy Wood and Oliver Whitcomb, corporals; Elijah Edson, drummer; Isaac Merriam, Oliver Willard, Uriah Holt, William Whitcomb, William Benjamin, Jacob Constantine, Caleb Ward, Enos Jones, Nathan Melvin, Nathaniel Hastings, Samuel Mason, Ephraim Wetherbee, David Clark, Isaac Blodgett, Joshua Hemenway, John Hall, John Kiblinger, John Putnam, Jacob Willard, Joshua Holden, Jonathan Taylor, Jonathan Taylor, Jr., Joseph Perry.

In the organization of an army from the companies at Cambridge, a company was recruited from the men from this vicinity. They were under the command of Capt. David Wilder in Col. Whitcomb's regiment. In this company Jonathan Gates was lieutenant, Francis Lane and Peter Joslin were sergeants. The other men from Ashburnham were:

Joshua Holt, Jacob Kiblinger, Philip Locke, David Robinson, Samuel Salter, Aaron Samson, Henry Hall, Henry Winchester, Samuel Willard, John Whitney, Ebenezer Wood, Philip Winter, David Clark, Jr., Joshua Hemenway, John Farmer, Joseph Smith, Jr., Jonathan Gates, Jr., Isaac Blodgett, John Locke, Jacob Winter, Daniel Edson.

Other Ashburnham men who enlisted at this time were David Clark, Uriah Holt and Thomas Dutton. These men participated in the siege of Boston, and remained in the service until the close of the year. It is probable that the whole of Colonel Whitcomb's regiment was not called into action at the battle of Bunker Hill, but it is certain that Captain Wilder's company of that regiment was warmly engaged on

that memorable day. Clark, Holt and Dutton were also in the battle, and several others who subsequently removed to Ashburnham, but at the time were residents of other towns, shared the danger and glory of the engagement. Upon the discharge of Captain Wilder's company, after a service of eight months, there was a call for men to serve a short term, while recruits for a longer term of service were being enlisted. Among these recruits appear the names of Jonathan Gates, Jr., Jonathan Samson, Jr., Joseph Metcalf, his son, Ezekiel Shattuck Metcalf, and David Merriam. At the annual March meeting, 1776, Jonathan Taylor, John Willard, Jonathan Samson, Abijah Joslin and Ebenezer Conant, Jr., were chosen a Committee of Correspondence, The selectmen who were active agents in the prosecution of the war were William Whitcomb, John Kiblinger and Oliver Willard. In May, 1776, the General Court adopted an order calling upon the people to express an opinion concerning a formal separation from Great Britain. The citizens of this town were promptly assembled in town-meeting. The article in the warrant and the vote of the town are transcribed from the records:

Article 2. To see if the Inhabitants of said Town are willing to stand by the Honorable Congress in declaring the Colonies Independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain with their lives and fortunes to Support them in the measure.

June 28, 1776. Pursuant to the above warrant the town being met made choice of Mr. Elisha Coolidge, moderator.

Voted. We the Inhabitants of the Town of Ashburnham, in Town meeting assembled being sensible of the disadvantage of having any further connections with the Kingdom of Great Britain and are willing to break off all connections with them and it is our Resolution that if the Honorable Congress shall declare the Colonies Independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain that we the said Inhabitants will stand by them with our lives and fortunes to support them in the measure.

The foregoing motion being put was voted unanimously.

In due course of time the Declaration of Independence, which was foreshadowed by similar votes in other towns, was received in printed form by the patriots of this town. It was formally read from the pulpit by Rev. Dr. Cushing, and subsequently transcribed upon the records of the town. Other men who were called into the service during the year 1776 were Ebenezer Bennett Davis, Daniel Putnam, Uriah Holt, Thomas Ross, David Taylor, John Kiblinger, Jacob Kiblinger, John Hall, William Ward, Jacob Rodiman, David Stedman, Nicholas Whiteman, Peter Joslin, Philip Winter, Daniel Hobart. Of these, Peter Joslin died while returning from the army, Philip Winter died in the service, and Daniel Hobart was killed at the battle of White Plains, October 28, 1776. For the year 1777, the selectmen were Samuel Wilder, John Willard, Jonathan Samson, Jonathan Taylor and Abijah Joslin; and the Committee of Safety and Correspondence were Samuel Foster, William Wilder, Enos Jones, Joseph Metcalf and Francis Lane. In the rolls of the Massachusetts Regiment, raised for the defence of Rhode Island, appear the names of John Kiblinger, Jacob Rodiman, Samuel Metcalf, Jonathan Coolidge and William Ward.

To avoid the inconvenience experienced during the preceding two years, on account of the short term of enlistment, and to create a more stable and a better disciplined army, orders were given early in 1777 to establish the regiments on the Continental plan, and recruit their decimated ranks with men, enlisted for three years, or during the war. For this purpose the quota of Ashburnham was sixteen, and an earnest effort was made to supply the required number. Thirteen men enlisted and were mustered into service May 26, 1777, for three years, as follows: Ebenezer Bennett Davis, David Clark, David Clark, Jr., John Winter, Thomas Pratt, Samuel Mason, John White, Paul Sawyer, Jacob Lock, Thomas Ross, Joshua Holden, Timothy Johnson and Adam Rodiman.

The town hired Francis Lee, of Pepperell, Andrew Foster, of Andover, and Josiah Fessenden, of Boston, to complete the quota. The summer of this year was a season of unusual excitement and alarm. The intelligence of the loss of Crown Point and Ticonderoga, and the uninterrupted advance of General Burgoyne created a widespread sentiment of the most painful apprehension. There was an imperative call for troops, and immediately followed the startling tidings that the enemy were invading Vermont and threatening the western counties of Massachusetts. The town was promptly in arms, and Captain Jonathan Gates with a company of men marched to Charlemont. Other companies from the neighboring towns had manifested equal diligence and were in the immediate vicinity. In the mean time the American army opposing Burgoyne had retreated into New York, and the theatre of war had been removed. These hastily-formed companies were then dismissed, and returned home after an absence of three weeks. It was an unorganized expedition, and no rolls of the companies are found. Scarcely had these men returned to their homes and the labor of their fields, before a renewed and equally imperative call was heard. An engagement was imminent, and the militia was ordered to the support of the American army. Again Captain Gates called out his company, and, hurriedly equipped, they marched again to Charlemont and to Williamstown, and thence to Bennington, Vt., arriving there the second day after the victory of General Stark. Thence they marched to Fort Edward, N. Y.; here a part of them remained until discharged, while others were engaged in the battles of Stillwater and Saratoga.

The Ashburnham company and the Fitchburg company, and possibly others from this vicinity in this service, had no regimental organization, and were attached to a New Hampshire regiment, commanded by Col. Bellows, of Walpole; but the rolls of the companies do not appear in the roster of that regi-

ment. Only the names of a few of the Ashburnham soldiers of this company, found in miscellaneous papers and records, can be stated. They are—John Adams, David Merriam, William Ward, Jonathan Samson, Jr., and in all about thirty. In August of this year there was a draft, and David Chaffin being drawn, was assigned to Col. Cushing's regiment, in the army of Gen. Gates. He was discharged on account of sickness, three months later; and of the soldiers in the Continental Army, Jacob Locke and Samuel Mason died in the autumn of this year.

In the year 1778 William Ward, Jonathan Benjamin and Benjamin Clark were among the nine months' levies for the Continental Army, and in the service at Boston appear the familiar names of Jonathan Samson, Jr., John Hall, Nicholas Whiteman, David Stedman and William Ward, while Ezekiel Shuttuck Metcalf, John Chamberlain, David Chaffin and Simon Rodiman were among the recruits for the expedition to Rhode Island. The theatre of the war having been transferred to the Middle and Southern States, there were no subsequent calls upon the militia or minute-men to meet sudden emergencies, but the demand for men to recruit the decimated ranks of the Continental Army was often renewed. In this service the subsequent enlistments were: Ebenezer Conant, Jr., Jacob Constantine, John Kiblinger, David Bond, William Ward, Samuel Metcalf, David Chaffin, Edward Whitmore, Elijah Mason, Simeon Rodiman, Jacob Rodiman, Isaac Merriam, Reuben Rice, Andrew Winter, Jr., Phinehas Hemenway, Jonathan Merriam, David Clark, Jr., Jonas Benjamin, John Coolidge, James Legget, Peter Rodiman and William Ward. This was the seventh enlistment of William Ward. An increasing burden of taxation attended the progress of the war, and requisitions for money for beef and for clothing were often renewed, making heavy drafts upon the impoverished resources of the people of Ashburnham. Long before the close of the war they were compelled to meet their pressing liabilities with pledges of future labor and the ungarnered fruits of their toil. In a season of financial extremity, in 1781, the town gave a vivid expression of failing resources in the following entreaty for recruits:

> Voted that each man that will engage to serve in the army for three years shall have eighteen head of three years' old cattle given him when his time is out, and if he be discharged in two years then said cattle are to be but two years old, or if he serve but one year they are to be but one year old, all to be of middling size.

In other words, the soldier was to receive a bounty of eighteen calves, and the town was to keep them of middling size as long as the soldier remained in the service.

Another vote about this time also reflects the poverty and distress of the time. In the dignified expression of a town-meeting, the citizens of Ashburnham declared their inability to compensate "Jonathan Samson and Mrs. Hemenway for sending two small deer to the army." The vote was negative, but in the record of a generous deed the town, perhaps unconsciously, extended to the generous donors a more liberal reward. Often during the Revolution the soldier in the distant army was cheered by the presence of a father, a brother or a son, bearing from the scanty store of his home some articles of food or clothing. All were patriots, and whether at home or in the army, they labored for and served their country. Equally meritorious and contributary to the achievements of the Revolution were the arduous service of the soldier in the field and the self-denial and accumulating burden of the patriot citizen in his home experience.

For the information and profit of the present and future generations, a large majority of towns, following the commendable example of a few, will eventually give a full and authentic account of the names and the service of its patriotic citizens who were enrolled in the War of the Rebellion. It is a labor due to the surviving comrades and to the memory of the heroic dead. The limits of a chapter of local history will admit little more than a summary of numbers, or at best the lists of names and the duration of service. These skeletons, however accurate in outline form, are without the flesh and blood of personal exploit and the breath of individual experience and suffering. That the inhabitants of Ashburnham nobly performed their part in crushing the Rebellion and in preserving the Union is seen in the following aggregates: The whole number of enlistments credited to the quota of the town, including thirty re-enlistments of veterans, is two hundred and forty-three. In addition to this patriotic record, about thirty residents of Ashburnham enlisted on the quota and are counted among the soldiers of other towns.

In the spring of 1861 the Ashburnham Light Infantry, under the command of Capt. Addison A. Walker, was a well-organized company and in a good state of discipline. Amidst the echoes of falling Sumter came to the loyal North the proclamation of President Lincoln for seventy-five thousand men. The service of the company was promptly tendered. But it was the policy of Governor Andrew to reserve many of the disciplined companies to be distributed among the regiments subsequently recruited. This reservation of the Ashburnham company, complimentary to its discipline, produced a considerable measure of discontent and embarrassment, and several of the men, impatient of delay, enlisted into organizations that were already under orders. The ranks of the company, however, were promptly filled, and an excellent discipline was maintained. With the organization of the Twenty-first Regiment the expected summons was received. This company, subsequently known as Company G, containing forty men from this town, entered Camp Lincoln, at Worcester, July 19th, and with the regiment was ordered to the front

August 23, 1861. In the mean time there had been fourteen enlistments from this town into the regiments previously organized. Immediately after, twenty men joined the Twenty-fifth Regiment, and nine men, who served in miscellaneous organizations, completed the patriotic record of the year.

In 1862 the number of enlistments was fifty-seven. Of these, five were assigned to the Thirty-fourth Regiment; twenty-three to the Thirty-sixth Regiment, twenty-seven to the Fifty-third Regiment, and two recruits joined the Twenty-first Regiment. To this date every call for men had been promptly met, and at times the town was credited with several men in excess of its quota. These repeated calls had borne hardly upon the community, and the number of men of suitable age was greatly depleted. Everywhere the quota of 1863 remained unfilled, and the government, to fill the decimated ranks of the regiments in the field, resorted to conscription. Sixty-four men from this town were drafted. Of these, some were exempted on account of disability, others furnished substitutes or paid commutation, while a small minority—fourteen, including substitutes and five recruits hired by the town—entered the service and were assigned to the regiments already in the field.

From January 1, 1864, to the close of the war, fifty-three enlistments and thirty re-enlistments of veterans were credited to the quota of the town. About one-fourth of these were strangers to the town, who were ready and willing to accept the proffered bounty, and with an equal alacrity they deserted at the first opportunity. In this constant stream of men to the front, and in the gallant service of her sons, the loyal impulse and the firm patriotism of the town are clearly revealed. By the voice of the town, all needed sums of money were promptly raised and a generous provision was made for the families of the soldier. The Aid Society, sustained by the women of Ashburnham, and the comprehensive liberality of the citizens, are apparent features of a noble record. In addition to several natives of the town who, at the time, were residing elsewhere, eleven residents of Ashburnham were commissioned officers in the service. Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph P. Rice was commissioned a captain at the organization of the Twenty-first Regiment and assigned to the command of Company H. In February following he was promoted major, and, in May, lieutenant-colonel. He was killed at the battle of Chantilly September 1, 1862. At the organization of the Fifty-third Regiment, Lieutenant-Colonel George H. Barrett was commissioned captain of Company I, and promoted lieutenant-colonel. He was in command of the regiment on its departure from the State, and, with the regiment, was mustered out September 3, 1863. Captain Addison A. Walker, commissioned captain at the organization of the Twenty-first Regiment and assigned to the command of Company G; resigned May 13, 1862. Captain Samuel A. Taylor was promoted from lieutenant to captain May 28, 1862; resigned January 13, 1863. He was subsequently a lieutenant in the Fourth Heavy Artillery. Captain Asahel Wheeler, promoted from lieutenant to captain January 14, 1863; resigned April 25, 1863. Subsequently he was commissioned captain in the Sixty-first Regiment. Lieutenant Alonzo P. Davis, commissioned first lieutenant at the organization of the Twenty-first Regiment; resigned in January, 1862. Lieutenant Charles H. Parker, commissioned lieutenant May 28, 1862; resigned March 2, 1863. Lieutenant George E. Davis, commissioned first lieutenant April 26, 1863; honorably discharged August 30, 1864. Lieutenant Joseph H. Whitney, commissioned lieutenant October 30, 1862; resigned February 23, 1863. The seven last named were assigned to Company G, Twenty-first Regiment. Lieutenant Charles H. Heald was commissioned lieutenant July 3, 1865, and was honorably discharged with the Second Regiment July 14, 1865. Lieutenant Charles W. Whitney, commissioned lieutenant November 13, 1864; honorably discharged with the Thirty-sixth Regiment June 8, 1865.

Beginning with the close of the Revolution and continuing a little more than fifty years, a company of militia, ordered and maintained by the laws of the Commonwealth, regularly appeared at the annual trainings and musters. Until a general revision of the militia laws, about 1835, this service of able-bodied citizens of suitable age was compulsory. At a very early date the citizens of Ashburnham gave evidence of dissatisfaction with this feeble expression of a military spirit. In response to an earnest petition, in June, 1791, the General Court adopted the following resolve:

Resolved, That His Excellency the Governor be and he is hereby empowered and requested to issue orders for forming a Company of Light Infantry in the town of Ashburnham, provided they do not reduce the standing company of militia in said town to a less number than sixty privates of the train band; the officers of said Light Infantry company to be appointed and commissioned in the same way and manner as is provided by law for the appointing and commissioning other military officers. Said company when so formed to be under the command of the Colonel or commanding officer of the fourth regiment of the second brigade in said division.

The organization of the Ashburnham Light Infantry immediately ensued, and the first officers—Joseph Jewett, captain; Caleb Kendall, lieutenant; and Charles Hastings, ensign—were commissioned July 13, 1791. From this date the company was vigorously maintained with full ranks and manifested a genuine military enthusiasm, until the War of the Rebellion, with the exception of five or six years, about 1850. In 1866 the organization was revived, and, complying, with the general militia laws of the Commonwealth, it constitutes a company of Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, and at present forms a part of the Sixth Regiment. In the War of 1812 the Ashburnham Light Infantry was ordered into the service and was stationed at South Boston and Dorchester fifty-one days. They were discharged Octo-

ber 30, 1814. At this time the officers were Ivers Jewett, captain; Timothy Crehore, lieutenant; and Walter R. Adams, ensign. There were forty-eight non-commissioned officers and privates.

EDUCATIONAL.—"Voted to Keep a School and voted Eight Pounds for y^e^ School and Voted for y^t^ y^e^ School Should be a moveing School, voted to leave it to y^e^ Selectmen to make y^e^ Quarters where y^e^ school shall be Cept and voted it bee a free School." These votes, adopted in 1767, are the beginning of the educational history of Ashburnham. From this date public schools have been maintained, the orthography of the town clerk has been improved and general results have kept pace with the progress of the age. Seen in the light of the present, the sums raised for school purposes in the early history of the town were limited, but they were not less than the appropriations made in other towns of equal ability. With the exception of the years 1768, 1769 and 1776, in which no appropriation was made for this purpose, the town raised twelve pounds annually until and including 1777. During the later years of the Revolution a large nominal sum in depreciated currency was appropriated, and for several succeeding years the annual appropriation was fifty pounds. The substantial and increasing sums raised for school purposes in this town are given in each decade: 1800, $300; 1810, $400; 1820, $500; 1830, $500; 1840, $900; 1850, $1400; 1860, $1700; 1870, $3000; 1880 and to 1888, $3000. From 1872 to 1875, $3500 was appropriated. For a considerable number of years the town was divided into three school districts, and while under this arrangement, a school was maintained at the centre of the town, another at the Dutch Farms, in the east part, and the third in the south part of the town; there were no school-houses until immediately after the Revolution. At the close of the past century there were nine districts, and in each a comfortable school-house. In 1829 the Tenth District, including Lane Village, was organized mainly from the old Seventh District, and in 1850, by a division of the First District, the Eleventh District was created.

In other respects the boundaries of the several school districts, with a few temporary and minor changes, have been preserved to the present time. The early settlers of this town divided themselves into communities of convenient proportions many years before the State vested school districts with corporate powers, and a committee "to visit and inspect the schools" was annually chosen by the town several years before a committee of supervision was authorized by the laws of the State. Beyond the slender support of the town the public schools in their infancy were spontaneous in the several neighborhoods, and were not the creation of public legislation.

The school system originated with the people, and the perfection of our school system rests in the fact that it has not been creative, but has seized and solidified with the authority of law the established methods created and approved by the people. From the first the schools have been in advance of the statutes. It is true that law has given uniformity and symmetry to our school system, but all its features originated with and were first approved by the communities which make up the people of the Commonwealth. In 1878, after considerable discussion, the school district organization was abolished, and the prudential affairs of the schools were referred to the Committee of Supervision.

During the past twenty years the town has maintained a high school. The early terms were held in the basement of the armory and in the school-houses in the central village. Commencing with the inauguration of Cushing Academy in 1875, a department of that well-ordered institution has given the town a permanent and excellent high school, and for its support an annual appropriation is made.

Cushing Academy bears the name of its founder. Thomas Parkman Cushing, a native of Ashburnham and a son of Rev. Dr. John Cushing, through the active and later years of his life was a merchant and resident of Boston, where he died November 23, 1854. Immediately after his decease, and in accordance with the provisions of his will, the Cushing Academy Fund was safely invested.

At the time of the organization of the academy corporation, in 1865, the sum of ninety-six thousand dollars was transferred to the corporation, which was left at interest until the accumulation was sufficient to meet the cost of a school edifice, and leave the principal unimpaired.

In the mean time George C. Winchester presented the corporation an ample and eligible lot for the site of the academy. Mr. Winchester is a great-grandson of Rev. Jonathan Winchester, the first minister of this town. The grounds accommodating the institution received the name of "Winchester Square," perpetuating at once, through the liberality of their descendants, the memory and names of the first and second ministers of Ashburnham.

The present commodious and attractive building was promptly erected, and dedicated September 7, 1875. The cost of the building, including furniture, was $92,611.75, and the permanent fund in round numbers is one hundred and twenty thousand dollars, of which the income is annually appropriated for the support of the school.

A spacious dwelling, known as "Jewett Hall," and occupied by teachers and pupils, was presented to the corporation by Charles Hastings, and the Crosby house, on Central Street, was presented by Rev. Josiah D. Crosby, who was the first clerk of the board of trustees, and who manifested an unwearied interest in the work and mission of the school. From the first this institution has been eminently successful, and under its present able management it commands

confidence at home and a lfberal support from the surrounding towns.

Edwin Pierce, A.M., was the first principal. He remained in charge four years, 1875–79. He was a son of Dana and Diedema (Paul) Pierce, and was born at Barnard, Vt., June 25, 1826; graduated at Dartmouth College, 1852. He was formerly professor of Latin and Greek at Yellow-Stone Spring College, Iowa, and principal of other educational institutions.

Professor James E. Vose succeeded Mr. Pierce, and remained in charge until his death, May 30, 1887. He was a son of Edward L. and Aurelia (Wilson) Vose, and was born at Antrim, N. H., July 18, 1836. Previous to his labor here he had secured a merited reputation, and had been in charge of several academies of New Hampshire.

H. S. Cowell, A.M., was appointed principal in June, 1887. He is a son of Rev. David B. and Christiana B. (Coffin) Cowell, and was born at West Lebanon, Me., October 10, 1855; graduated at Bates College, 1875. He was principal of Clinton Grove Seminary, Weare, N. H., 1875–76; of Francestown (N. H.) Academy, 1876–83; of Arms Academy, Shelburne Falls, Mass., 1883–87.

The first president of the board of trustees was Rev. Francis Wayland, D.D., who died 1865, and was succeeded by Hon. Alexander H. Bullock, who resigned 1876, when Abraham T. Lowe, M.D., was appointed. He died July 4, 1888, and his successor has not been chosen. Hon. Amasa Norcross, the only remaining original member of the board, is vice-president. Hon. Ebenezer Torrey, Hon. Ohio Whitney and George F. Stevens, Esq., have filled the office of treasurer. Mr. Stevens died November 15, 1887, and his successor, George W. Eddy, was appointed November 30, 1887. Rev. Josiah D. Crosby was clerk of the board from 1865 to '76; upon his resignation he was succeeded by Colonel George H. Barrett, who has been continued in office to the present time.

Mechanical Industries.—There are fifty mill-sites in this town where at some time the water-power has been utilized for mechanical purposes. This unusual number of mill privileges found in a single town have invited the farmers of Ashburnham from the cultivation of a rugged soil to engage in a variety of manufactures. Succeeding the primitive saw-mills, which were numerous in this town and whose only product was boards and other coarse lumber, there have been in times past a large number of small shops in which has been manufactured a great variety of wares. Thread spools, friction matches, knife trays and many other articles of wood-ware have been made here. Tubs and pails were formerly manufactured at several mills and still are made in considerable quantities by George G. Rockwood at the centre of the town. From the first, and independent of the manufactures named, the leading industry of this town, both past and present, is the manufacture of chairs. In this respect it is the second town in New England. This business, either in the production of chair stock or finished chairs, has been conducted in all parts of the town; but experiencing the fortunes of the times, the industry has become centralized in a few large establishments. Beginning with 1842, when Charles Winchester purchased the mill and business of Philip R. Merriam, the growth of the business in this town was rapid. In 1848 the firm of Charles & George C. Winchester was formed. They conducted an extensive business and erected new mills and many dwelling-houses. In 1870, when the firm was dissolved by the retirement of the senior brother, they were giving employment to two hundred men. George C. Winchester was succeeded in 1880 by the Boston Chair Manufacturing Company with a capital stock of $150,000. The company own and occupy for manufacturing purposes thirty-four buildings, presenting a total flooring of 300,000 feet, or about seven acres. The number of men employed is about 200, beside affording employment to an equal number of persons in filling the cane chairs. The number of chairs annually made and sold approaches one-half a million.

There have been many firms and individuals engaged in this manufacture in South Ashburnham. The more familiar names are Burgess, Glazier, May, Matthews, Flint, Merriam, Allen, and at present Orange Whitney, Benjamin E. Wetherbee, Irving E. Platts and Luther B. Adams. An extensive plant is owned and conducted by Wilbur F. Whitney, who has been engaged in the manufacture in this town since 1865. His factory was burned six years ago, and immediately he purchased land at Ashburnham Depot and erected the capacious buildings now occupied by him in the business. The two main factories are respectively 172 by 40 and 150 by 40 feet. This manufacture includes rattan and over 600 patterns of modern styles of cane-seat chairs. Mr. Whitney gives employment to 250 hands, demanding a monthly pay-roll of $9,000. The annual product is $350,000. The number of cane-seat chairs annually produced is nearly 400,000.

Cotton-spinning by power, and the manufacture of cloth completed in hand-looms, was begun in this town in 1811 or 1812. This industry was established at Factory Village. The mill was burned in 1846, and a larger mill was built on the same site, which was also burned in 1877. It has not been rebuilt. The cotton factory on Water Street in the central village was built by a home corporation in 1849. It has been continuously operated, and has contributed to the material interests of the town. The property is now owned and conducted by George Blackburn & Co.

Boundaries.—According to the surveys when the original township was severed from the wilderness, there were included in the boundaries then established twenty-seven thousand one hundred and ninety acres. The early measurements were extremely liberal, and the actual area of Dorchester

Canada at this time was about thirty-one thousand acres. Encroachments upon these fair proportions has been a favorite occupation of the surrounding towns. Four considerable tracts of land have been taken from the original area, and other attempts have been successfully resisted.

By the adjustment of the province line in 1741, eight hundred and seventy-seven acres now included in Rindge and New Ipswich were severed from the town. Both the original and amended boundaries of the town on the north were right lines, but they were not parallel. The course of the original line was north 78° west, while the amended province line was established north 80° west, with the intention of running a line due west with an allowance of ten degrees for variation of the needle. The area taken from this town in form was a trapezium extending across the northern border, and about ten rods in width at the eastern, and one hundred and ten rods at the western extremity. The incorporation of Ashby in 1767 severed about one thousand five hundred acres from the northeast part of the township. Ashby was not an original grant, but was composed of parts of Townsend, Ashburnham and Fitchburg. In the same manner Gardner in 1785 was taken from the towns of Ashburnham, Templeton, Westminster and Winchendon. The area severed from this town was nearly three thousand acres. Again in 1792 another tract of land in the northeast part of the town, containing about one thousand and four hundred acres, was severed from Ashburnham and added to Ashby. The town, still containing an ample area, could afford the land, but the loss of several valued and useful citizens by each of the last three dismemberments was a more serious consideration. Again the spectre of disintegration appeared in the southeast part of the town. Beginning with the close of the Revolution and continued for twenty years, the adjoining portions of Westminster, Fitchburg and Ashburnham made an earnest effort to become incorporated as an independent town. At times the measure was prosecuted with considerable energy, and at all times it was strenuously opposed, and finally defeated by the remainder of the towns at interest. With the exception of slight changes to correspond with the line of a few farms, no subsequent curtailment of the area of Ashburnham has occurred.

Ashburnham became a post-town in 1811, and from that date a post-office has been continuously maintained at the central village. Since 1850 there has been a post-office at or near the depot for the accommodation of South Ashburnham. The post-office at North Ashburnham was established in 1854.

The First National Bank of Ashburnham was organized in 1873. Under conservative and judicious management, it has been successful. The population of the town in 1885 was two thousand and fifty-eight; in 1855 the population was two thousand two hundred and eleven, and this number has not been exceeded by any enumeration of the inhabitants. In May, 1887, the number of ratable polls was five hundred and fifty-five, the assessed value of real estate was eight hundred and eighteen thousand eight hundred and ninety-four dollars, and of personal estate one hundred and seventy-four thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight dollars. The rate of taxation was sixteen dollars per one thousand dollars.

PERSONAL NOTICES.—Many useful citizens who have been prominent in municipal affairs, and whose lives refresh and enliven the annals of Ashburnham, the greater number of natives of the town who have won an honorable measure of fame in other fields of labor and the descendants of many of the Ashburnham families distinguished in many callings will receive notice, and their good works will constitute a part of any present or future review of the town.

Samuel Wilder, Esq., was a resident of the town at the date of incorporation. Until his death his career was coeval with the town. A man of good judgment and of marked ability, he received a continuous measure of honor from his townsmen, to whose service a great part of his life was devoted. Mr. Wilder was a captain of the militia, a magistrate many years, a deacon of the church, and several years a member of the Legislature. He was town clerk twenty-two years, a selectman fifteen years, an assessor twenty years and frequently was chosen on important committees. The current records during the years of his useful life assert the merited esteem of his associates and an appreciation of superior mental endowment. He was the son of Colonel Caleb Wilder, a prominent proprietor of Dorchester Canada. He was born in Lancaster, May 7, 1729, and died in this town, May 9, 1798. Among his children were Caleb Wilder, a noted school-teacher in this town; Thomas Wilder, a respected citizen of Ware; Dr. Abel Wilder, a distinguished physician of Blackstone. Hon. A. Carter Wilder, son of Dr. Abel Wilder and grandson of our Samuel Wilder, was a member of the Thirty-eighth Congress from Kansas, and subsequently mayor of the city of Rochester, N. Y. Hon. D. Webster Wilder, another son of Dr. Abel Wilder, is an accomplished journalist and many years State auditor of Kansas. Dr. Charles Woodward Wilder, an esteemed citizen and physician of Templeton and Leominster, was a son of Caleb Wilder, Jr., and a nephew of Samuel Wilder.

Colonel Joseph Jewett, son of Edward Jewett, was born in Stow, May 10, 1761. He was a soldier in the Revolution, and at the close of the war he removed to Ashburnham. Like many of the active men of his time, his energies were enlisted in a variety of pursuits. Colonel Jewett was prominent in military affairs, was a merchant, a farmer, a dealer in cattle and lands, and succeeding Mr. Wilder, he was the squire or magistrate. He represented the town in the Legislature eight years, was a selectman fifteen years, an

assessor fifteen years, and was ten times chosen to preside over the annual March meeting. He died May 3, 1846. His son, General Ivers Jewett, born in this town May 7, 1788, was a gentleman of ability, of attractive personal appearance, tall and commanding in presence and popular and esteemed by his associates. At the age of thirty-four years he had been promoted step by step from the command of the Ashburnham Light Infantry to the rank of general of the State Militia. Few men in a rural community have been equally honored or more widely known. In 1827 he removed to Fitchburg and was there interested in several business enterprises, some of which were not wholly fortunate for him and his business associates. Subsequently he removed to the South and died at Mobile, Ala., April 26, 1871. Rev. Merrick Augustus Jewett, another son of Colonel Joseph Jewett, was born in this town August 26, 1798, was a graduate of Dartmouth College, 1823, and subsequently an able Congregational minister at Terre Haute, Ind. He died April 3, 1874.

Jacob Willard, Esq., was a prominent citizen in this town many years. He was cotemporaneous with Deacon Wilder and Colonel Jewett and divided honors with them. He was bold and aggressive, and his loyalty during the Revolution and the troubles attending the open revolt of Daniel Shays was conspicuous. He was the first Representative to the State Legislature under the Constitution, and four subsequent terms. He was frequently elected to town office and other positions of trust, and exercised at all times a commanding influence. He was a son of Henry Willard, and was born in Harvard July 20, 1734, and removed to this town about 1768, where he died February 22, 1808. His daughter Emma, born December 18, 1777, married Rev. Thomas Skelton, and died November 3, 1881, aged nearly one hundred and four years.

Silas Willard, Esq., son of Deacon John Willard, and a nephew of Jacob Willard, Esq., was born in this town October 8, 1768, where he died June 14, 1855. He was a selectman and an assessor twenty years; delegate to the Constitutional Convention, 1820; a magistrate twenty-eight years and prominently associated with the affairs of his time.

Rev. Elijah Willard, a brother of Silas Willard, Esq., was born in this town April 19, 1782, was a Methodist clergyman and died at Saugus September 5, 1852.

John Adams was born in Cambridge (now Arlington), January 22, 1745. He was a son of Captain Thomas Adams, who removed to this town late in life. The son, John Adams, settled in the east part of the town, 1766. He was a soldier in the Revolution and subsequently was considerably employed in municipal affairs. He was an intelligent, active man and was held in high esteem by his townsmen. He died with faculties unimpaired February 26, 1849, aged one hundred and four years, one month and four days. His descendants are numerous in this town and elsewhere, and are an industrious, active race. Amos Adams, a son of Jonas R. Adams, and a grandson of John Adams, was a successful lawyer in Chicago, Ill., and subsequently was a judge in California. Samuel G. Adams, the popular and able superintendent of police of the city of Boston; Ivers W. Adams, formerly a successful merchant of Boston and now general manager of the American Net and Twine Company; and Melvin O. Adams, a successful lawyer of Boston and several years assistant district attorney for the district of Suffolk, through different lines of descent are great-grandsons of John Adams, the centenarian.

Dr. Abraham Lowe, son of Jonathan Lowe, was born in Ipswich (now Essex), February 11, 1755. In his infancy the family removed to Lunenburg. He read for his profession under the tuition of Dr. Abraham Haskell, of Lunenburg, and came to this town, 1786. He was a skillful physician and a useful and honored citizen. He died October 23, 1824. Dr. Abraham Thompson Lowe, son of Dr. Abraham Lowe, was born in this town August 15, 1796; graduated at Dartmouth Medical College, and after a few years of professional labor in this town he removed to Boston, 1825, where he was engaged in the wholesale drug trade many years. He was prominently connected with several railroad corporations and monetary institutions. He was the author of several school-books of good repute. He died July 4, 1888.

William J., George and Edward W. Cutler, of the firm of Cutler Brothers, wholesale druggists of Boston; Abraham L. Cutler, of the firm of A. L. Cutler & Co., paints and oils, Boston; and Charles H. Cutler, of Chicago, Ill., are sons of Dr. William H. Cutler, an esteemed physician and citizen of this town, and maternal grandsons of Dr. Abraham Lowe.

John Conn, son of a Scotch-Irish immigrant, was born in Harvard, 1740, and removed in early life to this town. He was a lieutenant in the Revolution and was a prominent citizen of the town. His son, John, and grandson, John Conn, Jr., were men of character and ability in this town. Susannah, a daughter of John Conn, Sr., married David Wallace. They are the grandparents of Hon. Rodney Wallace, of Fitchburg.

Deacon Jacob Harris, a native of Ipswich and a former resident of Harvard, removed to Ashburnham, 1767. He was a selectman, and for fifteen years an assessor, a deacon of the church and a conservative, useful citizen. He died September 26, 1826. His son, Rev. Samuel Harris, was a Congregational minister and labored in Alstead, New Boston and Windham, N. H., where he died September 5, 1848.

Jacob Constantine, a son of German immigrants, born 1752, was a good citizen and a Revolutionary soldier. He died March 8, 1814. Lieutenant-Governor Fuller, of Vermont, is a great-grandson.

Capt. David Cushing and his brother, George R. Cushing, Esq., were natives of Hingham, were prom-

inent factors in the business and municipal affairs of this town. The former died May 3, 1827, and the latter February 2, 1851. Joseph Cushing, son of Capt. David, established the Farmers' Cabinet of Amherst, N. H., and with him Hon. Isaac Hill learned the art of printing. In 1809 he removed to Baltimore, Md. He was a member of the city government many years and member of the Legislature. Joseph Cushing, a prominent business man of Fitchburg, is a grandson of Capt. David Cushing.

Stephen Cushing, remotely related to the preceding family, removed to Ashburnham, 1830. He was a man of exalted character, and in many capacities faithfully served his townsmen. Rev. Stephen Cushing, his son, born March 13, 1813, has been a successful preacher and officer of the Methodist Conference.

Col. Enoch Whitmore, son of Isaac Whitmore, was born in this town September 8, 1796. He was a farmer and manufacturer. He was a man of clear convictions and decided opinions, a radical, but not a fanatic. In politics he was an Abolitionist, and for many years his well-known opinions were a bar to political preferment, and yet, while in a minority, his worth and recognized ability secured a frequent election to office. Living until his views were endorsed and accepted by a large majority of his townsmen, he died September 13, 1860.

Jerome W. Foster, son of Joel Foster, and a descendant in the fourth generation of Jeremiah Foster, an early settler in this town, was born September 15, 1810. He was a civil engineer, a justice of the peace, and often employed in the conduct of town affairs. He was town clerk eighteen years, and in all his faithful service to the town he was aided by good judgment and ability.

Capt. Silas Whitney, son of Samuel Whitney, was born in Westminster October 20, 1752. He removed to this town, 1778, and became the most extensive land-holder in the town. He was an active citizen and influential in town affairs. He died November 14, 1798. His descendants are numerous. Ohio Whitney, son of Capt. Silas Whitney, born March 22, 1789, was a man of ability and great force of character. Affable in manner, upright in character and honorable in all his relations with his townsmen, he commanded the respect and esteem of all. He died March 3, 1870. Hon. Ohio Whitney, son of Ohio Whitney, born June 9, 1813, was much employed in municipal and State affairs. He was a selectman and an assessor many years and a moderator of the annual March meeting eighteen years. He was a trustee of several monetary institutions and a director of the First National Bank of Ashburnham. In 1856 he represented this district in the Legislature, and the following year he was a member of the State Senate. He died February 6, 1879. Francis A. Whitney, Esq., a brother of Hon. Ohio Whitney, born in this town August 2, 1823, died April 28th, 1887. He was a successful school-teacher, many years a member of the School Committee, selectman and assessor. He was a public-spirited, useful citizen. Milton Whitney, Esq., son of Capt. Silas Whitney, Jr., and a grandson of Capt. Silas Whitney, was born in this town October 9, 1823. He was an eminent lawyer and several years a county attorney of Baltimore, Md. He was a brilliant advocate, and won many laurels in his profession. He died September 3, 1875. Rev. William Whitney, son of William Whitney and grandson of Capt. Silas Whitney, was born in this town July 22, 1829. He resides at Granville, Ohio, and for many years was financial agent of Dennison University and treasurer of the Baptist Educational Society. Rev. Quincy Whitney, of Cambridge, is a son of Samuel Whitney and a grandson of Capt. Silas Whitney.

Hon. Isaac Hill, a distinguished journalist, Governor of New Hampshire, Comptroller of the Treasury and United States Senator, was a well-remembered youth of this town, being nine years of age when the family removed hither. His younger brothers, George W. and Horatio Hill, were born in this town.

Hon. Phinehas Randall was born in Ashburnham, June 5, 1787, and resided here until he began his collegiate study. He was a lawyer, and for several years a presiding judge of Common Pleas of Montgomery County, N. Y. Hon. Alexander W. Randall, Governor of Wisconsin, member of President Grant's cabinet and Minister to Rome, and Hon. Edwin M. Randall, chief justice of Florida, are sons of Hon. Phinehas Randall.

General Harrison C. Hobart, an eminent lawyer of Wisconsin, was born in this town January 31, 1815. He won a brilliant record in the War of the Rebellion, and has exercised a commanding influence in civil and political affairs.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN AND ELINOR WHITNEY.

John and Elinor Whitney, the emigrant ancestors of a numerous family, sailed from England in the "Elizabeth and Ann," Roger Cooper, master, in April, 1635. At this date he was aged thirty-five, and his wife thirty years. He settled in Watertown, where he became a considerable landholder, and was admitted freeman March 3, 1635–6. He was a selectman eighteen successive years, and his name is conspicuous in the records of his time. He died June 1, 1673; his wife, Elinor, died May 11, 1659.

John, eldest son of John and Elinor Whitney, was born in England, 1624; admitted freeman, 1647. He married Ruth Reynolds, daughter of Robert Reynolds, of Boston, and resided in Watertown. He was a selectman several years, and a prominent citizen. He died October 12, 1692, leaving five sons and five daughters.

Nathaniel, son of John and Ruth (Reynolds) Whitney, was born in Watertown, February 1, 1646–7.

W. F. Whitney

Nathaniel Jewett, M.D.

He married, March 12, 1673–4, Sarah Hagar, born September 3, 1751, daughter of William and Mary (Bemis) Hagar, of Watertown. His homestead was included in Weston, where he died January 7, 1732–3; his widow died May 7, 1746.

William, third of the seven children of Nathaniel and Sarah (Hagar) Whitney, was born May 6, 1683, and resided in Weston. He married, May 17, 1706, Martha Peirce, born December 24, 1681, daughter of Joseph and Martha Peirce, of Watertown. He died January 24, 1720–1.

Samuel Whitney, son of William and Martha (Peirce) Whitney, was born in Weston May 23, 1719. He married, October 20, 1741, Abigail Fletcher, and was one of the early settlers of Westminster, and is a prominent character in the annals of that town. He died January 1, 1782. Capt. Silas Whitney, of Ashburnham, was a son of these parents.

Abner, son of Samuel and Abigail (Fletcher) Whitney, was born in Westminster May 18, 1748. He married, May 14, 1770, Elizabeth Glazier, daughter of Jonas and Eunice (Newton) Glazier, of Shrewsbury, who died April 3, 1778; he married (2d), April 22, 1779, her sister, Levina (Glazier) Ward, widow of Jonas Ward. He died in Westminster, 1811.

Joseph G., son of Abner and Levina Whitney, was born June 22, 1783. He married, 1805, Levina Dunn, and resided in Westminster and in Ashburnham, where he died July 31, 1868.

John, son of Joseph G. and Levina (Dunn) Whitney, was born in Westminster September 12, 1806. He was a pioneer manufacturer of chairs in Westminster and in Ashburnham. He was a man of ability and character, commanding the respect and confidence of his associates. He died May 4, 1873. His wife, whom he married May 9, 1832, was Eliza Cushing, daughter of Stephen Cushing, Esq., a prominent citizen of Ashburnham. She died September 1, 1882.

WILBUR F. WHITNEY.

Wilbur Fisk Whitney, son of John and Eliza (Cushing) Whitney, and of the ninth generation in America, was born December 9, 1839, and from early manhood has been closely identified with the material interests of this town. From an industrial standpoint the town of Ashburnham occupies a prominent position among the manufacturing towns of the State. Here the manufacture of chairs was an early, and through later years remains an important industry. While the Winchesters and their successors have been conducting an extensive business at the centre of the town, Mr. Whitney, in his chosen field at South Ashburnham, from a humble beginning, has enlarged his facilities from year to year, and at present is at the head of a more extensive business than is owned and conducted by any single individual in this line of manufacture. His monthly pay-roll, distributed among 250 employés, is $9000, and the annual product of the manufacture includes 380,000 chairs, valued at wholesale at $350,000. Much of the labor-saving machinery is special, and is covered by patents. The chairs made by Mr. Whitney are the modern styles of cane-seat and a great variety of rattan chairs. The designs and styles are original, and frequently change to meet the demands of the trade. In mechanical skill, in ability to personally supervise all the minute details of an extensive business, and in a prompt and clear comprehension of the growing demands of the trade, Mr. Whitney has advanced to a prominent position among the manufacturers of the present time. While his success in business has been founded on industry, perseverance and the fortuitous issue of well-matured plans, his honesty and ready appreciation of the rights of others have been important factors. He has continually maintained fraternal relations with his employés, and has had no experience with strikes nor contests with labor organizations. With the spirit of a good citizen, his success has been reflected in the growth and prosperity of the town, and he has ever manifested a lively interest in local and in municipal affairs. In this direction his effort has been the fruit of principle and the thoughtful act of method and wisdom rather than the sudden and fitful offering of a generous impulse. For many years, with system and exactness, ten per cent. of his annual income has been given to religious and charitable objects, and, with a liberality of sentiment characteristic of the donor, no one sect or class has been the sole recipient.

With the experience of years Mr. Whitney has joined the fruit of an attentive study of the social and political problems of the times. His conclusions are intelligently formed, and his judgment of men and of measures is free from partiality and prejudice. In debate he is apt and logical, and if he is decided in his opinions, he is tolerant in judging of the faith and charitable in weighing the conduct of others. His political opinions have been pronounced but conservative. He has not been closely allied with any party, but his political faith has embraced the purposes of good government, and has been unrestrained by the school of politics. In his daily life he has seldom wounded or disappointed his friends, and he has cultivated no enmities. His sympathies, quick and steadfast, lead him to the presence of the wronged and the suffering, and guided by principle, his ministrations to his fellow-men are ever kind and substantial. In business and in social affairs he has challenged the respect and good opinion of all who know him. His merit has won, and his future will enjoy, the friendship and confidence of his associates. In the personal supervision of an important industry, Mr. Whitney has found full employment, yet he has been an efficient member of the School Committee many years, and has

labored in this work with unfailing interest. He is a director of the Ashburnham National Bank and of the Nashua Reservoir Company. In 1875 he represented this district in the Legislature. In 1878 he was nominated for Congress by the Greenback party and by a convention of Independents. In the canvass he received seven thousand votes. He was renominated in 1882 and 1884. In 1876 and 1877 he was nominated for State treasurer, and in several instances his candidacy was endorsed by the Prohibitionists.

Mr. Whitney is still in the prime of life, and this brief sketch is but the beginning of a completed chapter. Men of his temperament and character summon energy and wisdom with advancing years.

In his domestic relations Mr. Whitney has been fortunate and happy. He was united in marriage, July 17, 1866, to Miss Emeline S. Jewell, daughter of Dexter and Sarah (Mower) Jewell, of Rindge, N. H. Their eldest child, and only son, a lad of great promise and universally beloved, died at the age of fifteen years. Four bright and sunny daughters, from five to fifteen years of age, bring light and gladness to a happy fireside.

DR. NATHANIEL JEWETT.

Dr. Nathaniel Jewett, the subject of this sketch, was born in Boston, March 10, 1841, and was educated in the public schools of that city. He afterwards pursued a course of professional studies under private tutors.

He graduated with honors from the Boston Dental School in 1869, and from the New York Eclectic College in 1871, having attended also, lectures in Harvard Medical College, and at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York.

He has been president of the Worcester North Eclectic Medical Society, and for many years secretary and treasurer; also president and counselor of the Massachusetts Eclectic Medical Society, and a member of the National Medical Association.

Through his mother's active interest and sympathy in charitable organizations and reforms during the early years of his life in Boston, his naturally sympathetic and generous qualities were early enlisted in efforts to aid the unfortunate.

Dr. Jewett came to Ashburnham and commenced the practice of medicine in 1871. Of the eighteen physicians who have practiced here, none have been more constantly or successfully employed. Many serious cases have been under his treatment calling for surgical skill and patient care. With much mechanical ability, and quick to feel for all who suffer, he has been very successful and ingenious in devising mechanical appliances and aids, and inventing means for the comfort and convenience of his patients.

He also possesses the qualities of a good nurse, and with much magnetic power, his presence is always welcome in the sick-room, where so much depends on gentleness and encouraging words. Many a family have looked to him as a support in the hour of sorrow, and found him ever ready to aid when the last rites of affection are needed for the dead.

Dr. Jewett is social in his nature, ardent, generous and loyal in his friendships, and keenly sensitive to disloyalty or broken faith in those he has trusted. In his tastes he is very artistic, and music is one of his greatest pleasures. Fond of books and study, he has accumulated a large library of medical, scientific and other works.

When contributions or personal efforts are called for in aid of town, church or social movements, he is always generous in response.

With a large share of the trials, discouragements and constant requisitions upon a physician's life, he has always been faithful in filial duties. To his mother, who was long an invalid, he gave the best of his care and life, freely relinquishing all that would prevent him from ministering to her needs, and faithfully attending her until her death here, in 1887.

The doctor has long been connected with Masonic orders, active and enthusiastic in interest for all that concerned the fraternity. He has held various positions, and is one of the Past Commanders of Jerusalem Commandery, Fitchburg; also a member of the Grand Commandery of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, and is a thirty-second degree Mason. He has also held offices in various other secret orders.

CHAPTER XXXVI.

FITCHBURG.

BY ATHERTON P. MASON, A.B. (HARV.), M.D. (HARV.).

[*Latitude*, 42° 35′ *N.*; *longitude*, 71° 47′ *W.*; *direction and distance from Boston, W. N. W.*, 47 *miles*; *altitude of top step of City Hall above sea level*, 470 *feet.*]

DESCRIPTIVE.

FITCHBURG, the smaller of the two cities of Worcester County, and, after Worcester, the most important place in the county, is pleasantly situated among hills and valleys, and is about twenty-four miles north of its sister city. The township is of average size, being about six and a half miles from north to south, and about four and a half miles from east to west. A small stream, the north branch of the Nashua River, formed by the confluence of several brooks in the southwesterly part of the town, curves to the north and emerges near the southeast corner; and along its course most of the population and all the business interests of the city are located.

The thickly populated and business centre—the city proper—lies a little southeast of the centre of the township. West and south of the city proper are the

villages of West Fitchburg, Rockville and Crockerville, and east and south are Traskville, East Fitchburg and South Fitchburg. The outlying portions of the township are but sparsely inhabited, being mainly utilized for farming purposes, though considerable areas are covered with woods or used simply for pasturage. The township is bounded on the north by Ashby, on the east by Lunenburg and Leominster, on the south by Leominster and Westminster, and on the west by Westminster and a small part of Ashburnham.

Any detailed description of the city and its outlying villages would, of course, be beyond the scope of this sketch. As has been stated, the city lies in a valley along the stream. The territory on the south side of the stream, or, "across the river," as it is called, is occupied almost entirely by dwelling-houses, while the business portion is on the north side close to the river bank; and the hills a little farther north and the more level land to the east are thickly covered with dwellings, many of which are beautiful and costly. Main Street, the principal business street in the city, follows for the most part the course of the stream, its general direction being east and west. On this street are a number of important manufacturing establishments, many substantial business blocks, several public buildings, hotels, handsome churches, and towards the upper end a few fine private residences. From its beginning it is paved with stone as far as the City Hall; and a horse railroad track runs through almost its entire length. There are three parks on this street—the "Lower Common," or Railroad Park, Monument Park and the "Upper Common,"—situated nearly equidistant from one another. The first of these is at the junction of Main and Water Streets, opposite the handsome and commodious Union Passenger Station, and is a small enclosure provided with a band-stand. Monument Park is directly in front of the County Court-House and nearly opposite the Wallace Library and Art Building, while flanking it on the east is Christ Church, a beautiful and picturesque stone building. Taken in connection with these three fine edifices, this park is a most inviting spot and much frequented. In its centre is an expensive and massive soldiers' monument of granite surmounted by three bronze statues. Four brass field-pieces, secured from the government through the efforts of the late Hon. Alvah Crocker, and mounted in regulation style, are placed one at each corner, and the whole park is enclosed by a substantial iron fence upon a base of hammered granite. The "Upper Common" is located towards the upper or western end of Main Street, and is larger than either of the other parks. It has recently been laid out and beautified, and bids fair to rival Monument Park in the favor of the citizens. It is a parallelogram in shape and entirely surrounded by shade-trees. Near the lower end is a very ornamental band-stand, from which the Fitchburg Military Band often gives evening concerts during the summer. The band also gives concerts from the band-stand in the Lower Common, and the music furnished by this justly-celebrated organization always calls together a large concourse of citizens. Opposite the head of the Upper Common is the old First Parish (Unitarian) Church, a structure interesting from an historical point of view; and flanking the Common on its northerly side are several handsome residences. At the easterly terminus of the horse railroad, near the Lunenburg line, are the fair-grounds and trotting park, formerly the property of the Worcester North Agricultural Society. In 1887 this property was purchased by a number of gentlemen, forming an organization known as the Fitchburg Park Company, for the purpose of improving and beautifying it for use as a park.

The upper portion of Main Street is considerably wider than the lower part, and is abundantly supplied with shade-trees. From Putnam Street to the American House, Main Street is altogether too narrow for the tide of business which daily passes through it, and without doubt it will be absolutely necessary for the city to construct a new street before long to relieve the pressure on Main Street. This portion of the street is entirely without shade-trees, or even room for them to grow, and it is becoming more and more evident every year that a great mistake was made in not reserving a more generous width for the street.

Fitchburg is pre-eminently a busy and thriving city, and probably no other place of its size can boast of a greater diversity of industries. The little stream running through the town was a source of great annoyance to the early settlers. The spring floods carried away their bridges, and the river was considered a nuisance and probable bar to the growth of the town. But coming years showed the folly of these fears. Dams were constructed, the water controlled, and manufacturers on a small scale began to locate on the banks of the formerly detested stream. Thus was a seeming curse turned into an evident blessing, for from those few mills have sprung the present great manufacturing concerns located here. Now the stream, whether swollen by the floods of spring, or diminished to a mere rivulet by the drought of summer, is allowed to pursue its way for the most part unheeded by the busy manufacturer. Water-power is still used to some extent, but steam is now the chief motor that propels the machinery, looms and spindles that daily pour forth products which go to the markets, not of this country alone, but of the world. A description of these large manufacturing establishments, of which our citizens are justly proud, must be deferred to a subsequent portion of this sketch.

It is evident that ample transportation facilities are necessary in order to distribute all these varied products, and Fitchburg certainly possesses such facilities to a marked degree. When, about half a century ago, the Hon. Alvah Crocker proposed and advocated a railroad direct from Boston to Fitchburg, the idea met

with great opposition and ridicule. Mr. Crocker persevered in spite of all obstacles, the railroad became an accomplished fact, and the immense benefits arising from its construction are realized by the citizens of to-day. It has grown into the great Hoosac Tunnel Line and affords direct communication, not with Boston alone, but with the great cities of the West. Other railroads have since been built which give direct communication with all important points. An elegant and commodious passenger-station, built about ten years ago, is shared by all these roads in common, and there are large freight depots, car-shops, engine-houses, etc., which will be described further on.

Fitchburg is by no means behind the times as regards the adoption of all methods and means by which the wealth, prosperity and enlightenment of her citizens may be advanced, their business facilitated, and their lives and property protected from danger or destruction. The streets of the city are kept clean and in good condition, and are, for the most part, well lined with shade-trees; a pure and very abundant water supply has been provided at large expense; school-houses are numerous and, as a rule, commodious and well-ventilated; a thoroughly organized and well-equipped Fire Department, in connection with the fire-alarm telegraph and numerous hydrants, affords the best possible protection against serious loss by fire; the efficient police force keeps the city singularly free from theft and murder. All these departments are under the direct control of the city, and their effective work reflects great credit on the authorities, both in past and present time. In addition to these advantages of a strictly municipal character, there are others no less important to the welfare of the city. There are numerous churches, substantial and inviting, both externally and internally, whose pulpits are occupied by good pastors; there is an efficient telephone service with many subscribers; the streets are well lighted with electricity, furnished by the Wachusett Electric Light Company, and in some portions with gas, furnished by the Fitchburg Gas Company; the Fitchburg Street Railway Company provides convenient means of transit from one end of the city to the other, and the government has established the letter-carrier system here.

Having seen, in a general way, what man has accomplished towards making Fitchburg an attractive and desirable place of residence, let us devote a little space to the investigation of what nature has done to beautify and make pleasant this city among the hills. The north branch of the Nashua, which has been previously mentioned as traversing the southerly portion of the township, is formed by the confluence of several brooks having their origin in ponds in Westminster and Ashburnham. These brooks, uniting in the southwesterly part of the township, form the only stream of any size in Fitchburg. There is nothing particularly beautiful or romantic about it at the present time, except in a few spots where the hand of man has not encroached too ruthlessly upon its original condition. Many bridges, both for railroad and public use, have been built across it, and numerous dams have been erected along its course, which form small ponds that lack the element of natural beauty. It is rather singular that, while almost every one of the towns in this vicinity possesses at least one large natural sheet of water, there is nothing of the sort in Fitchburg. So the citizens have to content themselves with brooks, of which there are several in town that are very picturesque and well worth visiting. One of these is Falulah Brook, in the northerly part of the town, towards Ashby. Its course is through wooded country, and in many places it has worn for itself a channel through the solid rock. In spots it has hollowed out deep basins in the rock, forming quiet, transparent pools; and again it dashes down some rocky incline, producing fascinating cascades. This brook crosses the township diagonally, and that part of it in the southeasterly corner has received the name of Baker's Brook. It receives several tributaries, prominent among which are Scott and Shattuck Brooks, whence is obtained the water supply of the city, and Pearl Hill Brook.

In the southerly part of Fitchburg is another brook, quite as interesting and picturesque as Falulah, and certainly better appreciated, from the fact of its being easy of access. The name of it is Wanoosnac Brook. During the past century the spelling of its name has undergone considerable change. Rev. Peter Whitney, in his "History of Worcester County," published in 1793, speaks of it as "Wauhnoosnok Brook." In Torrey's "History of Fitchburg," published in 1836, it is spelled Wanoosnock. By some, at the present time, it is called Monoosnoc. However much the nomenclature may have changed, it is certain that its natural beauty has not followed suit. For some distance it flows along beside the Old Turnpike Road, unmolested by the hand of man, at times hidden among the trees and again appearing in open spaces, tumbling and splashing along its rocky bed. It is especially well worth visiting in the early summer, when it is full of water. At one point, where it flows in a deep and precipitous gully, a massive stone dam was built many years ago. From some imperfection in its construction, the dam never could be made to hold water, and the brook, which, as well as the dam itself, is almost entirely concealed by trees that have grown up since man's futile attempt to obstruct it, flows noisily beneath the heavy stone-work as if filled with defiant joy at its retained freedom. A little farther above is another dam, built with better skill, which has, for over half a century, been occupied as the site of a saw-mill.

The most marked topographical features in Fitchburg are Rollstone Hill, southwest of the city, and Pearl Hill, to the northeast. The former is a rounded

mass of solid gneiss, attaining an elevation of about four hundred feet above the river. Whitney thus alludes to it in his history: "A little southwest of the meeting-house is a high, rocky hill, covered principally with pine, called *Rollstone Hill.*" At the present time the pines have disappeared. Until a few years ago two old and weather-beaten specimens, the sole survivors of former times, were standing like ancient sentinels upon the summit of the hill; but age, combined with the poor quality and small amount of soil and the fierce winds of winter, caused them to succumb, and they fell some years ago, one soon after the other. The writer well remembers the feeling of sadness that arose within him when these aged landmarks were prostrated. The lower portion of their trunks bore a vast collection of autographs, for probably almost every boy who climbed to the top of the hill, for years previous to their fall, and was lucky enough to own a knife, carved his initials on one or the other of them. The top of the hill is now practically bare rock, though the thin soil in spots supports a scanty and stunted growth of bushes. The sides of the hill have a tolerably thick layer of soil, and are covered with a growth of small trees, mostly chestnut, oak and maple. Excellent building stone is obtained from this hill, and the supply seems to be practically inexhaustible. Extensive quarries have been worked for a great many years without any very appreciable diminution in the size of the hill, unless it be on the southwesterly side.

The use of Rollstone granite is by no means confined to Fitchburg alone. It is shipped to various places, and there are several buildings in Boston constructed entirely of it. Some portions of the rock contain extraneous minerals, and fine specimens of beryl and tourmaline have been obtained here in times past. On the very summit of the hill is "the Boulder," a rounded mass of rock, forty-five feet in circumference, and probably weighing one hundred tons. Its composition is totally unlike that of any rock formation within thirty miles, and it is certain that this boulder was conveyed to its present position by ice. Glacial *striæ* are plainly visible beneath it where the surface of the bed-rock has not weathered. The fine view of the city and surrounding country that is obtainable from the summit of Rollstone is well worth the slight trouble necessary to climb the hill by some of the stone roads and paths. At the feet, so to speak, of the observer perched upon the top of the boulder, are the numerous tracks of the Hoosac Tunnel Line, with trains moving upon them almost constantly; just beyond is the river, with the city stretching along its course and forming almost a complete semi-circle; behind the city rise the hills, culminating in the beetling brow of Pearl Hill to the northeast. Big Watatic, in Ashburnham, overtops his brethren in the northwest. In clear weather the sharp summit of grand Monadnock can also be seen in that direction. The rounded outline of Wachusett, about twelve miles distant, fills the southern horizon, and to the east and southeast are the towns of Lunenburg and Leominster, a few miles away. Portions of other towns can also be seen, and the undulating character of the country in all directions presents a pleasing spectacle to the eye.

Pearl Hill is somewhat higher than Rollstone, and on one side rises abruptly in the form of a precipice. It is composed of a micaceous rock of rather peculiar appearance, which, a century ago, encouraged the hope that there were "valuable mines, either of gold or silver, or both, imbosomed there." The Rev. Peter Whitney goes on to say that "attempts have heretofore been made to possess them; but for want of wealth or perseverance in the undertakers, they have not obtained the desiderata." It is exceedingly improbable that capitalists will care to expend money in searching after gold or silver in the bowels of Pearl Hill. Rollstone is a much more profitable investment. A fine view can be obtained from the summit of Pearl Hill, and a drive on the Pearl Hill Road is much in vogue with citizens and visitors. West of Pearl Hill and north of Rollstone is the high land where the water supply of the city is stored. There are four reservoirs located at different levels, the highest being Overlook, about four hundred feet above the river, whose embankment and gate-house are quite conspicuous.

There are many pleasant drives in and about the city. The suburban roads are, for the most part, well made and kept in good condition, though the hilly character of the entire surface of the township renders very considerable washouts inevitable during the spring months, and causes more or less expense annually for repairs. The soil is generally quite fertile, and there are many valuable farms in the town. Woods are abundant in many parts of the town and consist of all the varieties of trees indigenous to this section. Fruit-trees flourish and there are many fine orchards in and around Fitchburg. Small fruits and garden produce are raised in great abundance with ordinary care.

Much more might be said descriptive of Fitchburg and its environs. In the foregoing the writer has intended simply to speak of facts that will not appear elsewhere, or to touch on matters that will be further elaborated in subsequent portions of this sketch. We will conclude this section by giving a few statistics in regard to population and agricultural interests. According to the census of 1885, the population at that time was 15,375. Since then there has been a very considerable increase in the number of inhabitants, and probably 19,000 would not be far from the correct figures at the present time (1888). A few of the agricultural statistics gleaned from the census of 1885 are as follows: there were then 209 farms in town, 3676 acres of cultivated land, 5850 acres of pasturage and 5134 acres of woodland. The aggregate value of agricultural products was $294,558, the largest items

being,—dairy products, $97,414; hay, straw and fodder, $70,696; vegetables, $25,990; apples and small fruits, $19,280, and poultry and wood products about $18,000 each. There were about 40,000 fruit-trees and grape-vines, valued at $76,473. There were 741 cows and about 8000 fowls.

From these few statistics one can see that, though Fitchburg is not given very much to agricultural pursuits, she makes a very respectable showing in that line.

CHAPTER XXXVII.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued*).

EARLY HISTORY (1764–1799).

FITCHBURG was originally a part of Lunenburg, and its history prior to 1764 is identical with that of Lunenburg and may be found in the history of that town. Previous to 1764 several attempts had been made by the people living in the westerly part of Lunenburg to be set off as a separate town, but were unsuccessful. On January 25, 1764, another attempt was made and the consent of Lunenburg obtained, the town voting "to let the people go." The request was granted on condition that "the inhabitants should pay their minister's tax, as heretofore they had done, until they should be formed into a district." As soon as the consent of Lunenburg was obtained, a committee, consisting of John Fitch, Amos Kimball, Samuel Hunt, Ephraim Whitney and Jonathan Wood, was chosen to procure an act of incorporation. So zealously did this committee work that in just nine days after the granting of the request the act passed the General Court and was signed by the Governor. The following is a copy of the act of incorporation in full:

Anno Regni Regis Georgii Tertii Quarto.

An act for setting off the inhabitants, as also the estates, of the westerly part of Lunenburg into a separate town by the name of Fitchburgh.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and House of Representatives, that the inhabitants, with their lands, on the westerly part of Lunenburg, beginning at such a place on Leominster line as that a straight line therefrom may run between the lands of Messrs. Paul Wetherbee and Jonathan Wood to a stake and stone a small distance to the westward of Mary Holt's house, then turning and running north, ten degrees and a half east, to the southeast corner of Ephraim Whitney's land, then to keep the easterly line of said Whitney's land to the northeast corner thereof, and from that corner to run northwardly on the eastwardly line of John White's land to the norwesterly corner thereof, and from that corner to run north, four degrees east, to Townsend line; then running west, thirty one degrees and a half north, on Townsend line to Dorchester Canada line, then turning south, nine degrees west, eight miles and a hundred and forty rods on Dorchester Canada line, to Westminster line; then turning east, eleven degrees thirty minutes south, three miles and thirty one rods to a heap of stones on Leominster line; then turning and running to the bound first mentioned, be and hereby is set off and erected into a separate town by the name of Fitchburgh, and that the said town be invested with all the powers, privileges and immunities that other towns in this Province do or may by law enjoy, that of sending a Representative to the General Assembly only excepted; and that the inhabitants of said town shall have full power and right, from time to time, to join with said town of Lunenburg in the choice of a Representative, or Representatives, and be subject to pay their proportionab part of the charges, who may be chosen either in the town of Lunei burg or town of Fitchburgh, in which choice they shall enjoy all the priv leges, which by law they would have been entitled to if this act had n been made; and the Selectmen of the town of Lunenburg shall issu their warrant to one or more of the constables of Fitchburgh, requirin them to notify the inhabitants of the town of Fitchburgh of the tim and place of their meeting for such a choice.

Provided, nevertheless, and be it further enacted, that the said town o Fitchburgh shall pay their proportion of all town, county and Provinc taxes, already set on, or granted to be raised, by said town of Lunen burg, as if this act had not been made.

And be it further enacted, that Edward Hartwell, Esq., be and hereby is empowered to issue his warrant to some principal inhabitant in saic town of Fitchburgh, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitant of said town, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at such time and place as shall be therein set forth, to choose all such officers as shall be necessary to manage the affairs of said town.

February 2d, 1764. This bill having been read three several times in the House of Representatives, passed to be enacted.

TIMOTHY RUGGLES, *Speaker.*

February 3d, 1764. This bill having been read three several times in Council, passed to be enacted.

A. OLIVER, *Secretary*

February 3d, 1764. By the Governor: I consent to the enacting of this bill.

FRANCIS BERNARD.

The history of Fitchburg begins therefore on the 3d day of February, 1764. About forty families were then living within the limits of the new town, making the probable number of inhabitants something over two hundred. There was one mill in the town,—the saw and grist-mill erected about 1750 by Amos and Ephraim Kimball,—near the location of the present "Stone Mill," now occupied by J. Cushing & Co. To the Kimballs also belongs the honor of building the first dam across the North Branch of the Nashua. It consisted of a log laid across the stream with spikes driven in above it, and was generally swept away every spring by freshets. It was located a few feet above the present granite dam, near the Laurel Street bridge.

Rufus C. Torrey, in his "History of Fitchburg," gives a complete list of the heads of families living in the town at the time of its incorporation, and also the place of residence of each of them. It contains forty-three names. After this list is the following, which gives an idea of what Fitchburg was a century and a quarter ago: "The above-mentioned individuals and their families composed the population of Fitchburg. Their dwellings, in almost every instance, were far apart,—here and there a house scattered over a large territory. A single dwelling-house stood in the 'Old City,' and in the village, where the population is now so thickly clustered together, not a single house was erected. The winds, which swept down the valley of the Nashua, sighed through the pines which have formed a dense forest." He also adds that "the pitch-pine trees afforded an excellent shelter for deer, partridges and wild turkeys."

It is somewhat singular that uncertainty should have so long existed as to the origin of the name of the town. Mr. Torrey, writing in 1836, wavers between the claims of John Fitch (the chairman of the committee chosen to procure the act of incorporation)

and a Colonel *Timothy* Fitch, of Boston, "who owned extensive tracts of land in the town, and was considered, in those days, as a man of note and distinction." John Fitch also owned much land in town, and Mr. Torrey very frankly states that to which of these gentlemen belongs the honor of furnishing the name of the town "is a point which will probably remain forever in obscurity."

Now in 1831 Nathaniel Wood, Esq., delivered before the Fitchburg Philosophical Society a series of five lectures on the early history of this town. The manuscript is now in the public library, and in the second lecture occurs the following unqualified statement in regard to the matter: "The town was named after John Fitch, the same person taken by the Indians, as mentioned in my last lecture. It appears he was an extensive land-owner, a man of influence, and probably was the principal agent in procuring the act of incorporation. All these circumstances combined induced the petitioners to request that the new town should be incorporated by the name of *Fitchburg.*"

Mr. Torrey, in the preface to his history of the town, says, in reference to these lectures, "Unre stricted use of Mr. Wood's papers has been generously granted me." How he happened to overlook the explicit statement above quoted is a mystery.

Now a few words about the "Col. Timothy Fitch," of whom Mr. Torrey speaks, before we conclude this subject. A thorough investigation in regard to this claimant was made a few years ago by Mr. Henry A. Willis, a prominent citizen of Fitchburg, and much interested in historical matters, with the following result: after a careful search through the histories of Boston, all available genealogical records and the Worcester County registry of deeds, he was unable to find any man of that name who ever owned a foot of land in Fitchburg. He did find, however, in the Worcester County registry of deeds a *Zachariah* Fitch, who died some twenty years before Fitchburg was incorporated. It appears that he owned "one-half part of about 300 acres" in what is now the southerly portion of the township of Fitchburg. So the claim that this Colonel Fitch "owned extensive tracts of land in that town" is reduced to very small proportions.

To sum up the whole matter, it seems that half a century ago, or more, there was an idea prevalent that the town was named for some Fitch other than John Fitch; but so vague was the impression that Mr. Torrey did not even have his first name correct, for the statement in the "History of Fitchburg" evidently refers to *Zachariah* Fitch.

It may then be regarded as settled that the town was named in honor of that sturdy early settler, John Fitch. He lived in the northerly part of the town, which, in 1767, became a portion of the new town of Ashby, in Middlesex County. He was prominent in the early town affairs of Ashby, and died there April 8, 1795, aged eighty-seven years. A monument, commemorating some of the events of his rather more than ordinarily eventful life, was afterwards erected over his grave.

In accordance with the provision in the act of incorporation, Edward Hartwell, Esq., of Lunenburg, on the 15th of February, 1764, issued his warrant directed to Amos Kimball, requiring him to notify the qualified voters "to assemble at Captain Hunt's new dwelling-house in said town, on Monday, the fifth day of March, at ten of the clock in the forenoon, to choose town officers and fix the day for the annual meeting and the mode of warning at town-meetings."

Fitchburg's first town-meeting was accordingly held March 5, 1764, at Captain Samuel Hunt's tavern. The following town officers were chosen: Amos Kimball, moderator; Ephraim Whitney, town clerk; Amos Kimball, David Goodridge, Samuel Hunt, Ephraim Whitney and Reuben Gibson, selectmen. Under the guidance of these gentlemen the infant town entered upon its career, which was destined to far exceed the fondest hopes of its founders. The town fixed the first Monday in March as the day for the annual town-meeting, and voted that in future the constable or constables of the town warn all town-meetings.

Three weeks later the second town-meeting was held to consider various articles, one of which was "to see if the Hoggs shall run at large for the present year." The "Hoggs" were fortunate enough to secure their liberty for the year. The next town-meeting was held at the tavern, September 12, 1764. Captain Thomas Cowdin was then proprietor of this house, having bought out Captain Hunt during the summer. At this meeting the following vote was passed: "that two miles on the westerly Line, beginning at the northwesterdly corner, and Half a mile on the easterdly Line, beginning at the northeasterdly corner, on Townsend Line, thence running a straite Line from corner to corner be Sott off to Mr John fitch and others, in order for them to Joyne a part of Townshend and a part of Dorchester Canady, in order to make a Town or parish among themselves, and that the said John fitch and others be freed from paying anything to the settlement of a minister or for building a meeting-house in said town of Fitchburgh."

This certainly shows great liberality on the part of Fitchburg's early settlers, and such a large concession would seem to indicate that John Fitch was highly esteemed among his fellow-citizens. The several tracts mentioned above were, in 1767, incorporated as the town of Ashby.

In those early days the territory comprising Fitchburg seems to have been largely owned by a few individuals, and it may be of interest to note some of the most extensive landholders. In July, 1764, Cap-

tain Thomas Cowdin moved into the town, and soon became a leading citizen. As above stated, he purchased the Hunt tavern, which stood some thirty rods or more east of the present junction of Blossom and Pearl Streets. He also purchased the farm going with the tavern. This farm, which is now the busiest and most thickly populated portion of the city, extended from about the present location of Mount Vernon Street on the west to East and Boutelle Streets on the east, and from Pearl Street on the north to Main and Winter Streets on the south. He also owned the land comprised between Baker's Brook and the two roads to Lunenburg. Captain Cowdin kept the Hunt tavern for about ten years, and then removed to what was later called the Boutelle house, near the present location of the American House, which he enlarged and opened as a tavern. Until his death, in 1792, he was a very prominent man in town affairs. A few years ago a handsomely polished, massive granite monument was erected to his memory, in Laurel Hill Cemetery, by his grandson, Hon. John Cowdin, of Boston.

Amos Kimball and his cousin Ephraim, who settled here some fifteen or twenty years before the incorporation of the town, also owned a large tract of land. They lived on what is now known as Hale's Hill, at the upper end of South Street, and owned from that point down to the river and a considerable distance to the west along the river, probably including Rollstone Hill.

Another large landholder was a Judge Oliver, of Salem, who owned from Cowdin's westerly boundary along the north side of the river as far as the junction of Phillips' Brook with the Nashua, comprising what is now the upper portion of the city and all of West Fitchburg. He also owned a tract of land a mile square on Dean Hill, in the northwesterly part of the township.

Colonel William Brown and Burnett Brown, both non-residents, owned an extensive tract in the southern part of the town, probably the land between Mount Elam and Rollstone roads, and also a tract southwest of Dean Hill, near the Westminster line, and a piece of land somewhere in the north part of the town.

As yet there had been no preaching in Fitchburg, the nearest meeting-house being in Lunenburg. Accordingly, in November, 1764, the town voted to have six weeks' preaching on their own territory. Rev. Peter Whitney, the future historian of Worcester County, was asked to furnish preaching for this length of time. He accepted the invitation, and the services were held in Cowdin's tavern. At this same November meeting it was also voted to build a house of worship, and a sum equivalent to about $166 was appropriated to begin the erection of it. Captain Cowdin very generously donated a portion of his wheat-field as a site for the building. The location corresponds closely to the present upper corner of Blossom and Crescent Streets. The people very wisely adopted the old-fashioned, honest plan in erecting their meeting-house, and built only as fast as they could afford to pay for it; consequently it was nearly two years before it was completed. The first town-meeting was held in it on September 22, 1766, and from that time until September 17, 1798, town-meetings were held in it. On the latter date, and for nearly forty years thereafter, town-meetings were held in the new meeting-house completed about two years previously. Services for public worship were held in the old house until the dedication of the new one, on January 19, 1797.

No mention will here be made of the early ministers of Fitchburg. A brief account of them will be given in the ecclesiastical history of the town. Neither shall we, in this place, speak at any length concerning the schools, which will be reserved until the portion of this sketch relating to education is reached. Suffice it for the present to say, that in the autumn of 1764 the town voted a very small sum for "2 scools" during the following winter. The next year, and for several succeeding years, a somewhat larger sum was voted for schools. By far the greater portion of the education obtained by the children in those days was acquired by means of private instruction.

Fitchburg began to increase in numbers and valuation very soon after its incorporation. Energetic and thrifty young men came from towns to the eastward and settled here with their families; and in 1771 there were in town some eighty families, and the valuation was equal to about $8000. New roads were opened, and considerable money was expended on bridges. It is evident, however, that the inhabitants were not skilled in bridge-building. In 1770 the bridges were nearly all carried away by the spring freshets, and were rebuilt before the next winter, only to be carried off again in the following spring. The town records for 1771 state that the town voted "to rebuild the bridges carried away and damnified by the floods," and also "to pay for the rum expended at the bridges."

"Torrey's History" affirms that "the good people of Fitchburg, being vexed at the intrusion of 'cattel' belonging to persons having no 'interest' in the town, they promptly forbade the entrance of all such 'cattel,' and proceeded 'to build a pound with logs.' It was enjoined 'that every person in town come and work at said pound, or pay his proportion.' It was a common practice for them, however, to vote that their own 'Hoaggs Go att Large lawfully Yokt and Ringd,' —as the erudite Town Clerk has recorded it."

It will be remembered that, in the descriptive portion of this sketch, mention was made of unsuccessful attempts to obtain gold and silver from Pearl Hill. These attempts were probably made some ten years after the incorporation of the town. In September, 1769, deeds of John Putnam, Reuben Gibson and Isaac Gibson were recorded in the Registry of Deeds, leasing to Edmund Quincy, of Stoughton, their lands

and farms (about two hundred acres in all, probably,) on Pearl Hill, for the purpose of opening mines. The consideration was five shillings in each case. The mines were to be opened within a specified time and the lessors were to have one-sixteenth part of the "hidden treasures" obtained therefrom.

At the same time deeds were recorded by which Edmund Quincy conveyed to "Charles Gleditsch, of Boston, Jeweller," one-half interest in the proposed mines. Mr. Quincy's absence in England rendered it impossible for him to open the mines within the required time, and May 14, 1774, a new lease, made jointly by Mr. Putnam and the Messrs. Gibson, was recorded, granting Mr. Quincy further time. After a recital of the former leases of mines, etc., "in our lands and farms in sd Fitchburg, at a Place called Pearl Hill," the document goes on to say: "In consideration that the said Edmund Quincy has been at Considerable Charges, from time to time, to Comply with the Terms of the leases aforementioned by Reason of his going for England and thereby was not in his power to comply in Opening any Mines that may be in our lands aforesaid, we prolong and give him a further term of three years from the Date hereof to comply with the true intent of said Leases." It was further set forth that Mr. Quincy was to "pay and allow" the said lessors "one-sixteenth part of all Mines, Mine Ores, Minerals, or other hidden Treasures of the Earth, free and Clear of all Cost and Charges, Delivered at the Pits Mouth wheresoever the same may be Dug, had, gotten or obtained by any Means whatsoever." This was dated May 5, 1774. The unsuccessful result of this venture was no more than could reasonably be expected.

Nor was this the only gold-mining scheme that Mr. Quincy had on hand in this town. He laid his plans to attack the bowels of Hale's Hill also; for September 13, 1769, Amos Kimball gave a deed, which was duly recorded October 10, 1769, the substance of which was as follows: "Know all men by these presents that I, Amos Kimball of Fitchburg in the County of Worcester in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, Gentleman, for and in Consideration of Five Shillings Lawfull Money to me in hand paid by Edmund Quincy of Stoughtonham in the County of Suffolk and Province Aforesaid, Gentleman, the Receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge and am fully Satisfied and Contented and for divers other good Considerations me hereunto Moving Have given granted Bargained and Sold and by these presents Give grant Bargain and Sell convey and Confirm unto the said Edmund Quincy" etc., "All and Singular Mines Mine Ores Minerals and other hidden Treasures" that existed on his farm which was "Butted and Bounded as follows Southerly on Ephraim Kimball Easterly on Said Ephraim Kimball Northerly on Nashaway River and westerly on Rolestone hill." He further granted to Mr. Quincy and his heirs, "Liberty right and privilege of Ingress Regress and Egress" and to have "Workmen and Laborers Pitts and Shafts to Sink Levells and Driftways to make and drive up and all other Necessarys and Convenients" that might be needed, together with the right of using any streams on the said land for the purpose of "Cleaning the oar got in upon or within said Tract of land." Mr. Kimball further agreed to defend Mr. Quincy's rights to this property against all persons, "excepting the Demands of our Sovereign Lord the King his heirs or Successors." In conclusion, was the following provision, breach of which would make the contract null and void: "Provided Nevertheless it is the true Intent and Meaning of this deed that the said Edmund Quincy his heirs Executors Administrators or Assigns shall commence and Begin to work upon the premises afore granted within the space of three years from the date hereof." As we have already seen, Mr. Quincy's absence in England prevented his beginning mining operations within the three years, and, as in the other cases, the contract was renewed for three years from May 5, 1774; but the "mines" were probably never opened.

As regards trading interests, there seems to have been no regular "store" in town until 1772, when Deacon Ephraim Kimball opened one in his dwelling-house, located near the Kimball saw and grist-mill previously mentioned. Soon afterwards, however, two more stores were opened, one by Joseph Fox, who came here from Littleton, and the other by William Hitchborn, who came from Boston. Both these stores were located near the meeting-house.

About this time, also, David Gibson built a bakery on the spot now occupied by the residence of Ebenezer Torrey, Esq., and he also built his dwelling-house directly across the road from the bakery. These were probably the first buildings erected in this portion of the town, which, fifty years later, was the most thickly settled and prosperous part of Fitchburg, and rejoiced in the title of "The Village," while the earlier settled portion, a half-mile or so to the eastward, had stagnated and lost its prestige, and had the nickname of "Old City" applied to it.

Although the early years of Fitchburg's existence were prosperous, yet there were events preparing which checked, for a time, the wheels of progress. A fire was smouldering which, a few years later, burst out in the ruddy glare of the Revolutionary War.

Fitchburg, of course, did not, like Boston and many other towns in the Province, suffer from actual invasion, but she unflinchingly and patriotically bore her full share of the hardships of the seven years' struggle for freedom, and was ever ready, and, among the inland towns, was one of the first, to contribute both men and money to the extent of her ability, to aid in the resistance of the colonies against the inroads of the British.

FITCHBURG IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.—In September, 1768, the authorities of Boston sent to the

selectmen of Fitchburg, as they did likewise to the selectmen of the other towns in the Province, desiring them to call a town-meeting, to consider what was best to be done in view of the critical condition of affairs between the colonies and Great Britain, and also to choose an agent to meet with them in Boston, and set forth the "views, wishes and determinations of the people of Fitchburg upon the subject." A town-meeting was soon called, and Hon. Edward Hartwell of Lunenburg was chosen to act as agent for both Fitchburg and Lunenburg. The records do not state what course he was instructed to pursue as the representative of the two towns.

For the next five years nothing special, of a political nature, seems to have disturbed the citizens of Fitchburg. Of course, they felt the same uneasiness and dissatisfaction that was experienced throughout the colonies, and most intensely in and about the town of Boston.

At last, when forbearance ceased to be a virtue, the selectmen of Boston sent letters to the various towns, desiring them "to pass such resolves concerning their rights and privileges, as free members of society, as they were willing to die in maintaining, and to send them, in the form of a report, to the Committee of Correspondence in Boston."

Fitchburg took early notice of this letter, a town-meeting being held December 1, 1773, a few days after its receipt, for the purpose of considering it and expressing the sentiment of the citizens. The communication was read and the record of the meeting states that "after the town had deliberated thereon with zeal and candor, unanimously agreed to choose a committee of seven men, and chose Mr. Isaac Gibson, Capt. Reuben Gibson, Messrs. Phineas Hartwell, Ebenezer Woods, Ebenezer Bridge, Kendall Boutell and Solomon Steward as a committee to consider of our rights and privileges in common with other towns in this province, together with the many flagrant infringements that have been made thereon, and to report at the adjournment."

The adjourned meeting was held December 15th, and the report of the committee was read. It clearly and vigorously set forth the fact that the people of Fitchburg were in full accord with all efforts to oppose, and, if need be, strenuously resist any encroachments on the rights of the colonists. The report closed with the following: "And with respect to the East India tea—forasmuch as we are now informed that the town of Boston and the neighboring towns have made such noble opposition to said tea's being brought into Boston, subject to a duty so directly tending to the enslaving of America—it is our opinion that your opposition is just and equitable; and the people of this town are ready to afford all the assistance in their power to keep off all such infringements."

The stand taken by Fitchburg showed that the citizens were determined and courageous, and yet at the same time exercised a commendable discretion. That they wholly disapproved of the perpetration of any outrage is shown by the "instructions" given to Dr. John Taylor, of Lunenburg, who, in May, 1774, was elected jointly by Lunenburg and Fitchburg to represent the two towns in the Great and General Court. He was instructed to "bear testimony against all riotous practices and all other unconstitutional proceedings," and also not to give up any charter rights and privileges, and to use his influence to have rights that had been taken away restored; and further, "to move in the General Assembly that there might be a Congress and union with all the provinces." Whether he moved for such a congress, or not, does not appear, but the deputies of a Congress of that description met in Philadelphia in the following September.

In October of the same year the town sent Capt. David Goodridge as their delegate to the Provincial Congress which convened at Concord and soon after adjourned to Cambridge. This Congress prepared plans for the defence of the province, and passed the resolve relative to the "minute-men," so called.

Fitchburg was now wide awake. Forty men were enlisted as minute-men and the selectmen expended about fifty dollars for "powder, lead and flints." The armory of the minute-men was in Ephraim Kimball's store. These men were regularly drilled and ready to start at a moment's notice.

The winter passed away and the memorable 19th of April, 1775, was at hand. It found the little town on the alert. At seven o'clock on the morning of that day the British reached Concord, and at nine o'clock, just two hours later, the alarm gun was fired in front of Kimball's store. In a very short time about fifty men, under the command of Captain Ebenezer Bridge, started for Concord, and immediately after their departure a large wagon, filled with provisions, was despatched to follow them. The company proceeded as rapidly as possible, but did not reach Concord until evening—too late to take any part in the events of that historic day. Quite a number of the men returned home in a few days, as there was no immediate need of their services; but shortly afterward a company was regularly enlisted composed of Fitchburg and Lunenburg men.

Other men from this town joined the Continental army at various times, and there were some thirty Fitchburg men constantly in the field until Boston was evacuated. There were probably a dozen men from this town engaged at Bunker Hill, and at least one of them (John Gibson) is supposed to have been killed. The last seen of him was in the hottest of the battle, beating down the enemy with the butt of his musket.

"Independence Day" was now drawing near. Before taking the decisive step of declaring the American colonies free and independent, the Continental Congress submitted the matter to the legislative bodies of

the several colonies to ascertain if their support could be relied upon after the die was cast.

The General Court of Massachusetts had already assured the Congress that the people of the Old Bay Colony would undoubtedly support them; but to make the matter doubly sure, a resolve was passed that each town in the colony should take individual action on the matter.

In accordance with this resolve, the people of Fitchburg assembled in town-meeting, July 1, 1776, just three days before the Declaration of Independence was adopted by the Continental Congress. And this is the answer that little Fitchburg returned to the General Court at this alarming crisis: "Voted, that if the Honorable Continental Congress should, for the safety of these United Colonies, declare them independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain, that we, the inhabitants of the town of Fitchburg, will, with ourselves and fortunes, support them in the measure."

In October, 1776, the town voted adversely in regard to the question submitted to it, in common with the other towns of the Province, as to whether the "then Representative House, together with the Council, should make a form of government for the State of the Massachusetts Bay." The objections of the people of Fitchburg to this project took the form of a report and were based on the following well-taken points: that the members of the present House were not elected with a view to any such action, and that many of the inhabitants, who ought to have a voice in the matter, were absent in the army. In other words, they thought it best not to be in too much of a hurry.

Two and a half years later, in May, 1779, the town voted unanimously (forty-five votes) in favor of a new State Constitution. Just a year previous their vote on the same matter was twenty-two in favor and four against. In August, 1779, Capt. Thomas Cowdin was elected delegate from this town to attend the convention held at Cambridge, September 1st, for the purpose of framing the new State Constitution. This Constitution, as prepared by the convention, was submitted to the people for their ratification in May, 1780, and Fitchburg voted unanimously (65 votes) in favor of its adoption.

During this period the inhabitants of Fitchburg who remained at home were by no means reclining on beds of roses. It was "hard times" with them. Money was scarce, prices were high and the soldiers and their families had to be provided for.

In 1777 the town began to get tired of the heavy burden. There was much gloom and not a little grumbling; but through it all no word reflecting on the justice of the American cause would be tolerated by the mass of the citizens. Patriotism was put above everything else and persons who did not come up to the mark in this respect were closely watched. "More than one inhabitant of this town was threatened with a coat of tar and feathers, and even with the destruction of his house," says Torrey.

Everybody was called upon to contribute to the good cause, to the utmost of his ability, and the suspicion and wrath of the citizens fell upon those who did not seem disposed to do their full share.

The people were divided into classes, according to their wealth, and each class furnished soldiers in turn, as they were called for by the government, and had to provide for the bounty money.

In addition to all the money furnished by these classes, the town also expended what amounted to quite a sum in those days. It is difficult to estimate how much the town actually expended during the last five years of the war, because the currency fluctuated so much, but it was probably between $7000 and $8000.

It is very easy to see that all these war expenses, combined with the ordinary running expenses of the town, must have taxed the resources of the inhabitants of Fitchburg to the utmost. To cap the climax, the Continental currency, issued by the Congress, was counterfeited by the British, and the country was flooded with this spurious paper.

In 1777 the currency began to depreciate and continued to do so in a most alarming and ruinous manner. The government, for some inexplicable reason, made them legal tender for debts due, and the result was that many, who were previously in comparatively affluent circumstances, were reduced to almost absolute poverty. On the 1st of January, 1780, this currency had depreciated to such an extent that $1.00 specie was worth $32.50 Continental.

The records at that period show that sums of money were voted by the town that would appear fabulous, did we not understand about the depreciation. Thus, in February, 1780, it was voted that the inhabitants should be allowed three dollars (*i e.*, about nine cents "hard money") per hour for their labors on the highways. Eight thousand dollars was voted to be raised to assist in supporting soldiers' families. "In July, it was voted to raise $1666.66 to hire soldiers with. In the October following, a committee of the town contracted for four thousand eight hundred pounds of beef, and agreed to pay $26,000 for it, or at a rate of over $5.00 per pound." In 1781 Continental money took a still greater drop, and in March of that year two men who had been elected collectors of taxes in Fitchburg for the ensuing year, and refused to serve, were each fined $900, equal to about $10 specie, the usual fine in such cases. At the same time the town voted $20,000 for repairs of highways and allowed each person $5 per hour for his labor.

The last, but not perhaps the least, of the troubles with which the town had to contend during this period was that dreaded disease, small-pox, which broke out here in 1776. A hospital for the purpose of inoculation was established in town by Dr. Thaddæus McCarty, of Fitchburg, and Dr. Israel Atherton, a noted physician of Lancaster. It does not appear that there

were many deaths from the disease. Notwithstanding all these trials and hardships, Fitchburg increased considerably in size during the war, and at the time of the declaration of peace, in 1783, the town had about one thousand inhabitants.

But another trouble was soon to come upon them in the form of

SHAYS'S INSURRECTION.—At the close of the war, trade was stagnant, and there was very little money. The State government, in order to keep up its credit, imposed very heavy taxes on the people. At first the people had recourse to petitions; but finding that no amelioration resulted from their numerous statements of grievances, they broke out into open rebellion against the State authorities. The leading character in the short-lived disturbance was a man named Daniel Shays, a former captain in the Continental army; hence the name Shays's Insurrection was applied to it.

The discretion that had previously characterized the people of Fitchburg, fortunately prevented them from breaking out into open rebellion; but their threats were loud and deep, and not all the taxes ordered by the government were collected.

In June, 1786, Elijah Willard was appointed a delegate from this town to a convention, held in Worcester, to consider the best means of extricating the people from their burdensome difficulties. The town voted to defend his property if he should be arrested for attending the convention, "provided he behaves himself in an orderly and peaceable manner; otherwise he is to risk it himself."

By all means in their power, short of force of arms, did the people of Fitchburg resist all efforts to collect the taxes, and the consequence was that a large company of soldiers was sent here in the fall of 1786, to enforce obedience. This made the citizens exceedingly indignant, and there were several occasions when serious strife was imminent. The company was prudently withdrawn to Townsend in the winter of 1786-87. During all their stay in Fitchburg, the soldiers exhibited great insolence towards the citizens, and when they were ordered to Townsend they put a finishing touch to their impudence by impressing men, horses and conveyances to take them there. A number of the soldiers were taken by Asa Perry, who hated them most cordially, and he managed to tip his load into the snow-drifts several times in the course of the journey. During 1787 the trouble gradually subsided and matters went on with tolerable smoothness.

It may be of interest to give a short description of the appearance of the town as it was about a century ago. In his "History of Fitchburg," Mr. Torrey has given as good and accurate a description as could be written, which is as follows: "A traveler, approaching from the east or south, would first behold the tavern of Thomas Cowdin, Esq. Upon the hill to the northwest might be seen a small, yellow and rather mean-looking meeting-house. In front would appear the 'red store' of Joseph Fox, Esq., and in the rear of that his dwelling-house, with large projecting eaves. The mills and meeting-house of Deacon Ephraim Kimball were just below, and over the bridge were two houses more. Casting his eyes up the hill, he would see the house of Rev. Mr. Payson, where C. Marshall now lives. This was all that could be seen, and all that then constituted the middle of Fitchburg. Thence proceeding westward, over a crooked and rough road, the traveler would next see the house already mentioned as having been built by David Gibson, and opposite to that, on the right, the baker's shop. He would then come on to the present Common. Here his eyes would be greeted by small, stunted pine trees, and such bushes as grow upon the poorest land. A straggling log fence here and there might serve to diversify the scene. Nothing more was to be seen, unless William Brown had commenced building Captain Z. Sheldon's present dwelling-house, till, passing the swell of ground at Dr. Abel Fox's house, the modest, unassuming house of Benjamin Danforth would be visible on the right, and his blacksmith's shop on the left. Continuing his course onward, over one of the most wretched roads that ever bore that name, and passing over the high bridge —and a crazy one it was—near the bellows-shop of Messrs. Thurston & Battis, no marks of human habitation were to be seen till, passing around the hill, he might discern in the distance the solitary cottage of Benjamin Kemp. The river, which is now crowded, so to speak, with mills and factories, then appeared like a useless profusion of water, flowing noisily along over its rocky bed to the parent ocean, unobstructed by a single dam save the one in the Old City. Such, fifty years ago, was the forbidding aspect of what is now the busy and pleasant village of Fitchburg." The reader will bear in mind that the foregoing was written by Mr. Torrey in 1835 or 1836.

In addition to the middle of the town above described there was, a century ago, a flourishing settlement in the westerly part of the township. The land there was elevated, the soil good and there was no river to cause trouble every spring. This region, now known as Dean Hill, was settled early and became quite prosperous. This locality boasted of two taverns, kept by Jacob Upton and Jedediah Cooper respectively, a blacksmith's shop and a doctor, besides the houses of many thrifty farmers.

The people living in this region had to pay their proportion of the taxes for the annual repairs of bridges and highways in the middle of the town. To free themselves from these heavy and, in their opinion, unjust taxes, they determined to be set off as a separate town; and in the warrant for the annual town-meeting March 7, 1785, was an article "to see if the town will take into consideration the request of Mr. Jacob Upton and others, to see if the town will set off the inhabitants of the northwesterdly part of

Fitchburg, with their lands and privileges, free and clear from said Fitchburg, to join the extreme part of Westminster with the northeasterly part of Ashburnham, to be incorporated into a town, to have town privileges as other towns."

The people in all other parts of the town were unanimously opposed to this project, doubtless fearing that, in case this prosperous and growing portion were set off and ceased to contribute to Fitchburg's town expenses, they would be utterly swamped by the taxes necessary to repair the damage done by that grievous nuisance, the north branch of the Nashua. So the article was promptly voted down.

The people in the west, by no means discouraged by this defeat, went to work immediately to gain their point and contrived a very shrewd scheme worthy of "Yankee ingenuity." The time had come when all were agreed that there was need of a new meeting-house in a more central locality. This commonly acknowledged fact was made the basis of a petition brought before the town by the people of the west in May, 1785. The substance of this petition was that a mile or more in width of the northerly part of Westminster, with the inhabitants thereon, be annexed to Fitchburg, these proposed new inhabitants "to be convened with others of the inhabitants of said town, for the public worship of God and to be vested with all other privileges with said town in public matters, to join with the inhabitants of said Fitchburg to build a meeting-house on Ezra Upton's land," etc.

This, at first glance, seemed like a perfectly fair proposition. If adopted, territory would be added to the township and the location of the proposed meeting-house would be quite near the centre of the town. But the men of the east were Yankees, too, and dust could not be thrown into their eyes. They saw the point so speciously concealed by the meeting-house scheme. They saw that if the petition were granted and the new territory annexed, the inhabitants of the new acquisition, combined with the people in the west, would then be strong enough to control the town-meeting, would vote to be set off as a separate town and thus leave the remainder of the town of Fitchburg in the lurch. So the petition was negatived, doubtless much to the chagrin of those who had hoped to pull the wool over their neighbors' eyes.

Nothing more (except complaining of the distance they had to travel to go to meeting) was done by the people of the west until March, 1786, when they very modestly requested of the town, "that Rev. Mr. Payson have liberty to preach some part of the time in the year in the westerly part of the town." This privilege was also denied them, "the town thinking that by yielding an inch they would open a door through which they might unwillingly be thrust a mile," as Mr. Torrey aptly expresses it.

The wrath of the west was now fully aroused. They were bound to have their rights recognized, and to have a new meeting-house as near them as they could get it. At this time began a controversy concerning the location of the meeting-house, which lasted over ten years, and required *ninety-nine* town-meetings to settle. An account of this controversy will be given in the ecclesiastical history.

The town records during this period (1786–96) contain but little that does not refer to the controversy. Two events, however, occurred in the course of these years that are worth noting in this section. One was the census of 1791, from which it appears that Fitchburg's population at that time was one thousand one hundred and fifty-one, showing that the town had grown very slowly during the previous eight or ten years.

The other event was the appearance of Rev. Peter Whitney's "History of Worcester County," published in 1793. It may be of interest to give a few of his impressions about Fitchburg as it was then. After a very brief account of the incorporation of the town and a description of the character of its surface and soil, he says: "Most of the people live in comfortable and easy circumstances, possessing all the necessaries and many of the conveniences of life. They are industrious, and, having a good soil to labor upon, live independent, and, for an inland town, several families among them may justly be deemed rich. The people near the meeting-house are settled pretty thick, and there much business of various kinds is performed; for here runs, a few rods south of the meeting-house, the north branch of Nashaway River. One part of this river comes from Ashburnham, the other part from Watchusett Pond; these unite a little west of Fitchburg Meeting-House. After this junction, and just below the meeting-house, there is one corn-mill, one saw-mill, one fulling-mill, one clothier's works, one trip-hammer and works for grinding scythes. These occasion a great resort of people there to transact their various concerns." Further on he states that it is a flourishing place, and thinks that "if they continue in peace and unity they will still greatly increase in numbers and wealth." He adds: "They subsist chiefly by husbandry; there are, however, the usual mechanicks and a few dealers in European, East and West India goods."

The town records contain very little of interest during the last few years of the century. February 12, 1796, a small part of the southwesterly portion of the township was annexed to Westminster. In 1798 the town laid a tax on "Doggs," and the next year voted to abate it. The tax appears to have amounted to fifty-three dollars. In the fall of 1797 it was voted "to build a pound with stone two rods square within the walls." The contract was given to Thomas Cowdin (son of Captain Thomas Cowdin, who died in 1792), for thirty-three dollars and fifty cents, with the privilege of taking stone off the town's land. The old stone pound still stands in the woods, close

by the Ashburnham hill road, and looks desolate and forsaken. Whether it has been rebuilt or not since 1796 the writer cannot state; but its appearance would indicate that it had not.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

HISTORY FROM 1800 TO 1872.

THE year 1800 found the town in a tolerably flourishing condition. The population had increased to one thousand three hundred and ninety. The people had recovered their equanimity on the meeting-house question, and the new house of worship was much appreciated on Sundays, and often called into use on week-days for town-meetings, its first use for this purpose being on September 17, 1798. A clock had been put into it, for which the town, for some reason unknown, seems to have been rather unwilling to pay.

In 1801 there appears to have been a revival of the desire of the people in the west to be set off; for, at a town-meeting February 23, 1801, there was an article in the warrant "to see if the town will vote to set off all the inhabitants in the northwestern part of the town of Fitchburg, who wish to be set off as a town, agreeable to a plan formerly drawn by some of the inhabitants of the towns of Fitchburg, Westminster, Ashburnham and Ashby." It was voted to pass over this article.

During the following five years there seems to be nothing of special interest entered upon the town records. In September, 1806, the town voted to choose a committee to provide plans for a powder-house, select a location for it and ascertain, "as near as they can," the expense. The committee made a favorable report, and the town voted March 7, 1808, to build the powder-house, and chose a committee of three to attend to it. This powder-house was located near the bend in the present Central Street, and is well remembered by many of our older citizens. It stood there for a considerable number of years.

In 1808 the town concluded a satisfactory agreement with the town of Lunenburg, "respecting paupers, public lands and taxation," matters that for some time had been in dispute. It was the custom in Fitchburg, as in most towns at that time, to let out the poor to the lowest bidders. Regular public auctions were held every year for this purpose: and some of the conditions upon which certain of the paupers were "let out" are worth noting. Thus, for example, one L. W. was bid off by a citizen "to lodge and board and mending for the said L.'s work, till she is otherways disposed of, the town to cloathe her and doctor her in sickness if need. In regard to one of the town charges it was always stipulated that the person who bid him off "resk his conduct if he should be at freedom and be answerable for all damage done by him."

In April, 1808, a certain pauper "was struck off at a public vendue, at 26 cents a week,—all running charges excluded, viz., sickness and clothing." The prices bid ranged from nothing to a little over a dollar a week, according to the capabilities of the paupers to work and the amount of care necessary to look after them. In 1820 a new method was begun, all the paupers, thirteen in number, being let out together to Jacob Upton, for the year, for three hundred and nine dollars and seventy-five cents.

In May, 1810, there was an article in the warrant "to see if the town will raise a sum of money to purchase an engine." There seems to have been a fire just previous, but the people could not have been very greatly alarmed, as no action was taken on this article.

During the first decade of this century the town was only moderately prosperous. The population had increased somewhat, being one thousand five hundred and sixty-six in 1810. People were undoubtedly deterred from settling here on account of the high taxes necessary to keep the roads and bridges in repair and to build new ones. Moreover, there was bitter dissension among the people in regard to theological matters, which will be referred to later. It began early in 1801 and continued until 1823, when the two societies mutually agreed to disagree, to live and let live, and a final separation took place.

It was during this decade that the first cotton-factory was erected in Fitchburg. It was also one of the earliest (the third) built in this State. This factory, known among us for more than half a century as the "Fitchburg Woolen Mill," was built in 1807 by a corporation of some thirty individuals, for the purpuse of trying the then novel experiment of spinning cotton. It was successful for a time, but later was converted into a woolen-mill. In 1887 it was purchased by the Parkhill Manufacturing Company; thus, by a singular coincidence, the first factory built in Fitchburg was, after many years, restored to its original industry. A detailed account of this old landmark will be given hereafter. On "Election Day," 1810, Capt. Martin Newton put in operation two spinning-frames in a building near the present "Stone Mill."

Paper-making was begun in town in 1805, in a mill built on the site of the Rollstone Machine Company's works, by Thomas French. The dam built there the year previous was the third across the Nashua. Up to the year 1810 nothing in the way of manufacturing enterprises, other than those mentioned above, had been established in Fitchburg as permanent industries of the town. Scythes, bellows, hats and a few other articles were made here then on a small scale, but are now no longer among the industries of Fitchburg.

In March, 1811, the town made another unsuccessful attempt to raise money ($100) for the purchase of a fire-engine, and July of the same year chose Paul Wetherbee, John Thurston and Samuel Gibson a committee "to raise a contribution for the relief of the sufferers of Newburyport by a late fire."

The War of 1812 does not seem to have had much effect on town affairs here. The war was unpopular in New England, but Fitchburg appears to have borne her part without any murmuring. In the warrant for a town-meeting in May, 1812, was an article "to see if the town will offer any reward, by way of bounty or wages, to such soldiers as may volunteer, or be detached, to supply the number of troops required by the commander-in-chief from the infantry and cavalry of said town." It was voted that the town make up the soldiers' wages to twelve dollars a month while in actual service.

In May, 1815, it was voted "that Z. Sheldon and others have liberty to erect a liberty pole at their own expense."

For some years previously there had been an article in the town warrants, from time to time, to see if the town would sell the twenty-two and a half acres of land purchased of Thomas Boynton in December, 1788, for the meeting-house site, but never used. The town had not as yet been able to come to an agreement about it. In 1813 there was an article to see whether it should be sold to Jonas Marshall, Jr., and the proceeds applied to the purchase of a bell for the meeting-house, on condition that Mr. Marshall "will give $100 more than two or three men, that shall be agreed upon, shall appraise the land to be worth." The article was not acted upon. In March, 1817, it was finally voted "to sell the town's land bought of T. Boynton, reserving a piece for the pound," and a committee of three was chosen "to sell it to the best advantage." The members of this committee seem to have accomplished their work, and in March, 1818, it was voted that the conveyance be made by the town treasurer and "to appropriate the money arising from the sale of the town's land to repair the bridges carried away by the freshet;" but this vote was reconsidered and it was agreed to appropriate the money "as any other." The spring of 1818 seems to have been particularly disastrous to the bridges.

August 21, 1820, the town voted on the question, "Is it expedient that delegates should be chosen to meet in convention for the purpose of revising or altering the Constitution of Government of this Commonwealth?" The vote was unanimously in favor of choosing such delegates (eighty-five votes). October 16, 1820, the town chose Calvin Willard and John Shepley as delegates to attend a convention held for this purpose in Boston, on the third Wednesday of November, 1820.

During this decade the population of the town increased very little, being one thousand seven hundred and thirty-six in 1820. In these ten years three more cotton-mills were built in town—the first being Newton's cotton factory, built in 1812 by Captain Martin Newton and Solomon Strong. To accommodate this factory the town, in September, 1812, laid out a "town road and private way, two rods wide, to a stake opposite the northwest corner of the new Factory." This "way" (now known as Newton Place) passed through the land of Oliver Fox, "whose damage," as the records say, "is appraised at $101, which Newton and Strong are to pay, as also all expenses of making and keeping it in repair." The second factory was the "Red Mill" (where Pitts' mill now stands), built in 1813, and the third was built on Phillips' Brook in 1814 by a company which failed soon after the close of the war, but was later put into operation as a cotton factory by other parties.

During this period many new roads had been built, and old ones straightened and made more level. The town fathers began to recognize the fact that a straight line is the shortest distance between any two given points. The early settlers, for the sake of protection and defence, lived on the tops of the hills, and the roads, being built for their accommodation, went straggling and twisting over the various hills as best they could. Evidently such roads, besides being difficult to construct and hard to travel on, were really in the end the most expensive that could be made, because of the great damage necessarily done every year when the snows of winter melted and produced torrents of water, which washed them out badly and rendered them dangerous to travel upon. The authorities saw this, and began to "mend their ways" in a double sense. Much improvement in this respect had been made by 1820, but the roads in and around Fitchburg could not be called really good until some ten or fifteen years later.

Let us now return to the consecutive history of the town. The convention in Boston in 1820 prepared articles of amendment to the Constitution, to be submitted to the people for ratification; and April 9, 1821, the inhabitants of Fitchburg were called together to vote on the proposed fourteen articles of amendment, each one to be voted on separately. The result was as follows:

ARTICLES.	YEAS.	NAYS.	ARTICLES.	YEAS.	NAYS
1	41	53	8	87	10
2	83	17	9	51	15
3	81	16	10	29	61
4	48	31	11	65	24
5	35	59	12	52	37
6	65	21	13	68	21
7	51	31	14	55	37

Thus it appears that they voted in favor of accepting all except Articles One, Five and Ten.

Up to this time the town seems to have been unsuccessful in regard to getting a vote to purchase any fire apparatus. There appears to have been, however, an "Engine Company," for in October, 1821, it was voted "that the town provide ten pair leather buckets for the Engine Company." They probably

thought it well to have the name, because the engine must come sooner or later; and come it did, before very long, too, for in March, 1823, it was voted "to raise one hundred dollars to purchase an engine;" also "to close with Oliver Fox's offer," which was that he would build an engine-house and give the land, providing the engine be kept down in the "Old City." This engine was what is now called a "hand tub," and had to be fed with water from buckets. The engine-house was located near the present quarters of Niagara Hose, No. 4, on Day Street. So the "down-towners" had the distinction and gratification of having the fire-engine near them.

During the years 1814 to 1822, inclusive, the town voted not to send a Representative to the General Court, and in 1822 a fine was imposed on the town for neglecting to send any that year. In April, 1823, the town authorized Joseph Simonds, town treasurer, to pay the fine and in the following September, voted to petition the General Court to relinquish the amount of the fine.

In April, 1827, the sum of seventy-five dollars was raised to pay the expense of completing the fire-engine and fifty dollars for buckets. At the same time it was voted "that the overseers of the poor be authorized to purchase a farm for the support of the town's poor, and, if they do so, that they be authorized to stock it, provide farming tools, etc."

They accordingly purchased a piece of land in the southeastern part of the town, on the road to Leominster (now Water Street in South Fitchburg) and it has been used as a poor-farm since that time. In April of the next year it was voted to change the name of poor-house to that of work-house. May 5, 1828, it was voted "to build a reservoir for water on the common, with two pumps, at an expense not exceeding $50."

The year 1830 brought several novelties to Fitchburg. In the autumn of that year J. E. Whitcomb & Co. opened a printing office in town, in a building just below the tavern which stood on the site now occupied by the Fitchburg Hotel. In October, 1830, this enterprising firm began the publication of a newspaper—the first one in Fitchburg—called the *Fitchburg Gazette.*

Another event of this year was the appearance of "A Map of Fitchburg, Mass., Surveyed by Levi Downe: October, 1830." It bore the imprint of "Pendleton's Lithography, Boston, Mass.," and was well executed, and showed very accurately the condition of the town at that time. From it we learn that there were then in Fitchburg three hundred and twenty-five dwelling-houses, two meeting-houses, one academy, twelve school-houses, one printing office, two woolen manufactories, four cotton manufactories, one scythe manufactory, two paper-mills, four grist-mills, ten saw-mills, three taverns, two hat manufactories, one bellows manufactory, two tanneries, two window-blind manufactories and one chair manufactory.

During the ten years, 1821–30, the town made considerable progress. The population had increased much more than it had in any previous decade, being two thousand one hundred and seventy-six in 1830, an increase of nearly four hundred and fifty over the number of inhabitants in 1820. Several substantial dams had been built and a number of new mills and factories erected.

The improvement of the roads and bridges had begun in earnest. Many old roads had been practically discontinued and new ones built. The road to Leominster had been straightened and otherwise improved; in 1830 a new road was opened to Ashburnham, and about the same time another to Lunenburg. The river-road to Westminster was opened a few years later.

Two substantial stone bridges were built in 1829 over the Nashua, on the Keene and Boston mail road (now River Street), a little west of the meeting-house. The cost of these two bridges is stated to have been over two thousand one hundred dollars. The fire-engine seems to have been put into requisition at least a few times during the ten years, for in May, 1828, it was voted that a reward of two hundred dollars be authorized to be offered "for the apprehension of any person or persons who shall be convicted of having set fire to the buildings which have recently been burnt in this town."

The "High School Association of Fitchburg" was formed about 1830, and during that year erected the academy, for which Captain Zachariah Sheldon very generously donated the land. The academy stood a little in front of the present location of the Fitchburg High School building, and cost about twelve hundred dollars. All these things show that the people were awake to the necessities of the times, and that the town was well started on its prosperous career.

The year 1832 witnessed the establishment of the first bank in Fitchburg. The Fitchburg Bank was chartered that year by the Legislature with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, and went into operation in July. It began business in a small granite building on the site of the brick building now occupied as an office by the firm of Crocker, Burbank & Co.

Nothing else of special note seems to have occurred during the period from 1831 to 1835. The following vote in August, 1832, may, however, be of sufficient interest to copy; for some of the older residents doubtless remember the big sign-post referred to, which stood on the Common half a century ago. "Voted, that Capt. Z. Sheldon have permission to erect a sign-post on the Common, under the direction of the Selectmen, with regard to place, kind and stile of post and guide-boards, all to be done to their satisfaction; and it is expected to be ornamental to the Common."

A brief description of the town, as it appeared

about that time, taken from a letter written by a native of Fitchburg then residing in Wisconsin, is so graphic that it is worth quoting. This letter was written in 1864 in response to an invitation to attend the Centennial celebration of the town in June of that year; and in it the writer goes back in recollection to the time "when the 'old city' was little else than the 'stone factory' and a farm; when boys, and men, too, played ball on the Common, which was then a waste of sand (well covered with granite blocks and chips) from the Unitarian 'meeting-house' to the 'Lower Tavern,' and without any enclosure or improvement of any kind except the town-pump and a huge sign-post; when the old yellow 'town school-house' held a prominent place at the head of the street, and the orchard next, which, I think one member of your committee and all the boys of that period will remember, had no other fence at its front on the main street of the village than a rough stone-wall, containing, I verily believe, more stones than can be found in any one place in all Wisconsin."

A more extended description of the main street about 1836 would show the following: Beginning on what is now West Main Street, one would first see the "Red Mill;" a little below it, on the present corner of Main and River Streets, stood a store; and beyond that, not far from the Common, was the Baptist Church, which is now occupied as a carriage repository. One would next come to the Common, with the First Parish (Unitarian) Church standing at its head and the "yellow school-house" flanking the church and standing at the present junction of Main and Mechanic Streets. On the corner of Main and Rollstone Streets was the Orthodox Church, on the site of the present Calvinistic Congregational Church, and just below was the brick building which still stands there, though somewhat enlarged. The lower portion has always been used as a grocery store, and for half a century, lacking a few months (April, 1836, to October, 1885), it was occupied by Mr. Thomas C. Caldwell, for many years the veteran grocer in active business in Fitchburg. In 1836 the upper portion of this building was occupied by the tailor's shop of Daniel Cross. Mr. Cross is still in the same business, though in much more commodious quarters than those early days afforded, and enjoys the distinction of being the senior merchant in active business in Fitchburg. He began business here in 1833. The building of which we were speaking was afterward raised one story and otherwise enlarged, and for many years the upper portion has been used by the Sentinel Printing Company. The grocery store in the lower portion, though now passed into other hands, will probably always be called the T. C. Caldwell store. Just below was Factory Square, with the Fitchburg Woolen Mill standing in the same place as at present, and substantially the same in appearance then as now, with the exception of an addition to the northwest corner, built in 1887 by the present owners. Factory Square has lost the charm of the noble elm which, until a few years ago, lifted its wide-spreading branches over its centre. Next the square stood a tavern, on the site of the Fitchburg Hotel, and beyond the tavern was a store, in the rear of which was the printing office. On the other side of the street, directly opposite the tavern, was the store of Benjamin Snow & Son, above that a hardware store, then the granite bank building, and above that, on the present corner of Main and and Academy Streets, where the National House now stands, was another tavern. The academy was plainly visible at the then extremity of Academy Street. There were about forty dwelling-houses scattered along the upper portion of the street. In "Newton's Lane" was a cotton-factory, and in the "Old City" were the "Stone Mill," the Burbank Paper Mill, a tavern, a store in the rear of I. C. Wright & Co.'s present hardware store, a brick school-house, occupying about the site of the old meeting-house, and about a dozen dwellings. Such, in brief, is a description of the appearance of Fitchburg a little over fifty years ago.

Until about this time the First Parish Church had been used for town purposes; but in 1836 the Parish began to think seriously of building a new church just above the site of the old one. This made it necessary for the town to take some action in regard to having a town hall, and on December 31, 1836, the following vote was passed: "Voted, to unite with School District No. 1 in erecting a building for town-house and school-house, if it can be done on equitable terms." A committee was chosen to purchase a spot, and another committee to build the house, &c. A site was bought on the corner of Main and Baker (now Circle) Streets, and arrangements were made by which the old meeting-house was moved to that location and fitted up for town purposes. The house, much altered from its original appearance, still stands there and is now known as Crocker's Hall. The first town-meeting was held in it November 13, 1837, at which time the following report of the expenditures of the committees in making this change was rendered: "Cost of spot, $1000. Benches of old meeting-house, $410. Moving it, $200. Stone-work, $518. Painting, $140. Labor and material, $639.86,—less old porches and stuff sold, $29.16 = $2922.57."

During the period between 1830 and 1840 several newspapers were started here, but had only a brief existence. In 1838, however, a new era was inaugurated in the journalism of Fitchburg by the starting of the *Fitchburg Sentinel*, December 20th of that year. This newspaper has continued to be published ever since, and on December 20, 1888, completed a half-century of prosperous existence.

The fourth decade of this century may justly be called a very prosperous one in the history of the town; but it was only the precursor of what was to come. The population in 1840 had increased to two thousand five hundred and seventy; old indus-

tries had flourished and new ones had come into town to stay. The foundation of the large machine manufacturing interests of Fitchburg was laid in 1838 by the establishment of the firm of J. & S. W. Putnam in town.

The records contain very little of interest or importance during the few years succeeding 1840. In April, 1844, it was voted "that the selectmen procure a suitable safe for the preservation of the books and records of the town." About this time also the people began to think of having a town clock, and in November, 1844, it was voted "pay one-half the expense of a first-rate clock to be placed on the Second Parish Meeting-House, provided the said one-half does not exceed two hundred dollars, and that the selectmen be a committee to see this money properly applied." At the same time it was voted "to discontinue the travel on the Common between the two rows of maple trees, as far down as these trees extend, and that the same may be fenced, provided it be done free of expense to the town."

The all-absorbing topic at this time was the Fitchburg Railroad. The first public meeting to consider the project of direct communication between Boston and Fitchburg, by a railroad, was held in the town hall November 12, 1841, pursuant to a notice printed in the *Sentinel* the day previous. The people of Fitchburg were deeply interested in having the road built, and aided, in every way possible, their fellow-townsman, Alvah Crocker, Esq., through whose zeal and untiring energy the railroad became an accomplished fact. The year 1845 will ever be a memorable one in the annals of Fitchburg. In February of that year the track was completed to this town, and on the 5th of the following March the road was opened for use. There was more or less contention in regard to the location of the depot. The site finally decided upon was a part of Deacon David Boutelle's garden; so the "Old City" was again favored, as it was in the case of the first fire-engine; and its prospects began to brighten. Three years later the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad was completed, and Fitchburg's importance as a railroad centre began to develop. These railroads rendered the natural resources of the town fully available, and inaugurated a new era in business. The people worked hard to secure them, and richly deserved the almost incalculable benefits that have been derived therefrom during the last forty years or more. A powerful impetus was given to the town, and the question "Where is Fitchburg?" was no longer asked, at least in this Commonwealth. Energetic business men saw the capabilities of the town and located here, and the population began to increase in a most gratifying manner. In 1845, according to a census taken by the assessors, the population of the town was three thousand eight hundred and eighty-three.

At a town-meeting, November 10, 1845, a committee was chosen "to name the several streets in the Centre Village, in the town of Fitchburg." Their report was accepted and adopted March 2, 1846, and from it we learn that the following-named streets were then in existence: Main, Mechanic, Prospect, West, River, School, Chestnut, Rollstone, Baker's, Academy, High, Pleasant, Prichard, Central, Blossom, Summer, Water, Laurel, South and Cross Streets. This committee also named Cottage Square and Newton's Lane.

At a town-meeting, November 7, 1848, a committee, previously appointed for the purpose, reported a code of by-laws to be observed by the town of Fitchburg. These by-laws were quite strict, and if rigidly enforced, must have rendered the town a model of law and order. At this meeting these by-laws were accepted, and a committee, consisting of Alpheus P. Kimball, Ivers Phillips and William Carleton, was chosen to procure the sanction of the Court of Common Pleas thereto. The sanction was duly obtained at the December term, 1848, and the by-laws were printed by order of the town and distributed among the citizens.

In 1849 the town took a wise and commendable step by voting "to establish a High School, to be kept throughout the year, with suitable vacations, and the School Committee to put it in operation as soon as convenient." The sum of eight hundred dollars was raised for this purpose.

The year 1850 found Fitchburg a bustling, thriving town of a little more than five thousand inhabitants. The increase in population and business was unprecedented in the annals of the town. During the decade the foundation of the chair business had been laid here by Walter Heywood and Alonzo Davis. Two more banks had been established—the Fitchburg Savings Bank, in 1846, and the Rollstone Bank, in 1849. The Fitchburg Mutual Fire Insurance Company was incorporated March 22, 1847, and began business September 1st of the same year.

Several substantial and, at that time, commodious and ornamental brick blocks had been built in town previous to 1850, among which may be mentioned the Torrey & Wood, Heywood, Comee, Town & Piper, Snow & Wood (now called Central Block) and Rollstone Blocks. The Universalist Church was built in 1847 and had in the lower story three good stores. The Fitchburg Hotel Block was erected about 1850 and furnished four good stores. It is quite evident, therefore, that Fitchburg was at that time well provided with stores and accommodations for offices, etc. The American House was built in 1845 by David Boutelle; but the easterly wing, under which the stores are located, was not erected until 1858. All of these blocks still stand, though a few have been remodeled somewhat.

Since 1850 the advance in all directions has been so rapid, and there has been such a multiplicity of events, that no attempt will be made in this portion of the sketch to speak of anything but matters per-

taining directly to town affairs, which cannot be taken up elsewhere. The progress in education, church affairs, manufacturing, etc., will be given in detail in special chapters hereafter.

In 1851 appeared the second map of Fitchburg. It was a large, full and accurate map, and when compared with its predecessor of 1830 showed what an immense advance the town had made in the twenty-one years.

March 31, 1851, the Legislature passed an act to authorize a Fire Department in the town of Fitchburg, which was accepted and approved by the town May 26, 1851.

About this time the people began to think seriously of building a new town-house. The old one was manifestly too small to accommodate the great increase of voters, and it was necessary that something be done about the matter in the near future. But, as was the case with everything of that kind, there was contention as to where a new town-hall, if built, should be located. The "Old City" people had secured the stone railroad depot and were anxious to have the town-house, too. On the other hand, the town-house had previously been up-town and the people there were bound to have it remain in that vicinity. Fortunately, before much time was wasted, an amicable conclusion was reached, as is shown by the following extract from the *Fitchburg News* of January 28, 1852 (Vol. I., No. 2).

On Monday, the 26th, the citizens of Fitchburg voted to build a Town House, 65 by 100 feet, two stories high, with a basement for a market or other purposes. The probable cost, according to Mr. Wood's statement, will be $20,000.

The Hall is to be in the second story, according to the plan proposed, and the first floor reserved for courts, schools, or other purposes, according to the judgment of the building committee, or future instruction of the Town.

The site most likely to be selected is next below Central Block, where Dr. Blood now resides. The meeting was large and at one time considerable warmth was manifested both pro and con., but the feeling soon subsided and the plan submitted by the committee was unanimously adopted, as was also the report nominating a building committee. This committee consists of Messrs. N. Wood, J. P. Putnam, I. Phillips, C. Marshall, N. Cowdin, A. J. Town and Col. Upton.

It is truly a matter of congratulation, not only that we are at last *sure* of soon having a good House, but also that such harmony prevails in regard to it.

From the first number of the *Fitchburg Reveille*, March 31, 1852, is taken the following:

New Town House.—A handsome and substantial town-house is soon to be erected in Fitchburg. An appropriation for this purpose, of $25,000, was made at the last March meeting, and the new building is to be located on Main street, just south of Central Block. The foundation is to be laid immediately and the building completed during the coming summer.

The land upon which it was built cost four thousand dollars, and the building and its furnishing cost about eighteen thousand dollars. It was a handsome and substantial brick edifice, and, with some alterations and enlargements, has served as town-house and city-hall for the past thirty-five years, besides affording accommodations for the Fitchburg Public Library from 1859 to 1885, and the Fitchburg Post-Office from 1853 to 1872.

During this decade the people of Fitchburg took much interest in the subject of slavery, which, a few years later, became a question of vital importance. Many public meetings were held with regard to the "Fugitive Slave Law," and the people here boldly denounced it.

An important step in the progress of the town was taken in the establishment of the Fitchburg Athenæum in 1852; and a still more important one in the founding of the Fitchburg Public Library in 1859. The Fitchburg Gas Company was organized in 1852, and soon after began to furnish light for the streets. A well-equipped Fire Department had been established, substantial bridges and good streets constructed, more business blocks built, a musical organization, known as the Fitchburg Cornet Band, was established in 1851, and existed for some years—in a word, the promises of previous years were fast being fulfilled. The population of the town had increased to six thousand four hundred and forty-two in 1855 and seven thousand eight hundred and fifty-four in 1860.

The few years following 1860 were almost entirely taken up by the events connected with the Civil War. Fitchburg, as usual, did her full share as regards the furnishing of men and money and the performance of good work for the preservation of the Union, and a condensed account of what the citizens of this town did and suffered during those eventful years will be given in a special chapter hereafter. There was, however, during the war period, one very interesting and important event in the town's history that should be chronicled in this portion of the sketch, viz.:

The Centennial Celebration of the Incorporation of the Town.—At the annual town-meeting, in April, 1863, a committee of fifteen was chosen to make arrangements for and take charge of a fitting observance of the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town. The committee of arrangements consisted of the following gentlemen: Hon. Alvah Crocker, chairman, and Ebenezer Torrey, Dr. Jonas A. Marshall, John T. Farwell, Abel F. Adams, Joseph Upton, Dr. Thomas R. Boutelle, Lewis H. Bradford, Thornton K. Ware, Nathaniel Wood, Abel Simonds, Moses Wood, James P. Putnam, Amasa Norcross and Henry A. Willis.

The incorporators, in their zeal to have their work quickly accomplished, had caused the anniversary to come in February, an inclement season at which no public demonstration could be held with any degree of comfort. The committee of arrangements accordingly very wisely decided to postpone the festive day to a more comfortable time of the year, and fixed upon Thursday, June 30, 1864, as the date of the celebration.

Though the hearts and thoughts of the people of Fitchburg at that period were with the absent ones who were fighting the battles of our country—for the Union, whose fate seemed then to be trembling in the balance—yet preparations that were elaborate,

considering the circumstances, were made for this noteworthy event in the history of the town. The committee, ably seconded by the ladies of Fitchburg, did all in their power to make the celebration a success; and the day, when past, gave ample proof that their labors had accomplished all that their hearts could wish.

To many natives of the town who had removed to distant States, to those who, at a former period, had been for a time identified with the progress of the town and to many prominent State officials, invitations were sent by the committee, asking them to honor the day with their presence. Many accepted, and many who could not be present sent letters congratulating the town on the completion of its first century of prosperity.

The 30th of June at last arrived. The weather was delightful and the town early astir. People began to pour in from neighboring towns, and the streets of Fitchburg were crowded as they never were before. It was a holiday with the schools, and all the stores closed at 10 A.M. On the arrival of the morning train from Boston, about 10 o'clock, the procession was formed on the park near the depots under command of Chief Marshal Col. Edwin Upton, assisted by Marshals Eugene T. Miles, Charles Burleigh, Robert L. Goddard, John Burney, Alpheus P. Kimball, Lucius Aldrich, Edmund B. Hayward and Henry A. Spooner, in the following order:

Aid.	Chief Marshal	Aid.
	Hall's Boston Brass Band.	
	Committee of Arrangements.	
Aid.	Marshal.	Aid.
	Orator and Poet of the Day.	
	Invited Guests.	
	Fitchburg Drum Corps, E. H. Frost, Leader.	
Aid.	Marshal.	Aid.
	Citizens of Lunenburg and neighboring Towns.	
	Choir of "Old Folks" in Costume.	
Aid.	Marshal.	Aid.
	Citizens of Fitchburg.	
	Children of the Public Schools.	

The procession, when formed, moved through the principal streets of the town and then by Circle Street to the field owned by the late Walter Heywood, nearly opposite what was then the chair shop of the late Hon. Alonzo Davis. Here Yale's mammoth tent was spread. After the vast assembly had entered this pavilion and been seated, the centennial exercises were begun with music by the band. On the platform were the members of the committee of arrangements (only three of whom are now living, viz.: Henry A. Willis, Esq., Hon. A. Norcross and Hon. T. K. Ware), officers and speakers of the day, clergymen and town officials of Fitchburg and many invited guests. Hon. Alvah Crocker presided. On the desk was an ancient Bible, once the property of Colonel Zachariah Fitch, and in front of this desk was a portrait of the same gentleman, for whom, it was at that time erroneously supposed, the town was named.

At the conclusion of the music by the band the Rev. E. W. Bullard, of Royalston, a former pastor of the Second Parish (Orthodox) Church in Fitchburg, read the forty-sixth Psalm from the old Bible, after which prayer was offered by Rev. Calvin Lincoln, of Hingham, for so many years the beloved pastor of the First Parish (Unitarian) Church in Fitchburg. An original hymn, written for the occasion by Mrs. Caroline Atherton Mason, of Fitchburg, was then sung by the "Old Folks" choir, under the leadership of Mr. Eben H. Frost. The address of welcome was then delivered by Hon. Alvah Crocker, after which the choir sang a hymn of thanksgiving, written for the occasion by Mrs. Mary Caroline Lowe, of Fitchburg. The chairman then introduced Hon. Charles H. B. Snow, Esq., the orator of the day, who delivered a scholarly, polished and valuable historical address, an extract from which will be given hereafter. After the address the "Old Folks" choir, led by the veteran teacher, Cyrus Thurston, rendered some ancient pieces most admirably. George E. Towne, Esq., the poet of the day, then read an original poem, running over with wit and full of interesting allusions to days gone by. After more music by the band and singing by the choir, Charles Mason, Esq., read an original poem, written by Mrs. Caroline A. Mason, describing the experience of "an old Continental," returned to the scenes of his terrestrial life, and his astonishment at the immense, and to him incomprehensible, changes that time had wrought in the village of Fitchburg. This closed the exercises in the pavilion.

A procession was then formed of invited guests and those having tickets to the dinner, and marched to the town hall, where plates had been laid for five hundred guests. The hall was handsomely decorated with flags, flowers and streamers, and the walls were adorned with portraits and photographs of various persons notable in the history of the town. Mr. Henry W. Haskell supervised the decorations, and Landlord Day, of the Fitchburg Hotel, provided the excellent dinner. After ample justice had been done to the dinner the toast-master, George E. Towne, Esq., proposed many toasts, which were happily responded to by prominent individuals. The day concluded with a concert in the town hall in the evening, given by the "Old Folks," assisted by Miss Julia Houston, which was largely attended. Thus passed off a day that will ever be memorable in the annals of Fitchburg.

The condition of the town at this time, the rapid and substantial progress it had made, cannot be better described than it is in the following eloquent passage from Mr. Snow's Centennial address:

To-day, as we look around us and see the Nashua, for miles studded with its workshops and manufactories, its valleys and the neighboring hillsides adorned with the neat and comfortable homes with which New England labor rewards its votaries, as we witness on every hand the evidences of happiness and prosperity, and then recall the untamed and wilful Nashua, the bleak and barren steeps, the tangled, swampy valley

and the secluded and infrequent farm-house of one hundred years ago, we may, in a measure, appreciate the results of a century of wonderful mechanical ingenuity and invention, and also of a century of steady New England enterprise and labor. More than fifty different varieties of manufacture are at present successfully carried on within our limits. Our paper-mills supply the market with over five million pounds of paper annually, and the *New York Herald*, whose daily issues fly, as if, on the wings of the wind, to every point of the compass, we might almost say whitening the land like snowflakes, draws a large portion of its vast supplies of paper from one Fitchburg mill. Our manufactories largely supply the South American and Cuban markets with chairs. The ingenuity and admirable workmanship of our great machine company have been rewarded with extensive orders from the most distant parts of the globe. Our scythes, our cutlery, our cloths, our shoes and our hats have been scattered broadcast over the States and, within the last eventful year,—sad change from the arts of peace to those of war!—cannon cast in our foundries, monsters of modern destructive art, frown from our harbor and coast defences, while others, whose beautiful symmetry, lightness and strength half beguile us from the thought of their terrible uses, have helped swell the thunder of the bloody battle-fields of the South. May we not almost appropriate the language of the classic poet and ask, "*Quae regio in terris non plena nostri laboris?*"

The years immediately following the close of the war were very prosperous, and the high pressure continued until the natural result came in the business panic of 1873. Fitchburg came in for her full share of prosperity. Many new and important manufacturing establishments were located here during the last five years of this decade, and in 1870 there were nearly one hundred large manufacturing concerns in town and the population had increased to 11,260. During this period, also, many public improvements were begun which, as well as the new manufacturing establishments, will be spoken of later.

The year 1871 was a busy one in Fitchburg. Building was brisk, and among the many edifices erected that year were two which were by far the most costly, elegant and substantial that have been built in Fitchburg. One was the Fitchburg Savings Bank block on Main Street, not far from the Common; the other was the County Court-house, located in the rear of what is now known as Monument Park. It was during the summer of 1871, also, that the water mains of the new water-works were laid through the principal streets of the town.

Another important event of this year was the action taken in regard to casting off the town form of government and becoming a city. As soon as the town attained to the required twelve thousand inhabitants, the question of applying for a city charter began to be agitated, and at a town-meeting held Tuesday, November 7, 1871, the matter was formally brought before the town for consideration. Article 14 of the warrant for this meeting was as follows: "To see if the town will take the necessary steps for obtaining the Franchise of a City Charter, at the coming session of the Legislature, by the choice of a committee for that purpose, or act anything thereon they may deem expedient."

The town chose as such a committee Alvah Crocker, Eugene T. Miles, Thornton K. Ware, Dr. Alfred Hitchcock and George Robbins. This committee attended promptly to their duty, and during the following winter the "Act to Incorporate the city of Fitchburg" passed through both branches of the Legislature, and was, on March 8, 1872, approved by the Governor.

At the last annual town-meeting, April 8, 1872, the citizens of Fitchburg, by a vote of nine hundred and sixty-eight to fifty-six, decided in favor of accepting the charter. The vote on the question was very light, as it was known that very little, if any, opposition to the charter existed. At the same meeting the citizens also voted in regard to accepting Secs. 30 and 31 of the charter, which provided that at the first city election one-half of the Aldermen and Common Councilmen should be elected for one year and the other half for two years, and that at each annual election thereafter one-half of each board should be elected for the term of two municipal years. These two sections the town rejected by a vote of six hundred and seventy-five to two hundred and eight, thus making the election of all the members of both branches annual. September 18, 1872, the selectmen announced the division of the city into six wards, and defined their respective boundary lines. During November of the same year numerous ward caucuses were held for the purpose of electing the various ward officers, committees, &c., and of getting things into running order. On Tuesday, December 3, 1872, the first city election was held in Fitchburg, and a heavier vote was polled than ever had been in any town election. The result was the election of Hon. Amasa Norcross as the first mayor of the city, he receiving eleven hundred and eleven votes to eight hundred and fifty-three for Eugene T. Miles.

There is little more to be recorded before we close the history of Fitchburg as a town. One event in the year 1872 should be mentioned. This was the death, on February 23d, of Salmon W. Putnam, one of the pioneers of Fitchburg's great machine manufacturing interests, and largely concerned in the founding of the Putnam Machine Company. He was highly esteemed for his worth and ability, and on the day of his funeral business was generally suspended in Fitchburg. Another circumstance that is deserving of mention in this chapter is the substantial and practical expression of good will and generosity given by the town at the time of the disastrous fire in Chicago in October, 1871, and the serious forest fires in Michigan, about the same time. Besides a large amount of clothing, etc., the citizens of Fitchburg sent to the sufferers by these fires the sum of nearly six thousand dollars in money. At the time of the great Boston fire, in November, 1872, their generosity was again shown.

Much more might have been written about Fitchburg as a town, had space allowed, but here we must conclude this section. Since the beginning of 1873 the city form of government has been in force; and the main points in Fitchburg's history as a city, for the past sixteen years, will be briefly outlined in the few following pages, after which her history in

the Civil War, her progress in educational, ecclesiastical, industrial matters, etc.,—in fact, whatever of importance has been done by her citizens to make Fitchburg what she is to-day,—will be given in detail under their appropriate and respective headings.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

HISTORY OF THE CITY (1873–1888).

On January 6, 1873, occurred the inauguration of the first city government at the city hall. The Inaugural Address of Mayor Norcross was carefully prepared and contained much of interest to the inhabitants of the infant city. It was a critical time in business affairs, and the mayor clearly and forcibly showed the necessity of the exercise of prudence, sagacity and, as far as compatible with the best interests of the city, economy on the part of those whom the people had chosen to conduct municipal affairs during the coming year.

The construction of the water-works and other public improvements had brought a debt of over six hundred thousand dollars upon the city at its start, and there was still much to be done in completing and maintaining these improvements. Nearly all the water debt was satisfactorily funded and about half the city debt proper. Early in 1873 a special act, authorizing the city of Fitchburg to fund its floating debt and issue additional scrip, passed the Legislature and was approved March 29, 1873. In conformity with this act, bonds of the denomination of one thousand dollars each, with coupons representing accruing interest at six per cent., payable semi-annually, for twenty years, from July 1, 1873, were obtained, and during the balance of the year sixty-three thousand dollars of the floating debt were funded by the sale of these bonds.

The fiscal year of the city ends November 30th, and on that date, in 1873, the net debt of the city was $650,775.50. However, in spite of the hard times and necessarily large outlay, Fitchburg's first year as a city was by no means a discouraging one. The good effect of these public improvements was beginning to be felt; population and valuation had increased, and more business blocks had been erected. The people were well satisfied with the administration of Mayor Norcross, and at the city election in December, 1873, he was re-elected.

The year 1874 was not quite so prosperous, and during the following five years, or so, there was a small but steady annual decrease in the population and valuation of the city. One cause of this decrease was the removal from town of two large and prosperous manufacturing concerns,—the American Rattan Company and the Whitman & Miles Manufacturing Company.

In 1874 occurred an event of great interest, which will be spoken of more fully hereafter. This was the dedication of the Soldiers' Monument, June 24th. The city appropriated two thousand dollars for the dedication, and the oration was delivered by Major-General Nathaniel P. Banks.

November 30, 1874, the net debt of the city was $728,873.84, an increase of nearly $78,000 for the year, due wholly to discount on bonds, extension of the water-works and payment of the balance of the Soldiers' Monument contracts.

During this year another bank was established here,—the Safety Fund National Bank.

At the city election in December, 1874, Eugene T. Miles was elected mayor for the year ensuing.

During 1874 death removed two of Fitchburg's prominent citizens,—Dr. Alfred Hitchcock, the beloved physician, eminent in his profession, and noted for his good qualities of mind and heart, and Hon. Alvah Crocker who, above all other men, brought prosperity to Fitchburg, and was ever ready to inaugurate and carry forward any project conducive to the advancement of the interests of the town.

The year 1875 was quite an active one in Fitchburg, in spite of the fact that the city felt severely the depression in business, the result, as it were, of the recoil of the preceding financial crisis. Another bank—the Wachusett National—was established here, mainly through the efforts of Hiram A. Blood, Esq. Several substantial brick business blocks were erected, among which were Crocker block and the Wachusett Bank block. The large and commodious machine-shop occupied by C. H. Brown & Co. was completed this year, as was also the fine business block built by James F. Stiles.

During this year the city expended upwards of $60,000 more on the water-works in the construction of Scott reservoir, extension of water-mains to West Fitchburg and extensions in the city proper. In consequence of this large necessary expenditure, the net debt of the city November 30, 1875, reached high-water mark, viz: $790,149.66. Since that time the city has had to make no very large expenditure for extraordinary improvements, and almost every year since 1875 has witnessed a considerable decrease in the net debt.

The year 1875 did not pass without taking from our midst a bright and shining light in the person of Hon. Charles H. B. Snow, the orator at the centennial celebration, who, on September 18, 1875, was called away from a busy and useful life. He was a man of great talent, and in the prime of life, and his death was a sad blow to this community, where he had always lived, and for which he was ever ready and willing to expend his best efforts.

On account of the unavoidable absence of Mayor

Miles from the city during the last two months of his term, the office of mayor was declared vacant on November 2, 1875. The Board of Aldermen and the Common Council elected Hon. Hiram A. Blood to fill out the unexpired period. At the annual city election, the following December, he was elected mayor for the ensuing year.

The official census of 1875 gave Fitchburg a population of 12,289, showing a slow growth since 1870.

The three years following 1875 were years of great business depression in Fitchburg. Our mills, factories and machine-shops were, in most cases, obliged to curtail both the number of employés and the number of working-hours, because of the meagre amount of orders for their products. The manufacturing establishments of Fitchburg were put to a severe test during these three years, and the fact that, with a very few exceptions, they all withstood the strain, shows their financial stability, and reflects great credit upon the ability and sagacity of the men who superintended the affairs of these various heavy manufacturing concerns during these trying times.

As a natural consequence of this stagnation in business, the city retrograded, as regards both population and valuation. During this period it was unwise and, fortunately, unnecessary, to enter upon any new work. That which had been done in the years immediately preceding sufficed to tide the city over, and only an amount of money sufficient to keep the public works and institutions *in statu quo* was needed.

In 1876 death continued its ravages among our prominent citizens, removing on June 26th ex-Mayor Eugene T. Miles, a man widely known and esteemed for his integrity and benevolence, and who for many years had been prominent in the business interests and public affairs of Fitchburg; and August 3d Hon. Nathaniel Wood, for over half a century one of our most prominent and active citizens. It was he who collated and preserved much of the early history of Fitchburg, which otherwise would probably have been irretrievably lost.

David H. Merriam was mayor during the years 1877–78. These two years were probably the darkest the city ever experienced, but public affairs were well cared for during Mayor Merriam's administration. The debt was reduced by something over twenty-five thousand dollars; and in spite of the decrease in population, the tax rate during both years was kept at a lower figure than it was in the few years preceding—in fact, the rate was the lowest in 1877–78 that it has been from the incorporation of the city to the present time.

In 1878 the handsome and commodious Union Passenger Station was completed; but aside from that, very little building was going on at that time.

In December, 1878, William H. Vose was elected mayor and served one year, declining a unanimous renomination. His valuable business experience and strict fidelity to the best interests of the city proved of great service to Fitchburg during the year 1879. The city was just beginning to see the glimmer of better times ahead, and a steady hand, guided by business tact, was necessary to keep the people from presuming too much on the "good time coming." During his administration the debt was reduced by nearly twenty-five thousand dollars.

Until this year no direct appropriation had ever been made for water-works construction and extension; but in 1879 such an appropriation was made (four thousand dollars), and an annual appropriation for that purpose has been made since then.

In December, 1879, Eli Culley was elected mayor, and served the city in that capacity for two years. The appropriation bills for these two years (1880–81) were the smallest since our incorporation as a city; and at the same time the accounts show that the debt November 30, 1881, was $704,516.58, making a reduction of nearly $33,000 since the same date in 1879.

Population and valuation began to increase gradually in the course of these two years. In 1880 the population was 12,405. Business, too, began to take on a more healthy tone, and the city started on the up-grade.

In the fall of 1879 a company was formed here which marked the beginning of a new era in the industries of Fitchburg. This was the Parkhill Manufacturing Company. The company began business in February, 1880, and since that time has prospered, and is to-day one of the heaviest concerns in town. During this period there were other signs of business prosperity in town, prominent among which were the starting of the Fitchburg Worsted Company in 1880 and the erection of E. M. Dickinson & Co.'s large shoe factory in 1881.

In 1880 death again entered the ranks of our prominent citizens; January 18th of that year died Stephen Shepley, for over forty-five years an active business man of Fitchburg and much interested in the early history of the town. In 1876 he wrote a paper of value in regard to John Fitch. August 1, 1880, died Walter Heywood, the founder of the extensive chair manufacturing company here.

During 1881 the city expended over thirteen thousand dollars in the construction of sewers, but this sum was more than counterbalanced by money received from sewer assessments, etc.

George Robbins was the next mayor and served during the year 1882. Mr. Robbins was a member of the committee to procure the city charter, and has always taken considerable interest in public affairs. During his year of service matters went on satisfactorily. The debt was decreased by about thirty-two thousand dollars; over ten thousand dollars were expended on sewers, necessitating an appropriation of six thousand dollars by the City Council for that purpose.

The prosperity of the city continued, though no

new enterprises of special note were started that year. The owners of buildings on the lower part of Main Street were beginning to put new fronts to the business blocks and to furnish them with large plate-glass windows, thereby greatly improving the appearance of the street. Notable among the improvements of this kind was the brown-stone front put on to the L. J. Brown Block that year.

In 1882 the city purchased the "Upper Common," previously the property of the First Parish in Fitchburg. Since that time the city has spent considerable for stone-work, grading and laying out paths, etc., and now the Common is a much more attractive spot than it was ten years ago. Moreover, through the generosity of certain citizens in the vicinity, a handsome bandstand has been erected near its lower extremity and makes a striking addition to the beauty of the park.

At the city election in December, 1882, Alonzo Davis was elected mayor, and so acceptable was his administration that he was re-elected to the office the two following years, and is the only man thus far in our history as a city who has held the office of mayor for three successive years.

In 1883 it became necessary to build a fourth reservoir, and Falulah Reservoir was accordingly constructed that year at an expense of a little over fifty-two thousand dollars. As the City Council made no appropriation for this expenditure, it became a part of the city debt, which, November 30, 1883, was $686,-430.70, an increase of about fourteen thousand dollars over the debt a year previous, showing that had it not been for this extraordinary expense there would have been a very material decrease in the city debt that year.

In 1883 the Wachusett Electric Light Company was incorporated, and since the fall of that year has furnished most of the principal streets of the city with brilliant and satisfactory illumination.

The year 1884 will long be remembered by the citizens of Fitchburg as the year when the Hon. Rodney Wallace made and proceeded to carry out his generous proposition to provide the city with an elegant and commodious public library building, together with a site for the same. July 1, 1885, witnessed the completion of his noble project, the dedication of the costly and substantial structure and its formal presentation to the city by the donor. The Wallace Library and Art Building will be spoken of at greater length under the head of Libraries and Lectures, in the section on the educational history and progress of Fitchburg.

In his third inaugural address, in January, 1885, Mayor Davis recommended the construction of a system of sewers of larger capacity than then existed in the city, and, in accordance with his suggestion, plans were drawn and the work of construction entered upon the following spring. During 1885 one and a quarter miles of sewer were built, of which seven hundred and twenty-five feet consisted of a main sewer twenty-six by thirty-nine inches, built of brick and located in Elm, Oliver and Putnam Streets.

The net debt, November 30, 1885, was $635,124.11, a gratifying decrease of over $51,000 during the two previous years. The city was in a prosperous condition, and in 1885 had a population of 15,375 and a valuation of about $12,000,000. Building was brisk during the three years from 1883 to 1885 inclusive, and some new concerns were put into operation, notably the Cleghorn Mills in 1885.

Several prominent citizens died in the course of these three years. Charles Burleigh, one of Fitchburg's most ingenious mechanics and competent business men and a prominent member of the Putnam Machine Company, died May 28, 1883. Of his many valuable inventions the most prominent are the Burleigh Rock-Drill and the Patent Air-Compressor, which have made his name familiar wherever great engineering feats have been accomplished.

March 12, 1884, died Cyrus Thurston—"Uncle Cy," as he was for many years familiarly called—prominent in musical circles in Fitchburg since the early years of this century, and noted for his long and valuable service on the Board of Overseers of the Poor of the town and city of Fitchburg. Only a few days after his decease our citizens were called upon to mourn the loss of a much younger, but more noted musician, Warren S. Russell, leader of the Fitchburg Military Band.

October 27, 1884, ex-Mayor William H. Vose passed away, full of years and universally loved and respected.

In the autumn of 1885 the temperance people of Fitchburg made a strong effort to carry the city for "no license." They nominated Frederick Fosdick, president of the Fitchburg Steam-Engine Company, as their candidate for mayor, and at the election, in December, he was triumphantly elected, and no license was established by a decided majority. Mr. Fosdick served the city two years as mayor, and made a good record for himself and the city in every way; and his efforts to carry out the principles of the temperance party, and the good success that rewarded these efforts, are deserving of the highest praise.

During 1886 and 1887 a number of changes were effected in the city affairs, which have proved to be advantageous. Mayor Fosdick, in his first inaugural address, recommended that Fitchburg follow the example of some other cities, and pay the Water Department for water used by it each year. This plan was adopted in 1886, and resulted satisfactorily, and has since been continued. By this means some $15,000 per year is paid to the Water Department, which helps materially in extinguishing the water debt without making any perceptible increase in the rate of taxation. He also recommended the appropriation of $20,000 to the sinking fund, instead of $10,000, as heretofore, which was done.

About this time bursts were frequently occurring in the cement-lined water mains, and Mayor Fosdick advocated replacing them with iron mains. This work was begun in the spring of 1886. The cement-lined pipe in Main Street was replaced by a 16-inch iron main, and the pipe in several other streets was replaced by iron pipe of suitable size, during the summer, at a cost of a little over $34,000, which was covered by the issue of scrip to the amount of $35,000. This, of course, increased the debt somewhat, but the increase was comparatively small (about $8,000), the net debt, November 30, 1886, being $643,369.16. About $15,000 were expended in the same way in 1887, and the debt increased about $2,500, being $646,012.27 November 30, 1887. It has been found that no repairs, or only very trifling ones, are necessary to keep the iron mains and pipe in good condition, which causes an annual saving of several thousand dollars that would simply have been wasted on repairs of the old cement-lined pipe.

The rapid growth of the city during 1886–87 caused a great demand for new streets and sidewalks, and large sums were expended for these purposes. A brick trunk sewer, 36x29 inches, was built through Laurel Street, and smaller sewers through connecting streets, during the summer of 1887, at a cost of over $31,000; a substantial brick city stable was built in 1886, at an expense of about $5,000. Thus it will be seen, that though the city spent a very large sum of money during these two years, yet it was wisely expended, and we are now in good condition to meet our constantly and rapidly-increasing prosperity.

In 1886 the Fitchburg Street Railway was incorporated, and began to lay their track in the early summer. The track-layers immediately followed the workmen engaged in replacing the cement pipe, so that Main Street was pretty thoroughly torn up during the greater part of the summer of 1886.

Much building was also going on in all parts of the city at this time, the largest building erected being the Orswell mill, built in 1886.

At the city election in December, 1887, Hon. Eli Culley, who was mayor in 1880–81, was elected by the people as their chief executive for the year 1888.

Early in 1888 the Fitchburg Railroad Company made a long contemplated move and one most advantageous to Fitchburg, by purchasing a large tract of land in what is now called East Fitchburg, about a mile east of Union Passenger Station, and announcing their intention of using it as a location for their extensive car-shops, heretofore established and maintained at the Boston end of the road. Work was soon begun on the necessary buildings, a description of which will be given in another section. When these shops are completed and in full operation they will cause a very material increase in the population and add much to the prosperity of the city.

July 4, 1888, witnessed a grand celebration in Fitchburg. E. V. Sumner Post 19, G. A. R., has the credit of getting up this celebration, and the city and our citizens generally helped to make it a success by liberal gifts of money. The principal feature was a very large trades' procession in the morning. The other exercises of the day were at the Fitchburg Park, and included a dinner, addresses, sports and a balloon ascension in the afternoon, and a fine display of fire-works in the evening.

During the portion of 1888 now past death has been busy here, and up to this time (autumn) has taken from us five men who have for a long time been prominent in the history of Fitchburg. February 7th died Gardner S. Burbank, since 1851 an influential citizen, and for fifteen years a member of the firm of Crocker, Burbank & Co. He accumulated a large property, the most of which he left in the hands of trustees, the income to be paid to Mrs. Burbank during her life, and at her death the whole amount is to be paid over to the city of Fitchburg and devoted to the building of a city hospital.

May 23d died Hon. Alonzo Davis, an ex-mayor of Fitchburg and, since 1845, a prominent manufacturer and business man.

July 31st died John Putnam, senior founder of the Putnam Machine Company, and a resident of Fitchburg since 1838.

September 3d died Hon. Ebenezer Torrey, for over sixty years a prominent citizen of Fitchburg. A brief sketch of Mr. Torrey appears in the Professional chapter.

October 11th ex-Mayor David H. Merriam died, being the fifth man of prominence in town to die during the first ten months of 1888.

We will close this portion of the history of Fitchburg with a table showing statistics relative to the growth of the town since its incorporation. The population in 1888 is estimated from the number of polls, May 1st.

Year.	Population.	Valuation.	No. of Polls.
1765	259	.....	.....
1791	1,151	.....	.....
1800	1,390	.....	.....
1810	1,566	.....	.....
1820	1,736	$359,966	321
1830	2,179	540,009	494
1840	2,570	935,342	702
1850	5,120	1,995,749	1,308
1860	7,854	3,527,456	1,938
1870	11,260	10,373,403	3,248
1880	12,405	9,132,844	3,680
1885	15,375	11,494,562	4,561
1888	20,000	13,694,890	5,962

CHAPTER XL.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

HISTORY DURING THE WAR OF THE REBELLION.

In the preparation of this portion of the sketch the writer has depended largely upon "Fitchburg in the

War of the Rebellion." To Henry A. Willis, Esq., the author of this valuable memorial of what Fitchburg did to preserve the Union, the writer takes this occasion to render grateful acknowledgment for permission to take from it many facts essential to this portion of the history, and which cannot be easily obtained elsewhere.

Before entering upon our condensed history of Fitchburg's part in the Civil War, it may be well to give a brief account of the military companies in the town prior to the breaking out of the war.

In 1861 there were two military companies in existence here. Of these, the organization which was by far the older was

THE FITCHBURG FUSILIERS.—This company was formed from the "Old South" Company of the Fourth Regiment, Second Brigade, Seventh Division, Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, and a charter was granted it under its present name of *Fitchburg Fusiliers*, December 14, 1816. The organization of the company was perfected at a meeting held February 3, 1817, at which time John Upton was elected captain, Alpheus Kimball, lieutenant, and Walter Johnson, ensign. The uniform adopted was "a blue coat, trimmed with bell buttons and lace, pantaloons of the same color as the coat, made to button over the boots and trimmed with bell buttons from the bottoms to the hips, and the caps were bound with red morocco and varnished and otherwise 'ornamented as a committee chosen might think proper.'"

The Fusiliers first appeared publicly in their new uniforms on the Fourth of July, 1817, on which occasion the ladies of Fitchburg presented the company with a handsome banner. A standard was also presented to the company by the ladies in September, 1841.

The Fusiliers were always on hand to attend "muster," and, according to all accounts, used to have very enjoyable times at the old-fashioned muster, which was essentially different from the modern variety.

Many of our prominent citizens have commanded this company during its existence of nearly three-quarters of a century.

Its record during the war will be given further on.

At the present time this company forms a part of the Sixth Regiment Infantry, Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, and is designated as Company B.

The other military company in town at the time of the breaking out of the war was known as

THE WASHINGTON GUARDS.—It was organized in July, 1855, on petition of Charles H. Foss and fifty-nine others, and on the 19th of the same month officers were chosen as follows: John B. Proctor, Captain; Hiram P. Minot, First Lieutenant; Charles H. Foss, Second Lieutenant; Oscar A. Battles, Third Lieutenant; Varius Stearns, Fourth Lieutenant. At a meeting a week later the name of *Washington Guards* was adopted by vote of the company. The uniform consisted of "a cloth cap, smaller at the top than at the base, and surmounted by a blue pompon; dark blue pants and coat with epaulettes; patent-leather body belts and webbing cross-belts." In February, 1859, the company purchased seventy of the well-remembered bear-skin caps.

During the war the Guards formed the nucleus of six Fitchburg companies and its name and organization were given up; but August 23, 1866, a company was formed, chiefly through the efforts of Richard Tucker, in which were many of the old Guards. This company took the name of *Union Veterans* and Hiram P. Minot was chosen captain. Sept. 11, 1868, the company voted to change the name to *Washington Guards*. This is the present existing organization, and it forms a part of the Sixth Regiment Infantry, Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, being designated as Company D. The headquarters of the Sixth Regiment have for some years been at Fitchburg, Henry G. Greene, of this city, holding the position of colonel.

At the time of the breaking out of the war Fitchburg had a population of about eight thousand, and during the whole course of the war the town was ever ready to furnish her full share of men and money to aid the Union. Mr. Willis indeed said truly in the introduction to his book, "A community which has sent nine companies into the field during the war, which has promptly filled its quotas under all calls and has now to its credit seventy-five men surplus above all demands upon it, has certainly a record of which it may well be proud and one well worth preserving."

It is gratifying to note that Fitchburg's zeal and activity were also officially recognized by a man, and in a manner that left no doubt as to the sincerity of the tribute to the loyalty of the town. The occasion on which these words were uttered was the funeral of Lieutenant-Colonel George E. Marshall, of the Fortieth Regiment, at the town hall in Fitchburg, and the one who spoke them was Hon. Alexander H. Bullock, then Governor of Massachusetts. Colonel Marshall, a son of Abel Marshall, of Fitchburg, was killed at the battle of Cold Harbor, June 1, 1864. He was buried on the field, and his remains were not recovered until the spring of 1866. The town voted to give his remains a public funeral on the 19th of April of that year. It was an imposing funeral, and was attended by His Excellency, Governor Bullock, and his staff and other officials. During the course of the solemn ceremonies Governor Bullock made a brief and eloquent address, in which he spoke feelingly of the glorious career of young Marshall through the twenty-four battles he was engaged in, of his well-deserved promotions, and of his gallant conduct in that disastrous charge at Cold Harbor, where he "*fought and died in obedience to orders, and for the sake of his example.*" He then paid the following tribute to Fitchburg:

I do not forget, in the thick-coming memories which the scene en-

forces upon me, that this ancient and beautiful town of Fitchburg—to which by neighborhood ties of birth and youthful residence my heart ever draws me and ever will—distinguished herself by the promptness, by the alacrity, by the prodigality of means and of men with which she entered upon the opening, solemn drama in the early days of the war. Not many towns in the State matched her record, and few, if any, surpassed her.

We will now endeavor to give, in as condensed a form as possible, an account of Fitchburg's part in the Civil War.

On Saturday, April 13, 1861, news reached the town of the attack on Fort Sumter, and Major Anderson's gallant defence. The next day came the news of its surrender. Then, fast following, came President Lincoln's call for seventy-five thousand volunteers. Captain John W. Kimball, of the *Fusiliers*, and Captain Edwin Upton, of the *Guards*, reported their companies ready to march at once if wanted. But already enough whole regiments had been offered, and Governor Andrew hurriedly despatched the Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Eighth Regiments for Washington, and the old Ninth Regiment, to which both the Fitchburg companies then belonged was obliged to wait.

During the next few days anxiety possessed the hearts of the people, and little business was done. Then came the 19th of April, a day twice memorable in the annals of our country and especially of Massachusetts. Late in the afternoon of that day the wires brought us the following: "The Sixth Massachusetts Regiment is now fighting its way through Baltimore; four men have been killed, many wounded, and the fighting still going on."

The shock produced by this message was terrific. Massachusetts blood had been spilt and must be avenged. A citizens' meeting was hastily called, which was held on the afternoon of Saturday, April 20th. Alvah Crocker, Esq., presided. Mr. Crocker and various other citizens spoke patriotically and eloquently upon the all-engrossing subject, after which the following resolutions were presented and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we respond cordially to the Proclamation of the President of the United States; that we declare our unflinching resolution to support our Government in its struggle to maintain its honor, integrity and existence.

Resolved, That we will use our utmost endeavors to secure a vote of the town whereby the sum of ten thousand dollars shall be raised by direct tax, which sum of money shall be appropriated to provide for the support of the families of any of the soldiers who may be called out during the present war, and for fitting out and equipping such men.

The next day was Sunday—the first in war-time—and the services in all the churches in town were of a patriotic nature. During the day the ladies of Fitchburg were not idle. It was expected that on the morrow our companies would be called upon, and their kind hearts, anticipating what might be the needs of the near future, prompted them to busily engage themselves in the preparation of lint, bandages and clothing for the brave men who, like the "minute-men" of the last century, stood ready to go to the front at a moment's notice.

The following week was one of feverish anxiety. Our companies were not called upon, and many of the soldiers assisted the ladies in their preparation of bandages, etc., at the armories. The zeal of the citizens suggested many measures, some of which were not very practical. One of these was that each soldier from Fitchburg should have a revolver and a bowie knife, and one hundred and fifty revolvers were actually bought for this purpose, and Whitman & Miles, with characteristic liberality, offered to manufacture the same number of bowie knives. This scheme was abandoned before the time came to march.

On April 27th a town-meeting was held, at which it was unanimously voted to raise ten thousand dollars for the soldiers and their families, and a committee of seven (Ebenezer Torrey, Moses Wood, Chedorlaomer Marshall, William Woodbury, Levi Downe, Alpheus P. Kimball and Timothy S. Wilson) was chosen to take charge of the appropriation. A committee was also chosen to see what reduction could be made in town expenses for the current year.

By this time the Fusiliers and Guards had recruited their companies, and on the day of this town-meeting a grand parade was held, in which the company from Leominster joined.

On May 4th an adjourned town-meeting was held to hear the report of the committee on retrenchment. This committee made a report recommending a reduction of five thousand dollars in the town appropriations for the year,—two thousand dollars each from schools and highways and the remaining one thousand dollars from other departments. Their report was accepted and the recommendations adopted, though all regretted the reduction in the school appropriation. During the other years of the war, it is but just to say, the school appropriation was not diminished for war expenses. At this same meeting the chairman of the committee having charge of the ten thousand dollars voted for the soldiers and their families, read the following note, which is self-explanatory and an honor to the medical profession:

To the Military Relief Committee,—Gentlemen: The undersigned physicians of Fitchburg members of the Massachusetts Medical Society, through you hereby tender gratuitous professional services, when desired, to the families of the soldiers of this town while engaged in the war to defend the Government of the United States against the present Southern Rebellion.

THOMAS R. BOUTELLE,
JONAS A. MARSHALL,
ALFRED HITCHCOCK,
JAMES R. WELLMAN,
GEORGE JEWETT,
GEORGE D. COLONY.

Fitchburgh, May 1, 1861.

These physicians faithfully fulfilled the promise contained in the above note until the close of the war. Only two of the signers are now living,—Drs. Jewett and Colony.

Thursday, May 16th, was a great day in Fitchburg. The two military companies paraded and the school-

children with their teachers and all the citizens joined in a grand patriotic demonstration. In the evening there was a presentation, at the town hall, of two handsome silk flags, procured by the ladies at an expense of eighty dollars. The hall was crowded, and after the opening of the meeting by the presiding officer, Hon. J. W. Mansur, Miss Emma Twitchell presented one of the flags to the Fusiliers. Captain Kimball made a fitting acknowledgment of the beautiful gift and caused his men to swear that "it should never trail in the dust while a single arm was left to uphold it." Miss Eliza Trask then presented the other flag to the Guards, whose commander, Captain Upton, accepted it on behalf of his company with appropriate remarks.

An account, necessarily very brief, will now be given of the companies sent out from the town, and of the work, both public and private, done by the citizens who remained at home during the war period.

COMPANY D, SECOND REGIMENT.—Soon after President Lincoln issued his call for three years' troops, James Savage, Jr., of Boston, opened a recruiting office in Fitchburg. A company was raised in about a week and was attached to the Second Regiment and designated Company D. Most of the men in this company were from neighboring towns, because there were then in town two full companies, and, as the chances of their being called into service soon seemed to be good, the young men did not care to leave them in order to join Captain Savage's company. But, notwithstanding the fact that only a few of our own citizens enlisted in it, it was always known as the "Fitchburg Company."

The Second Regiment was mustered into service May 11, 1861, and served the entire three years; and a large number re-enlisted at the end of this time. July 14, 1865, it was mustered out of the service and started for Boston, receiving a fine reception in New York as it passed through the city. On July 26th, it was finally discharged, after having served four years, two months and fifteen days. During this long period it made a brilliant record and participated in numerous battles, among which may be noted the following: It was in the thickest of the fight in the battle of Cedar Mountain, August 6, 1861, and lost heavily; at Antietam, September 17, 1862, it served gallantly, capturing a flag from the enemy and losing about seventy of its members; at Chancellorsville it was hotly engaged for an hour and a half and lost one hundred and twenty-eight in killed and wounded; on the 2d and 3d of July, 1863, it made a most honorable record at Gettysburg; it accompanied General Sherman on his "grand march to the sea" in the latter part of 1864. On the 24th of May, 1865, it took part in the grand review of the whole army, after which it performed provost duty near Washington until it was mustered out of the service.

COMPANY B, FIFTEENTH REGIMENT (FITCHBURG FUSILIERS).—As has been before stated, the Fusiliers and Guards belonged to the old Ninth Regiment, and it was expected that this regiment would be filled up and accepted as the old Ninth; but instead of that, its number was assigned to a regiment of foreigners recruited in Boston. This left both of our companies out in the cold, so to speak. On the 11th of May, 1861, the Fusiliers voted to volunteer for the war, and finally the company was ordered into camp at Worcester, and became Company B of the Fifteenth Regiment.

It was on the 28th day of June, 1861, that the Fusiliers left for camp. In the morning of that day the citizens gathered at the town hall to bid them good-bye and God-speed. Remarks were made by prominent citizens, among them Dr. Jonas A. Marshall, captain of the "Old Fusiliers," who exhorted the soldiers to sustain the honor of the "Old Fusiliers" and their native town on all occasions. Captain Kimball responded on behalf of the company. Each soldier was then presented with a New Testament from the clergymen of the town, and a note was read, signed by the clergymen, asking their acceptance of this gift and expressing the hope that the little book might be of priceless value to them in the trying scenes of the future.

After the soldiers had been gratuitously vaccinated by Drs. Hitchcock and Jewett, the company was escorted to the Fitchburg Hotel to partake of a dinner provided by the citizens. After the dinner the "Old Fusiliers," under command of Captain Marshall and the "Second Edition" of the Fusiliers, composed of younger men, under command of Capt. Eugene T. Miles, escorted the company to the depot. Thus left our first company of Fitchburg men, many of them never to return to their friends and native town.

The Fifteenth Regiment was mustered into service July 12, 1861, and left the State August 8th, arriving in Washington three days later. On August 1st Capt. Kimball was promoted to major and Lieut. Clark S. Simonds to captain.

The first engagement of the Fifteenth was at Ball's Bluff, October 21, 1861, in which its loss amounted to upward of three hundred men in killed, wounded and prisoners.

April 29, 1862, Major Kimball was promoted to lieutenant-colonel and assumed command of the regiment, as its colonel was absent on account of wounds received at Ball's Bluff. Under Lieut.-Col. Kimball's command the Fifteenth took part in the siege of Yorktown and in a number of battles, the two most notable being Fair Oaks, May 31, 1862, and Antietam, September 17, 1862. In the first-mentioned battle the regiment behaved gallantly, and the bayonet charges by it at several critical periods during the battle won the admiration of Gen. Gorman, who commanded the brigade of which it was a part. In a private letter to Governor Andrew he asked "that the history of the Fifteenth Massachusetts Volunteers may be made a

part of the history of the State, as associated with one of the most brilliant exploits of the war."

At Antietam the Fifteenth also distinguished itself, though at the great cost of three hundred and forty-three men, killed, wounded and missing. Lieutenant-Colonel Kimball was recommended for promotion for his gallantry and good management of his command during this terrible battle.

After this the regiment was engaged in a campaign in the Shenandoah Valley and at Fredericksburg, December 12, 1862. Nothing of note occurred until June 25, 1863, when it began a forced march from the Rappahannock to Gettysburg. It was a hard march, but that the members of the regiment performed it well is shown by the following order read to them June 27th:

HEADQUARTERS 2D DIVISION, 2D CORPS.

June 26th, 1863.

General Orders, No. 105.—The Fifteenth and Nineteenth Massachusetts Volunteers for marching in the best and most compact order, and with the least straggling from their ranks, are excused from all picket duty and outside duty for four days.

By command of

BRIG.-GEN'L GIBBON.

The record of the Fifteenth at Gettysburg July 2–4, 1863, was very brilliant. "The regiment went into action with eighteen officers and two hundred and twenty-one enlisted men. During the three days it lost three officers (Col. Ward, Capt. Murkland, of Fitchburg, and Lieut. Jorgensen) killed, eight officers wounded, nineteen enlisted men killed, eighty-five wounded, many of them mortally."

In the spring of 1864 there were about three hundred officers and men in the regiment, and nearly half of this number were killed and wounded in the battle of the Wilderness early in May of that year. During the next few weeks it took part in all the marches and battles in which the Second Corps was engaged, from the Rapidan to Petersburg, and on the 22d of the following June, *reduced to five officers and seventy men*, it confronted a large force of the enemy "near the Jerusalem plank road before Petersburg." Here, by a hidden manœuvre of the enemy, it was flanked, and all, except one officer and four men, were taken prisoners. This officer was wounded the same day, and the four men were placed in another command until more of the officers and men came from the hospitals. Its three years' term of service having expired, the regiment was, on July 12, 1864, ordered to proceed to Worcester, where it arrived on the 21st, about one hundred and fifty strong. The State and city officials gave it a rousing reception, and on the same evening all that were left of the Fusiliers and were able to travel (about twenty men) arrived in Fitchburg and were given a public reception.

Such is a brief account of the brilliant, though sad, record of one of the best regiments Massachusttts sent out; and Fitchburg has every reason to be proud of the prominent part which the officers and men furnished by the town took in the making of its glorious history.

COMPANY D, TWENTY-FIRST REGIMENT (WASHINGTON GUARDS). — For some cause or other the Guards were not allowed to go with the Fusiliers, though desirous of so doing; and it was not until July 19, 1861, that the company was ordered into camp at Worcester and became Company D of the Twenty-first Regiment. Their departure was the occasion of another public demonstration by the citizens, consisting of a meeting in the town hall, a dinner at the American House and a grand parade.

The Twenty-first Regiment left Worcester August 23, 1861. It was first under fire at the battle of Roanoke Island, February 8, 1862, when it acquitted itself nobly and was the first to plant a Union flag inside the enemy's works. It lost fifty-seven men, killed and wounded, in this battle. Our own Company D was honored after the battle by the presentation to its captain, Theodore S. Foster, of a flag by Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Maggi, commanding the Twenty-first. Accompanying the flag was a note which concluded thus: "You may inscribe on the flag these words: *The Officers of the Twenty first Regiment, M. V., to the brave Captain T. S. Foster, of Co. D.*" The flag and note were sent by Captain Foster to the Fitchburg Public Library, to be there preserved.

March 14, 1862, the regiment took part in the battle of Newbern, and was highly commended in the official report for its bravery. General Burnside, after the battle, presented to it the first gun (a brass field-piece) which it captured from the enemy. Its loss in this action was three officers and fifty-four men, killed and wounded.

April 19th it arrived at Elizabeth City, and, after a forced march of twenty miles, took part in the battle of Camden.

July 9th it arrived at Newport News and became part of the Army of the Potomac, and, during the rest of 1862, it was almost constantly on the move. It took part in General Pope's campaign, and, in the disastrous retreat that followed, it suffered great hardships. It also participated in the following battles, with great credit to itself, during the latter part of 1862: Second Bull Run, Chantilly, Antietam and Fredericksburg. The regiment's losses in these four battles were two hundred and sixty-six officers and men killed, wounded and taken prisoners.

During most of 1863 the regiment did picket duty in Kentucky and Tennessee. It was a part of the besieged force that was shut up in Knoxville for some weeks in November, and was on duty constantly and made several brilliant charges during the siege; and when the siege was finally raised, December 5, 1863, the Twenty-first was one of the regiments ordered to pursue the enemy. "From that time the regiment saw weary marches and constant exposure, and was reduced to such an extremity that *two ears of raw corn* per day were issued to each man as his

ration. Thus situated, in the woods of East Tennessee, on the 29th of December, 1863, the proposal was made to the regiment to re-enlist for the new term of three years, and in *thirty-six hours all but twenty-four of the regiment had re-enlisted.*"

January 8, 1864, the Twenty-first started for home on a "veteran furlough," and received a public reception on its arrival in Worcester. At the expiration of the furlough it returned to the scene of operations, and was in season to take a prominent part in the battle of the Wilderness, May 6, 1864, but was fortunate enough to suffer a comparatively light loss,—three officers and twelve men.

June 16th the regiment arrived before Petersburg, having been almost constantly engaged in skirmishes and battles with the enemy during their entire march, and having lost upwards of one hundred officers and men within the five weeks preceding. On the following day it participated in a brilliant charge on the enemy's works; and from that date to July 30th was constantly in the rifle-pits at the front.

"On the 30th occurred the explosion of the mine, and this regiment was in the division which rushed into the 'crater,' only to be repulsed with severe loss."

This was the last engagement in which the Twenty-first participated, as soon afterward "it was decided that the Regiment was not a 'veteran regiment,' because of the three-fourths that had re-enlisted, fifty-six had been rejected for various reasons, and it was ordered that the Regiment be broken up, and the officers and non-enlisted men proceed home to be mustered out."

On August 30, 1864, the regiment was accordingly mustered out at Worcester. This breaking up of the organization was a great disappointment to all who had ever been connected with it, and certainly its history during the three years of its existence reflects much honor and credit on both officers and men. It is gratifying to state here that Captain Foster, who went out as the commander of Company D, was promoted to major May 17, 1862, and to lieutenant-colonel September 2, 1862.

COMPANY F, TWENTY-FIFTH REGIMENT.—In the autumn of 1861 authority was granted to raise the Twenty-fifth Regiment, and Edwin Upton, of this town, was appointed its colonel. The old *Guards* formed the nucleus of the company raised in Fitchburg, of which Charles H. Foss was appointed captain.

Recruits came in rather slowly, and September 23, 1861, a large meeting of the citizens was held at the town hall to help recruiting in town. David H. Merriam, Esq., presided, and Hon. Goldsmith F. Bailey made an eloquent address. This meeting had good results, and Capt. Foss had Company F filled in less than a month after he began to raise it.

About October 1, 1861, the company left town for Worcester, and on the day of their departure from Fitchburg a parade was held, after which the company enjoyed a dinner provided for its members at the American House, through the liberality of Charles T. Crocker, Esq. After the dinner remarks were made by Mr. Crocker, Amasa Norcross, Esq., and Rev. George Trask, and later in the afternoon Company F left us amid great enthusiasm and hearty God-speeds.

On the 10th of October some of the friends of Col. Upton united in the presentation to him of a fine horse and set of equipments as a token of their esteem and regard. The presentation speech was made by Amasa Norcross, Esq., and Col. Upton feelingly returned thanks to his fellow-citizens for their splendid gift, after which he invited them to partake of a collation at the American House. Earnest remarks were made by Hon. Moses Wood, Hon. J. W. Mansur and other gentlemen present.

October 31, 1861, the Twenty-fifth left Worcester and went to Annapolis, where the next two months were spent in drilling, during which time it acquired such proficiency that it was complimented officially as one of the best of the large number of regiments gathered there.

As in the case of the Twenty-first Regiment, the Twenty-fifth's first baptism of fire was at Roanoke Island. At this battle it did good service, fighting in the front ranks for three hours, when, their ammunition being exhausted, the regiment was ordered to the rear. Its loss in this battle was forty-eight killed and wounded. A month later the regiment was engaged at the battle of Newbern. Here it made a gallant charge on the breast-works of the enemy, and was the first to plant the State colors on the work. It was also the first regiment that entered the city of Newbern. Its loss was miraculously small,—twenty killed and wounded.

From this time until about December 1, 1863, the regiment was in the vicinity of Newbern, doing picket duty and having occasional skirmishes with the enemy.

On account of poor health Col. Upton was obliged to resign his command of the Twenty-fifth, much to the regret of his men; and at the time of his retiring he was presented by the enlisted men of the regiment with a beautiful sword, belt and sash, costing one thousand dollars. Col. Josiah Pickett succeeded him in the command.

Early in 1864 a furlough was granted, and the Twenty-fifth returned to Massachusetts, receiving a most hearty welcome in Boston and Worcester. It left Boston for the field March 21, 1864, and early in May was engaged in several sharp conflicts not far from Richmond. In one of these engagements, by a singular coincidence, the Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth and Twenty-seventh Massachusetts Regiments were directly opposed to the Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth and Twenty-seventh South Carolina Regiments. On this occasion Massachusetts got the better of South

Carolina. It was a sharp struggle, and among the killed was First Lieut. Charles E. Upton, of Fitchburg. A week later, while moving towards Richmond, the regiment was attacked by the Rebels, and came near being captured. The official report of this action says:

"The Twenty-fifth fought splendidly, holding their ground with the utmost tenacity, inflicting on the charging columns of the enemy the most terrible slaughter until surrounded, and with their ammunition exhausted, they were ordered to face by the rear rank and charge the Rebel line in the rear, thereby throwing the enemy into such confusion as to enable the regiment to extricate itself from one of the most perilous positions troops were ever placed in, and completely checking the advance of the enemy."

The losses of the regiment in all these contests during the month of May, 1864, amounted to twenty-six killed and one hundred and fifteen wounded.

On the 3d of the following June the Twenty-fifth underwent its most terrible experience of the war in the battle of Cold Harbor. During the day this regiment made a most heroic assault upon the Rebel lines, and held the position they attained, though at a terrible expense of life. The total loss of the regiment in this battle was as follows: 4 officers and 23 men killed; 11 officers and 128 men wounded; 2 officers and 47 men missing. Among the killed were—James Graham, Jr., of Fitchburg, second lieutenant of Company F, and Lieut.-Col. George E. Marshall, of the Fortieth Massachusetts Regiment, who was also a Fitchburg boy.

This was the last regular battle in which the Twenty-fifth participated. June 13th it went to the "Point of Rocks," on the Appomattox River, and two days later made an assault on the enemy's works, carrying the position and capturing two cannon, and on the 18th made another charge which was unsuccessful. The loss in these two assaults was seven killed and thirty-one wounded.

October 5, 1864, the portion of the regiment whose term of service had expired was ordered to Worcester and mustered out October 20th. The remainder, consolidated into a battalion of four companies, remained in North Carolina, taking part in only one engagement (Wise's Forks) during the period of its stay. July 13, 1865, it was ordered to Massachusetts to be mustered out, thus closing the record of the gallant Twenty-fifth.

COMPANY A, THIRTY-SIXTH REGIMENT.—In July, 1862, President Lincoln issued a call for three hundred thousand men, and authority was given to raise the Thirty-sixth Regiment. Fitchburg's proportion was found to be ninety-seven and Captain Thaddeus L. Barker, of the "Old Guards," was appointed to raise a company.

On July 12, 1862, a large citizens' meeting was held in the town-hall, at which resolutions, presented by Thornton K. Ware, Esq., were adopted, recommending the calling of a town-meeting at an early date to take measures for offering a bounty of seventy-five dollars to every recruit. A committee was also chosen to canvass the town for recruits.

A town-meeting was held just a week later at which it was voted to "authorize and instruct our selectmen to appropriate and pay one hundred dollars, as a bounty, to each and every acceptable recruit, when he shall have been mustered into the United States service and shall have joined the Volunteer Company now forming in this town, or either of the three companies from this town, now at the seat of war; not to exceed in all the sum of ten thousand and one hundred dollars."

Our quota was soon filled, and on August 1, 1862, the company left town amid cheers and great enthusiasm.

Lieut.-Col. John W. Kimball, of the Fifteenth, was designated as colonel of the Thirty-sixth, but being unable to obtain his discharge from the Fifteenth, Major Bowman, of the Thirty-fourth, was appointed its colonel.

The regiment arrived in Washington September 7, 1862, and on the 20th joined Gen. Burnside's army at Sharpsburg, Md., arriving a little too late to take part at Antietam. For some time it was in various parts of Virginia and witnessed its first battle at Fredericksburg, but was not actively engaged, being held in reserve, and having only two men wounded.

During the following winter nothing of note occurred. Early in April, 1863, the Thirty-sixth was sent to Cincinnati to guard the polls at the election of the mayor of that city. After the surrender of Vicksburg, July 4, 1863, this regiment, with others, pursued the enemy and lost eight men in skirmishes. Then followed their trying campaign in Mississippi, in which the regiment lost one hundred and fifty men by death and discharge on account of disease and exhaustion.

During the autumn it was engaged in several minor battles, losing about thirty men. It was present at the siege of Knoxville and suffered with the rest from lack of food. After the siege was raised the Thirty-sixth joined in the pursuit of the enemy, and during the winter of 1863–64 suffered very severely from lack of food and clothing. At one period the rations were "*six spoonfuls of flour a day for seven days and what corn could be picked up from under the feet of mules and horses.*"

On the 6th of April, 1864, the regiment arrived at Annapolis, where the men received new clothing and good food and enjoyed a much-needed, though short, rest. A month later it took part in the battle of the Wilderness, where "the regiment acquitted itself nobly, charging the enemy three times with a loss of two officers and sixty-two men killed and wounded." The battles of Spottsylvania and Cold Harbor followed soon after, and the regiment was engaged in both and lost heavily,—one hundred and twenty-six officers and men killed and wounded.

June 16, 1864, the Thirty-sixth arrived before Petersburg and on the following day made a gallant charge on the enemy's works, capturing four cannon and four hundred and fifty prisoners; and for the next four weeks it was in the rifle-pits, at the front, and lost some twenty men, picked off by the rebel sharpshooters. It remained in the vicinity of Petersburg until April 1, 1865.

The regiment was mustered out of the service June 8, 1865, and arrived in Worcester two days later, where it received a hearty public reception by the citizens.

Captain Thaddeus L. Barker, of Company A, was promoted to major, May 6, 1864; lieutenant-colonel, October 12, 1864, and to colonel, November 13, 1864.

COMPANIES A AND B, FIFTY-THIRD REGIMENT.—In August, 1862, a call was issued for troops to serve nine months. Fitchburg's citizens took hold in earnest, and in a few days two entire companies were enrolled. After the ranks were filled, the town voted, August 30th, to give each of the nine months' volunteers from this town one hundred dollars bounty. Eugene T. Miles was commissioned captain of Company A, and Jonas Corey captain of Company B, both companies being attached to the Fifty-third Regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel John W. Kimball, of the Fifteenth, was designated colonel of the Fifty-third, and assumed his command of it November 29, 1862. On that date he received a fine horse and set of equipments from a few of his many friends in Fitchburg.

The Fifty-third started for New York November 29th, to join General Banks' expedition. On account of the prevalence of a mild form of scarlet fever among the men, the regiment did not leave for the South until January 17, 1863. It then went by steamer from New York to New Orleans, and thence to Baton Rouge.

The regiment was first under fire April 12, 1863, at Fort Bisland, and was actively engaged on the following day. During the next night the enemy evacuated the works, and at daybreak on the 14th, Fort Bisland was in possession of the Union army, and the flag of the Fifty-third was the first to be planted on its ramparts. In this battle Lieutenant Nutting, of this town, in command of Company A, was killed, as were also thirteen privates.

The regiment participated in the pursuit of the enemy, capturing many prisoners and driving in a lot of cattle. It accompanied the army to Opelousas and Alexandria, and arrived at Port Hudson May 22, 1863, where it remained until July 11th, much of the time being actively engaged with the enemy. The first general attack on the works at Port Hudson took place May 27th, and during that day and the next the Fifty-third was at the front, in hot conflict a large portion of the time. Its loss was thirty killed and wounded. From the 1st to the 4th of June the regiment was in the rifle-pits to the front, and from the 5th to the 8th joined in an expedition to Clinton. It was a severe march, and several men in the regiment were sunstruck. The enemy retired from Clinton without giving battle. The Fifty-third returned to Port Hudson on the evening of the 8th, and remained in comparative quiet until the 13th; on the evening of the 13th orders were given for it to join in an assault on the works of the rebels at three o'clock the next morning. Four regiments were designated to make this assault—the Fourth Wisconsin, Eighth New Hampshire, Thirty-eighth and Fifty-third Massachusetts—and at the appointed time they moved upon the enemy's works. The rebels opened a murderous fire upon the heroic men, but their line did not waver. It advanced on the double-quick close to the works, but was not strong enough to carry them, and no supports came to its aid. It was a gallant, but most disastrous, charge. The Fifty-third lost eighty-six men killed and wounded. One of the killed was Captain Taft, of Fitchburg, the third commander lost by Company A in two months. The bravery of the Fifty-third in this charge was highly commended, and Colonel Kimball, for special gallantry, was recommended for promotion.

Just previous to the first general attack on Port Hudson a most deplorable accident befell the Fifty-third. It happened thus: On the night of May 25, 1863, it was ordered to do picket duty, General Paine, who gave the order, honoring the regiment by saying "he wanted *this* Regiment, because he knew he could depend upon it to hold the position during the night." Soon after taking their position for the night, the rebels at their front opened fire, which was unwittingly returned by two New York regiments in the rear, thus placing the Fifty-third between two fires. Fortunately the firing was stopped before much damage was done; but it was at this time that Captain George H. Bailey, of Fitchburg, was killed. He was in command of Company A, having received his appointment only one week previous to his death.

Port Hudson surrendered July 9, 1863, and the Fifty-third, after doing picket duty for two days, started for Baton Rouge, and on the 15th went to Donaldsonville, where it was in camp, and engaged in drill and picket duty till August 2d, when it returned to Baton Rouge. Its nine months' term of service having expired, it was ordered to Massachusetts.

A grand public reception was given it at Fitchburg August 24th, on which day fully eight thousand people from surrounding towns were present to witness the return of the brave soldiers. An address of welcome was delivered by Amasa Norcross, Esq., to which Colonel Kimball responded for the regiment. A procession was then formed and marched to the upper Common, where a bountiful collation, prepared by the ladies, was enjoyed by all.

The regiment was mustered out of the service September 2, 1863, at Camp Stevens.

The Fifty-third was in service for only a comparatively short time, but it made for itself a most brilliant record, and, in the words of the various generals it served under, "it ought to have been a three years' regiment."

Considering the short time it was in service, its loss from disease was something fearful, as the following statement, given by Mr. Willis, in his book, shows:

Original strength of regiment		950
Killed in battle and died of wounds	33	
Died of disease	132	
Discharged for disability	53	
Deserted	22	
	—	240
Mustered out		710

Many of the members of the regiment who returned home had disease fastened upon them, from which they never recovered; some twenty dying within a few days after reaching home.

Company F, Fifty-seventh Regiment.—October 17, 1863, President Lincoln issued a call for three hundred thousand more men. Fitchburg's quota was found to be one hundred and twenty, and Captain Levi Lawrence was authorized to raise a company in town.

It took a long time to fill the ranks, and many meetings were held and strenuous efforts made by the citizens before the company was ready to start. Finally, on February 6, 1864, it left for camp at Worcester, under command of Captain Lawrence, and became Company F, of the Fifty-seventh Regiment.

The Fifty-seventh left Massachusetts April 18th and arrived at Annapolis two days later, whence it proceeded to Washington and was immediately ordered to the front.

Its first battle was at the Wilderness, where it was hotly engaged for one hour, in which time its loss was two hundred and fifty-one officers and men killed, wounded and missing.

May 12th it took part at Spottsylvania and lost seventy-two officers and men, and on the 18th, in a reconnoisance, lost seventeen more. On the 24th it was ordered to cross the North Anna River to test the strength of the rebels, was attacked on both flanks and lost its lieutenant-colonel and thirty-six men.

The regiment then went to Cold Harbor, and was engaged in that vicinity for a few days and then marched to Petersburg, where it arrived June 16, 1864, and remained for several months. On the 30th of July it participated in the assault at the explosion of the mine, and lost six officers and forty-five men in the disastrous attempt.

During the following two months the Fifty-seventh was engaged in picket duty near Petersburg, and on September 30th was in the battle of Poplar Grove Church. At this time there were *only sixty men* in the regiment present for duty, and eight of them were lost in this action.

During the next three months the regiment, or rather what there was left of it, was engaged in reconnoitering and skirmishing, losing, during the period, some twenty men.

In a movement on the Weldon Railroad in December, 1864, the men suffered extremely from cold. For some time afterward it lay in the lines before Petersburg, with the exception of a short period when it joined in a reconnoisance towards Weldon about the middle of February, 1865. The intense cold during much of the winter caused severe suffering.

On March 25, 1865, the Fifty-seventh was engaged in the memorable repulse of Gordon's corps, and earned for itself a proud record.

Petersburg was evacuated on April 3d, and on that day the regiment entered the works and was ordered to guard the roads to Richmond and Chesterfield. Soon afterward it went to Washington and performed provost duty at various points in that vicinity until July 30th, when it was mustered out after a service of about fifteen months, during which time it made for itself a most honorable and enviable record.

Company H, Fourth Heavy Artillery.—This was the last company raised in this town, and was recruited under President Lincoln's call, issued July 18, 1864, for one year troops. As the bounty was large ($200), and the term of service short, the company was very quickly raised, a large proportion of the men in it having seen service in other Fitchburg companies. Eben T. Hayward, of this town, was chosen captain, and the company left Fitchburg for Readville August 15th, and left the State for Washington September 13, 1864. It was then consolidated with various other unattached companies as the Fourth Heavy Artillery Regiment, and designated Company H.

This regiment was assigned the duty of garrisoning various forts on the Virginia side of the Potomac, and Company H, during most of its term of service, occupied "Fort Garasche," where there was little to do except to drill in artillery and infantry practice. It was an uneventful year for the men. They faithfully performed their allotted tasks and received much praise "for their good drill and soldier-like conduct."

The regiment was mustered out of service June 17, 1865.

The Call For Three Months' Troops.—Toward the end of May, 1862, when Gen. Banks' army was routed and the rebels were rapidly approaching the national capital, the President hurriedly issued a call to the Governors of all the States to send on all three months' troops that could be spared for the defence of Washington.

Gov. Andrew's call upon the Massachusetts militia reached Fitchburg early Monday morning, May 26, 1862. Both the *Guards* and *Fusiliers* had efficient organizations at that time, and were ready to respond

to any sudden call. The men assembled at their armories, and at 5 o'clock in the afternoon took the train for Boston, the *Fusiliers*, with sixty-six men, under Capt. Eugene T. Miles, and the *Guards*, with fifty-eight men, under Capt. Jonas Corey.

"Among the incidents of this exciting day may be mentioned the fact that when the order of Captain Miles reached the shop of Whitman & Miles (of which firm the captain was a member) fifteen men dropped their tools and stepped forward to join the ranks of the 'Fusiliers,' and the firm, not at all disturbed at this wholesale reduction of their 'available force,' at once gave another proof of their patriotism by presenting ten dollars to each of the fifteen."

Our men, together with other companies that had been hurried to Boston, were quartered for two nights in Faneuil Hall. But the alarm at Washington soon subsided and Governor Andrew received a telegram saying that the troops were not needed; so the men were dismissed and Wednesday afternoon, May 28th, the *Fusiliers* and *Guards* returned to Fitchburg in high feather, had a parade through the streets and were treated to a collation by the jubilant citizens.

Though these men did not go to the "seat of war," yet it was their expectation and intention so to do, and their prompt response is worthy of record in a history of Fitchburg. The majority of them saw service and fought bravely in the companies sent out later from this town.

March 13, 1865, Colonel Kimball was made brevet brigadier-general United States Volunteers, "for gallant and distinguished services in the field and during the war."

By way of summary, it may be stated that of the citizens of this town who went to the war, one was brevet brigadier-general, two were colonels, two lieutenant-colonels, two majors, two surgeons, four brevet majors, seventeen captains, twenty first lieutenants, seven second lieutenants, three navy officers and sixteen seamen in the navy, six hundred and ninety-three non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, making a grand total of seven hundred and sixty-nine men—nearly one-tenth of Fitchburg's population at that time. Of this number sixty were killed in battle, sixty-eight died from wounds, disease or starvation in rebel prisons, twenty-five were taken prisoners and eighty-four received wounds from which they recovered.

Much more might have been written about our brave soldiers if space would permit, and the writer would be glad also to give some history of the naval experience of the sixteen war-ships and gunboats, on board of which were citizens and natives of this town. Suffice it, however, to say that there were very few great battles in the War of the Rebellion in which Fitchburg men did not participate with credit to themselves and honor to the town.

It remains to speak of what was done by the citizens of Fitchburg who remained at home during the war. Of the large amount of private benevolence and assistance no record has been, or ever can be, written: but of the work of the town and of various benevolent societies, a record can be given which, if elaborated, would form one of the most interesting portions of Fitchburg's history.

It will be remembered that at the very beginning of the war the town appropriated $10,000 for the equipment of our soldiers and support of their families; and at every annual town-meeting during the war the following vote was passed: "*Voted*, That the Selectmen be authorized to pay for the support of the families of Volunteers such sums as they think their circumstances require."

The money thus voted was in addition to the "State Aid" authorized by the Legislature to be paid by towns. By this generous provision of the town the selectmen, aided by the hearty co-operation of the citizens, were enabled to relieve all cases of need; and it is safe to say that no soldier's family in Fitchburg suffered from lack of the necessaries of life during all the period of the war.

Of the two principal societies organized in this town for the relief and assistance of soldiers we propose to give a brief account, and the first to be spoken of is

THE LADIES' SOLDIERS' AID SOCIETY.—The ladies of Fitchburg, as has been stated before, began their work of preparing clothing, etc., previous to the departure of our soldiers; and this work they unremittingly continued while the war lasted.

In order that their good work might be carried on in a methodical and efficient manner, it was thought best to organize a society, and, at a meeting held September 16, 1861, this "Soldiers' Aid Society" was formed, and Mrs. Ebenezer Torrey was chosen president, with Mrs. Amasa Norcross as secretary. The prime object of this society, as stated in its constitution, was "to furnish to the soldiers engaged in the present war of our country such aid as may be in our power." Most faithfully did the members carry out this object to the end. Any lady could become a member on payment of twenty-five cents, and it is needless to say that the membership was very large. All the preparation of work, purchasing and general direction of affairs were vested in a board of twelve directresses, chosen, with the other officers, annually.

The funds of the society were derived from membership fees and annual assessments, but were largely increased by private donations and church contributions; and the Dramatic Club, the Musical Association and the "Relief Committee" placed goodly sums at its disposal. The "Old Folks" choir also gave concerts at various times and donated the proceeds to the society.

One of the first things done by this society was the preparation of boxes of clothing, etc., which were sent to the Twenty-first and Twenty-fifth Regiments at Annapolis, and also blankets and winter clothing

sent to the Fifteenth at Poolesville; and in return the secretary of the society received letters from the commanders of the Fitchburg companies conveying their sincere and heartfelt thanks. The Thirty-sixth and Fifty-third Regiments were similarly provided for before they left the State.

At the time the Fifty-third was detained in New York, in the winter of 1862–63, under very uncomfortable circumstances, the society, on January 1, 1863, sent to the members of Companies A and B an *inviting dinner* of roast turkey and New England plum-pudding and pies. That the dinner "went to the right spot" was amply attested by the acknowledgments received in return.

Of course the intention of our Soldiers' Aid Society was to make the Fitchburg boys its chief care; but its work was by no means limited to them. During the war it sent large amounts of various supplies and necessaries to the Sanitary and Christian Commissions, the Massachusetts Relief Association at Washington, the New England Soldiers' Relief Association at New York, the Worcester Relief Society and to persons known to the society who were caring for the wounded in the hospitals. From all these societies and individuals thus aided came scores of appreciative and thankful letters.

The actual amount of money received and expended for relief by this society during its existence was something over one thousand five hundred dollars; but of the innumerable gifts of clothing, bedding, delicacies for the sick and wounded, no estimate of value can ever be made.

The society held stated meetings, but there were times in its history when sudden and imperative calls were made upon it; and its earnest members, putting aside their household duties, worked, as we may say, day and night, for the soldiers. One such occasion as this was when, in May, 1862, the Fusiliers and Guards were ordered to report in Boston, ready for duty, at a few hours' notice. In relation to this emergency the records of the society contain the following:—"Forthwith, the ladies, Monday morning though it was, snatched sewing implements, and in rapid haste gathered at the Town Hall, to fit out our men with flannel shirts and other appropriate garments, and sewing-machines and busy fingers vied with each other to achieve the work."

And in the same way, when the wires flashed to us the news of some terrible battle raging, as at Gettysburg, the Wilderness, or other fields of carnage and suffering, the ladies flew to their work of mercy and comfort. All honor to the ladies of Fitchburg who performed this vast amount of noble work! Many of them have long since left us and gone to their reward; but, whether living or dead, their labors during those long, dark years are, and ever will be, remembered, and will remain as an everlasting memorial of their self-sacrificing devotion to the cause of liberty and the relief of suffering.

When the Rebellion was crushed and the army disbanded, the necessity of this society ceased. Its last meeting was he'd June 22, 1865, "no member regretting she had been identified with its labors, but rather that it could not more truthfully be said of her, 'she hath done what she could.'"

The second relief organization in Fitchburg, of which we propose to give a brief account, was known as

The Soldiers' Relief Committee.—This was a large organization composed of gentlemen living in all sections of the town, and did a vast amount of good work during the two years of its existence.

It was started at a citizens' meeting in the town hall, September 26, 1861, its object being "to organize for the more effectual aid and comfort of the soldiers in the field from this town and their families."

A sub-committee of eighteen was chosen "to raise funds to aid enlistments, to procure comforts for our soldiers and their families and take such other action in the matter as may be deemed expedient."

This committee to raise funds, etc., went to work immediately, and collected considerable money, farm produce and clothing; and the following-named gentlemen were appointed an executive committee to distribute the same: Dr. Thomas R. Boutelle, Alvah Crocker, Lewis H. Bradford, Hanson L. Reed and Henry A. Willis.

This executive committee immediately issued a circular, which was distributed among the citizens requesting that all cases of destitution in the families of volunteers be reported without delay.

On October 21, 1861, occurred the battle at Ball's Bluff, in which the Fifteenth Regiment lost heavily. Our own Company B, of that regiment, suffered terribly in the battle, and Capt. Clark S. Simonds and eighteen of his men were captured and imprisoned at Richmond. Nothing was known here concerning their fate till letters were received from Capt. Simonds informing us of the imprisonment of himself and his men, and making an earnest appeal for his men, who were suffering for lack of clothing and money. This news did not reach us till November 20th, a month after the battle. A meeting of the citizens was forthwith called, and held on the evening of the 20th, at which seven hundred dollars in cash were raised, and about one hundred dollars' worth of clothing contributed by the merchants. This money and clothing, together with blankets, etc., given by the Soldiers' Aid Society, were consigned to the hands of Henry A. Willis, Esq., who started with them for Fortress Monroe on November 26th, whence they were in due time forwarded to our boys at Richmond. At this time Mr. Willis visited the camps of the Fifteenth, Twenty-first and Twenty-fifth Regiments. About three weeks after the supplies were forwarded from Fitchburg, a letter was received from Captain Simonds, acknowledging the receipt of the money and clothing and conveying his thanks, on be-

half of his men, for the prompt and generous response which the people of Fitchburg had made to his appeal. The letter also contained the following, which is certainly worthy o f record in this place:

It is a fact of which I shall ever speak with pride, that *Fitchburg was the first and only town as yet to aid her prisoners*, and Massachusetts the only State. Since the clothing came from Fitchburg, clothing of all kinds, enough for three hundred and fifty men, has arrived, sent by the State authorities of Massachusetts, for the relief of her men now here in captivity, placing them in comfort, in this respect, for the winter.

This statement that Fitchburg was the *first town in the whole North* to send aid to suffering prisoners is indeed one that may justly inspire a feeling of pride. Many other towns soon followed her example, but ere long the inhuman orders of the rebel authorities made it impossible for our supplies ever to reach the starving and almost naked Union prisoners.

Our citizens most willingly contributed money to be placed at the disposal of the Soldiers' Relief Committee, and the town, on December 14, 1861, voted to appropriate the sum of one thousand dollars to help it in its noble work, and until the committee ceased to exist, in October, 1863, it carefully sought out the needy families of soldiers and relieved their wants. About two thousand dollars was thus disbursed, beside a very large amount of clothing, farm produce, &c., of which no accurate account was ever kept. After October, 1863, this work was conscientiously carried on by the citizens and the town until the close of the war.

During the whole course of the war, when news reached us of great battles, either the Soldiers' Relief Committee or the citizens very quickly despatched committees to the front with generous amounts of supplies, and to look after and bring home the wounded. Such action was taken after the battles of Ball's Bluff, Roanoke Island, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Cold Harbor and the battles before Petersburg.

Lack of space prevents us from giving an account of all this, and the mere details of a few of the more important contributions after some of the great battles must suffice. After the battle of Gettysburg there were sent, on July 14, 1863, in charge of Henry F. Coggshall, Esq., $1079.60 in money, and nine barrels and five large boxes packed solidly with clothing, bandages, liquors, wines and delicacies for the sick and wounded.

News of the battle of the Wilderness reached Fitchburg May 8, 1864. It was Sunday, and that evening a meeting of the citizens was held in the town hall, the result of which was that *in less than twenty-four hours after the meeting* Dr. Alfred Hitchcock and Messrs. H. A. Goodrich and E. B. Hayward started for the front, taking with them seventeen hundred dollars in cash and sixteen barrels and bundles of carefully selected stores for the sick and wounded. This promptness and generosity of our citizens received wide notice in the newspapers "and Fitchburg, for her repeated efforts in this direction, became noted for the very liberal care she bestowed upon her soldiers."

There is no accurate account of all the money thus sent away to the fields of battle for the relief of the sick and wounded soldiers; but the whole amount received and disbursed by the various societies and committees in town was not far from twelve thousand dollars. Most of this sum went to the soldiers themselves, together with large amounts of supplies. Besides this, much was done by the town and societies for the soldiers' families in the way of money and supplies. Certainly Fitchburg did all that could be expected and the gratifying feature of it is that everything was done and given freely and spontaneously.

SOLDIERS' FUNERALS.—Soldiers from this town met death in almost every one of the great battles of the Civil War and on scores of battle-fields of minor importance.

Seven public funerals were held in Fitchburg during, or shortly after, the war, over the remains of eleven of our boys, and a brief mention will here be made of them.

The first was that of Clark S. Simonds, captain of Company B, Fifteenth Regiment. Captain Simonds was killed at Antietam, September 17, 1862, while conversing with Colonel Kimball after the battle was nearly over. His funeral was held September 23d, with military honors, and all business in the town was suspended.

The second public funeral was that of Henry A. Beckwith, first lieutenant of Company D, Twenty-first Regiment. Lieutenant Beckwith was mortally wounded at the battle of Chantilly, September 1, 1862, and died, four days later, in the hut of an old slave woman near the battle-field. His body was brought home by his wife and Henry A. Willis, Esq., and given a public military funeral on Sunday, October 5, 1862, in the town hall, which was densely packed.

The third was that of George G. Nutting, first lieutenant of Company A, Fifty-third Regiment. He was killed at Fort Bisland, La., April 13, 1863, and on account of the absence of Capt. Miles, was in command of the company at the time of his death. His body was at once sent to Fitchburg, where it was given a public burial, May 1st. On that day business was suspended in town during the afternoon, flags were at half-mast, and the town hall, in which the services were held, was beautifully decorated. A long procession followed the remains to the cemetery, and the fallen hero was laid to rest in Laurel Hill with military honors.

The fourth was that of Frederick H. Sibley, first lieutenant of Company I, Thirty-sixth Regiment. He died of disease at Louisville, Ky., August 17, 1863, and his remains were brought home by his father. His funeral occurred at the Universalist Church, August 27, 1863, and he was buried with military honors.

The fifth was the funeral of George H. Bailey and

Jerome K. Taft, both captains of Company A, Fifty-third Regiment, and both killed at Port Hudson, La. We have already related the unfortunate accident by which Captain Bailey was mortally wounded, May 25, 1863. Captain Taft, his successor in command, was commissioned only four days before he fell in the gallant assault on the works at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863. Their remains were brought home and funeral services held October 5, 1863. The bodies of the two brothers-in-arms rested on one bier. The Fifty-third had returned from the war a little over a month previous, and both the Fitchburg companies of the regiment did escort duty and many of the officers of the Fifty-third were present. "The obsequies were a credit to those who had them in charge, and a noble tribute to the brave men they commemorated."

The sixth public funeral was held April 6, 1864, over the bodies of four of our Fitchburg boys,—Sergeant Simon F. Marshall, of the Third Cavalry, and privates Edward P. Farwell, J. Henry Kendall and Charles W. Stuart, all of Company A, Fifty-third Regiment.

Sergeant Marshall was wounded at Baton Rouge, and died soon afterward, August 17, 1862, at the St. James Hospital in New Orleans.

Privates Farwell and Kendall were two of the youngest soldiers that went out from this town. The former was but eighteen when he enlisted. His friends tried to dissuade him from entering the army, but his answer was, "Some must defend the country and I feel it my duty to go." He went, but never returned. At Port Hudson he was stricken with a fatal disease. He lived to see the surrender of the stronghold, and on July 19, 1863, died within its fortifications. Kendall was still younger, not quite seventeen when he enlisted, and a delicate boy. Twice before had he volunteered and been rejected on account of his youth. When every effort was being made to fill up Companies A and B of the Fifty-third, he again volunteered and was accepted; and when his mother besought him not to go, he said "Mother, if the *men* will not go to the war, the *boys* must." He endured the marches, privations and suffering remarkably well, and was courageous in battle. He was in the front ranks at the heroic charge on the works at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863, where he received the wound from which, ten days later, he died, at the New Orleans hospital. Truly both these young men were heroes.

Private Charles W. Stuart was killed in the first battle in which the Fifty-third engaged,—that of Fort Bisland.

In the spring of 1864 Mr. Josiah Spaulding, of this town, made a journey to Louisiana to procure the remains of these four men, was successful and soon returned with them in charge. The funeral occurred April 6, 1864, and the services were conducted by the various clergymen of the town, Rev. Alfred Emerson preaching the sermon. A hymn, written for the occasion by Mrs. Caroline A. Mason, concluded the services. Then, with martial solemnity, they were borne to the city of the dead "over the river," and laid to rest in their soldier graves.

Of the seventh and last soldier's funeral in Fitchburg mention has already been made in the opening section of our war history. It was that of Lieutenant-Colonel George E. Marshall, of the Fortieth Regiment, and occurred April 19, 1866. The services were held in the town-hall, which was most beautifully and artistically decorated, and there was a large concourse of citizens and organizations, both military and civic. Ex-Governor John A. Andrew, Governor Alexander H. Bullock and his staff and other officials and several members of the Legislature occupied seats on the platform.

The exercises opened with the singing of a hymn, written for the occasion by Mrs. Mason; Rev. Henry L. Jones, rector of Christ Church, delivered the funeral oration, and a brief but eloquent address was made by Governor Bullock. The remains were escorted to the receiving tomb, where the casket was deposited, after which the customary salute was fired. In a grave on the hillside now repose the remains of Lieutenant-Colonel Marshall beside those of his brother, Sergeant Marshall; and the aged father still lives to tenderly care for and keep green the graves of his two noble sons who died in the preservation of the Union.

The writer painfully realizes that the story of Fitchburg's part in the Civil War has not been half told in the few preceding pages. Only the briefest outline has been given. Those terrible years were filled with private sufferings, anguish, heart-rendings and sacrifices, a record of which has been preserved only in the Book of Life and the hearts of the sufferers; no manuscript or printed page ever has portrayed them, or ever will, in their real significance.

The writer feels that this sketch of the war, imperfect as it is, ought not to be concluded without at least a brief mention of those of our citizens who fell victims to the systematic inhumanity of rebel prisons. As far as is known, there were seven of these unfortunates from Fitchburg, as follows: John H. Prichard, died in the horrible prison-pen at Andersonville, January 18, 1865.

Charles E. Goodrich, who was only sixteen years old when he enlisted as a drummer-boy in the Twenty-first, was captured at the battle of the Wilderness and sent to Andersonville, where he was kept four months, until his robust frame wasted to a mere shadow of its former self, when he was sent to the foul prison at Florence, S. C., where he died in October, 1864.

William T. Peabody and Henry K. Hill were both captured at the Wilderness, and sent to prison. The former died at Andersonville, September 1, 1864, and the latter at Florence, but the date is unknown.

George P. Cotting was taken prisoner in the attack

made by the rebels, May 16, 1864, on the Twenty-fifth Regiment while moving towards Richmond. He was sent to Andersonville, where he wasted away. He was finally exchanged, but was too much weakened to go further than Annapolis, where he died in the hospital.

William H. Hayden was in the navy, and was on the gun-boat "Granite City" when it was captured, May 8, 1864, while cruising up one of the bayous of Texas. He was taken to Galveston and died in a so-called "hospital" there, on September 16, 1864.

Cyrus Putnam was captured at Drury's Bluff in the same engagement in which Cotting was taken prisoner. He was sent to Richmond, where the wound he had received, just previous to his capture, was neglected, and he died there after a lingering illness —how long we know not—a victim of man's inhumanity to man.

A short account of the beautiful and costly memorial which Fitchburg erected in honor and commemoration of her fallen heroes seems to be a fitting termination to our record of the war. We will therefore conclude this section with a condensed history of the inception, construction and dedication of

THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.—Soon after the close of the war the question of building either a soldiers' monument or a memorial hall began to be agitated.

April 9, 1866, the town voted that a committee of five be appointed by the chair "to report the names of seven to constitute a committee on the subject of erecting a monument, as a sacred memorial to our citizens who fell in their country's service, during the late rebellion." The chair appointed as this committee Messrs. L. H. Bradford, Ebenezer Torrey, William H. Vose, Amasa Norcross and George F. Fay, who presented the names of Alvah Crocker, George E. Towne, Eugene T. Miles, Lewis H. Bradford, Alpheus P. Kimball, Stephen Shepley and Henry A. Willis, and these seven gentlemen were duly constituted the Soldiers' Monument Committee, which was subsequently organized by the choice of Mr. Crocker as chairman, and Mr. Bradford, secretary.

April 8, 1867, Mr. Towne made a verbal report for this committee and asked for further time, which was granted. It was also voted to add to the committee General John W. Kimball, Colonel Theodore S. Foster and Walter A. Eames.

April 13, 1868, Mr. Shepley made an able and eloquent report for the committee and the town voted that "the Soldiers' Monument Committee be authorized to purchase the two lots of land situated upon Main Street, owned by William W. Comee and Isaac Hartwell, and erect thereon a Soldiers' Monument at an expense not exceeding fifty thousand dollars, whenever twenty thousand dollars of the same shall have been raised by private subscription."

On the 28th of the same month it was voted to instruct the committee to buy these two estates for forty thousand dollars, and to rent the buildings and estates and sell the buildings as soon as the construction of the monument required it. These two estates were accordingly purchased for the sum named, and came into the hands of the Soldiers' Monument Committee, who rented them for some years.

April 12, 1869, Mr. Crocker made a report on the soldiers' monument, which was accepted and placed on file. It was then voted that a sum not exceeding forty thousand dollars be appropriated for a monument, ten thousand dollars of which was to be raised by taxation the current year. At an adjourned meeting, May 3, 1869, this vote was rescinded in order to investigate the feasibility of erecting a memorial hall instead of a monument. A committee of nine, consisting of Frederick F. Woodward, Alvin A. Simonds, David H. Merriam, Gardner S. Burbank, Jabez Fisher, George Robbins, Edwin P. Monroe, Hale W. Page and Edwin Upton, was appointed "to prepare and present plans and specifications, together with the estimated cost of a Memorial hall and report at a future meeting." The original committee was not, by this action of the town, discharged or relieved of its trust, but, the appropriation having been withdrawn, it was decided best for the Monument Committee not to proceed further until the Memorial Hall Committee had rendered a report. The investigations of this committee did not appear to be favorable to the Memorial Hall project. A verbal report was made on the matter, April 11, 1870, by David H. Merriam, which report was accepted and the committee discharged.

Meanwhile, in September, 1869, Ebenezer Torrey, town treasurer, was instructed to give a deed of right of passway over the Comee and Hartwell estates to the county of Worcester, on condition that the County Court-house be erected in the rear of these estates and front towards Main Street, "said right to continue as long as said court-house shall remain standing, as aforesaid." The right was duly conveyed and the court-house built very soon after, in accordance with the provision therein.

May 2, 1871, the town authorized the Monument Committee "to grade, fence and otherwise improve the lot in front of the court-house."

October 2, 1871, Mr. Crocker made a report to the town, and presented plans and designs for the proposed monument, all of which was accepted; and the Monument Committee was instructed "to proceed forthwith to carry out the designs and plans submitted, at a cost not exceeding $25,000." In accordance with this instruction the committee made the following contracts:

November 15, 1871, with Samuel A. Wheeler & Son, of Fitchburg, for the construction of the foundation to receive the granite superstructure and bronze statues.

April 1, 1872, with Martin Milmore, of Boston, who had furnished the designs accepted by the town the previous autumn, for the execution of the bronze statues and tablets.

April 8, 1872, with Runels & Davis, of Lowell, to erect the superstructure of Concord granite.

Agreements were also entered into by the committee with J. L. Roberts, of Boston, to furnish and erect a substantial iron fence around the enclosure, and with David Damon & Co., of Fitchburg, to execute the granite base for the fence and the steps at the two entrances to the park, both of which agreements were fulfilled in a manner creditable to the artisans and highly satisfactory to the committee.

There was a strong feeling among the citizens that the superstructure should be made of granite quarried from old Rollstone, a dear and familiar object to the eyes of the brave boys whose death the monument was to commemorate; and the members of the Soldiers' Monument Committee felt the claims of Rollstone as deeply as did any of the other citizens. Unfortunately, however, at that stage of development of the Rollstone quarries, the granite obtained was apt to contain here and there iron pyrites, and exposure to the weather caused staining of the granite in spots with iron. No contractor was willing to assume the responsibility of furnishing Rollstone granite that would keep unblemished by iron stains. It is gratifying to state that there has been much improvement in the granite in this respect since then; the deeper the quarrymen go, the cleaner and purer does the granite become. The committee, feeling that no blemish ought to mar their costly memorial, decided, much against their will and inclination, that Rollstone granite was out of the question as a material out of which to construct the superstructure, and fixed upon what is called "Concord" granite, as the stone best suited to the purpose.

Beginning with 1873, the city government replaced that of the town, and on January 28, 1873, it was ordered by the City Council that the Soldiers' Monument Committee, appointed by the town, be continued as a committee of the City Council until the business for which it was appointed was completed.

Meanwhile the work on the various contracts was progressing, and on June 2, 1873, the Soldiers' Monument Committee deposited within the die of the monument a box containing books, papers and documents relating to the history of Fitchburg, its war history, copies of deeds and contracts relating to the monument, newspapers, fractional currency and coin then in use, etc., and a written report, signed by all the members of the Monument Committee save one or two who were absent from the city, of the action of the town and the work of the Soldiers' Monument Committee in regard to the erection of this memorial.

It was expected that the dedication would take place in the autumn of 1873, but an accident occurred in making the cast of the central bronze figure, "America," causing a necessary delay of four months.

It was then decided that June 17, 1874, should be the day, but unavoidable circumstances necessitated a further postponement of one week, and on June 24, 1874, the dedicatory exercises were held. Elaborate preparations were made for this event, and the City Council appropriated the sum of two thousand dollars for the occasion. Gen. John W. Kimball was appointed chief marshal, and authorized to select marshals and aids. The gentlemen whom he appointed had all seen service in the war, and were as follows:

Marshals.—T. S. Foster, colonel, 21st Regiment; Edwin Upton, colonel, 25th Regiment; C. H. Foss, captain, 25th Regiment, and senior past commander of Post 19, G. A. R.; T. L. Barker, colonel, 36th Regiment; George Jewett, major, 51st Regiment; E. A. Brown, major, 53d Regiment; Levi Lawrence, captain, 57th Regiment; G. T. Hayward, captain, 4th Regiment Heavy Artillery.

Aids.—George Lawrence, lieutenant, 1st Regiment; Charles C. Walker, private, 2d Regiment; Edwin Newton, private, 10th Regiment; Albert H. Andrews, major, 19th U. S. Infantry; Russell O. Houghton, captain, 26th Regiment.

Bugler.—Edward R. Campbell, private, 1st Vermont Artillery.

The day of dedication was fine, there was a large attendance of citizens from neighboring towns and most of the business blocks and many private houses in the city were handsomely decorated. The procession, which was an imposing one, was made up of ten divisions, and moved promptly at eleven o'clock; and after passing through the principal streets, was, with the exception of the carriages, battery and fire apparatus, massed in Monument Square.

The exercises opened with the hymn, "Great Jehovah, turn Thine eye," which was finely rendered by the Choral Union.

Rev. Dr. S. B. Grant then offered prayer, after which Hon. Alvah Crocker made a brief address of welcome, from which is taken the following extract:

My friends, I do not claim that Fitchburg, in character, tone and spirit, is above our sister towns and municipalities, but I do claim with a population of 8000 souls, including 2000 able-bodied men, furnishing eight companies and a balance in isolated individual cases sufficient to make a regiment of 1000 men, that there was the same spirit as in the Revolutionary War when she furnished the germ (in her letters to Boston) of the immortal Declaration of Independence, that Bancroft alludes to, and can be read by any one, as when her old iron cannon, on the 19th of April, 1775, boomed the call to her minute-men; the same spirit as when Capt. Bridge, with fifty men, before the metal was cold, was on his way, or "line of march," to Concord and Lexington, and was at Pitcairn's heels before he got into Boston.

The report of the Soldiers' Monument Committee was then read by Capt. Eugene T. Miles. At the close of the report Capt. Miles presented the Soldiers' Monument to the city in the following words:

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen of the City Council: Trusting implicitly in your patriotism, in your sympathy with the bereaved ones who to-day mourn the loss of dear ones who fell in the bloody conflict to sustain our liberties, in your true love of country, in your integrity as municipal officers, nothing now remains but to commit to your care and keeping, and through you to the people of our young city, this beautiful structure—the Soldiers' Monument—together with so much of its surroundings as are completed.

In the interests of those for whom they were erected, care for them kindly, with fidelity and tenderly:

"For there are deeds which should not pass away,
And names that must not wither."

At this time the monument was unveiled, salutes fired and patriotic music played by the eight bands present.

Hon. Amasa Norcross, mayor, then in a few well-chosen and eloquent remarks, accepted the Soldiers'

Monument in behalf of the people of the city of Fitchburg.

A poem written for the occasion by Herbert Ingalls, Esq., was then read by Eli A. Hubbard, Esq., superintendent of schools.

At the conclusion of the reading of the poem, Hon. Alvah Crocker introduced Major-General Nathaniel P. Banks, the orator of the day, who delivered a stirring and eloquent address; and at its close General Kimball stepped to the front of the platform and called for three army cheers for General Banks, which were given with a will. General Banks stepped forward, bowed and said: "Comrades, from my heart I thank you for your kind remembrance."

Thus was our memorial to the fallen Fitchburg soldiers dedicated; and since that day its stately, symmetrical and ornate form has been to the citizens of this place a sacred object, and well worthy the care and attention bestowed upon it and the beautiful park whose centre it occupies.

We will close with a statement, in round numbers, of the total cost of the monument and park and a brief description of the monument. The statement in regard to the cost is taken from the report read at the dedication:

"Cost of lot, $40,000; granite base for fence, $3600; iron fence, $3000; foundation for monument, $2000; granite superstructure, $9000; bronze statues and tablets, $15,400; which, with the grading and miscellaneous expenditures, will make the total cost at least $75,000."

About ten thousand dollars were received for rent of the estates prior to the removal of the buildings thereon and from the sale of the buildings, and the net cost, without interest, was found to be $66,699.23.

The monument itself rests upon tiers of solid masonry, so graduated as to form three broad steps on all sides of it. From this base rises the massive square shaft, broader at the base than at the top, to a height of some twenty feet above the level of the park. A large granite cap crowns the top of the shaft and bears the colossal bronze statue "America," holding in each hand a myrtle wreath, as if in the act of crowning the two large bronze statues on either side and below her. These two statues represent a soldier and sailor, respectively, and are placed on pedestals forming, on either side, a portion of the granite superstructure, their top being only a few feet above the level of the park. Though these magnificant bronze statues were designed by Mr. Milmore, it is but just to state that they were made by the Ames Manufacturing Company, under the supervision of Mr. M. H. Mossman.

Into each side of the monument, just below the cap-stone, is let a large bronze tablet. The tablet, looking toward Main Street, bears upon it an inscription proclaiming that the monument is Fitchburg's tribute, not only to her brave sons who fell in battle, but also to those who went forth and fought nobly for the "just cause," and were spared to return once more to the home of their youth. The tablets on the other three sides of the shaft are inscribed with the names of one hundred and thirty-five men who perished in the War of the Rebellion, and whom Fitchburg claims as belonging to her "Roll of Honor." The four tablets were made by Samuel Hooper & Co., and are finely executed.

A sufficient description of Monument Park was given in the opening chapter of this history, and need not be repeated.

CHAPTER XLI.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

THE history of the beginning, growth and progress of religious life and organizations in a town like Fitchburg would easily make a volume of itself; and this fact may be realized more fully when we say that from 1786 to 1823 the town was almost all the time in a ferment concerning religious and church matters.

During the first forty years of Fitchburg's existence church and town affairs were almost inextricably blended. All church business was settled in town-meeting, and, very naturally, controversy arose between people in different sections of the town; and during the first quarter of the present century doctrinal disputes were carried on with considerable bitterness.

We have already spoken, in the section on the early history of the town, about the "six Sabbath days' preaching," by Rev. Peter Whitney, in the Samuel Hunt tavern, during the winter of 1764–65, and of the building of the first meeting-house.

November 21, 1765, the town voted "not to have preaching this winter."

September 22, 1766, voted to have preaching during the coming winter, and appropriated £40 for that purpose, and chose Amos Kimball, Elisha Fullum and Jonathan Wood "for to git a minister to preach;" also voted "to have Mr. Petter Whitney, Mr. Angier, Mr. Payson, if they will come and preach with us."

Rev. Samuel Angier preached for them that winter and was so well liked that the people gave him an invitation to become their permanent pastor; but Mr. Angier declined the call, chiefly, if not wholly, on account of some difficulty arising between him and Deacon Kimball. It appears from the records that the deacon boarded the minister, for the town voted, March 2, 1767, "to allow Deacon Kimball six shillings per week for boarding the minister till the time agreed upon is expired for Mr. Angier to preach."

May 11th the town voted to appoint Thursday, May 21, 1767, as "a day of fasting and prayer in order to ask divine assistance in giving some Gentleman a call to settle in the Gospel ministry in this town."

During that summer Rev. John Payson, a graduate of Harvard in 1764, son of Rev. Phillips Payson, of Chelsea, and a brother of the young and much-lamented minister of Lunenburg, Samuel Payson, who died in 1763, preached for the people of Fitchburg. He gave great satisfaction, and September 24, 1767, the town voted to give him a call, and offered him the same terms of settlement and salary as had been proposed to Mr. Angier a few months before, viz. £133 13*s.* 4*d.*, as a settlement, one-half to be paid one year after ordination, and the balance two years after, and an annual salary of £60, "until there shall be sixty families settled in town, after that to pay him annually £66 13*s.* 4*d.*" Two months later, November 23d, the town voted to find and provide for him thirty cords of wood annually. On this date Rev. Mr. Payson gave his answer in the affirmative, and accepted the town's call to settle on the terms proposed.

The First Church in Fitchburg was formed January 7, 1768, and on the 27th of the same month Rev. John Payson was ordained its pastor, and his pastoral relations with the town continued until May 2, 1794. By vote of the town the two churches in Lancaster, the church in Lunenburg, the First Church in Leominster and the two churches in Westminster and Shirley were invited to participate in the ordination.

For the next few years matters ecclesiastical ran along very smoothly and nothing worth recording occurred till the "hard times" and depreciation of the currency came in 1777. During the three years 1778–80, it was hard work to pay Mr. Payson's salary and the poor man came near starving to death. The town, however, did not allow him to come to absolute want, and March 30, 1778, voted to appoint a committee of four to circulate a subscription paper among the inhabitants to give them a chance "to subscribe some of the necessaries of life, or anything they please to subscribe for Mr. Payson's support." Two weeks later, April 13th, the records state that this committee reported to the town and presented the paper to Mr. Payson, "which was kindly accepted by Mr. Payson and said he was well satisfied with what the town had done, until September next, which will be one year from the time the subscription paper was dated."

In October, 1778, he received one thousand dollars Continental currency, and the next month two hundred and sixty-six dollars more (equivalent, in all, to about one hundred and eighty-four dollars), as his salary.

In September, 1779, the town voted him £1479 16*s.* as his salary for the ensuing year and to make up the depreciation for the last year.

May 23, 1780, the town voted "to pay Mr. Payson £3320 4*s.* to make his salary good since said salary was granted."

October 9, 1780, it was voted to raise one hundred pounds, "hard money," "to pay the Rev. Mr. Payson his salary the year ensuing, to be paid in hard money or produce, that is, wheat at 9*s.* per bushel; rye at 6*s.* per bushel; Indian corn at 4*s.* per bushel; labor in the summer, 4*s.* per day; flax, 1*s.* per pound; sheep's wool, 2*s.* per pound; pork, 5*d.* per pound; beef, 3*d.* half penny per pound, and other produce in proportion."

The same vote was passed in 1781 and 1782; and during the remaining years of Mr. Payson's pastorate the annual salary voted him was £66 13*s.* 4*d.*

Nothing worth noting occurred in church affairs until the famous "meeting-house controversy" began. We have previously recorded the two futile attempts made by the people living in the westerly part of the town, in 1785, to be set off from the town of Fitchburg. These attempts, however, were but a skirmish.

The date of the beginning of the real contest was September 12, 1786, when the town voted "to build a new meeting-house in the center of the town, or the nearest convenient place to the center." To fix upon this much-desired "center" took over nine long years, and occupied the attention of the people during the whole or some portion, of ninety-nine town-meetings. We propose to give here only a history of the most important acts of the people in this matter.

For the next two years no public action was taken in regard to the new meeting-house, partly because the people became involved in a side issue concerning the manner of singing in church. The custom was for the minister to read the psalm or hymn, then the oldest deacon present would read the first line, which the congregation would then sing, and so on to the end, each line being read and sung separately. In the winter of 1786–87 an attempt was made to introduce something similar to our present mode of singing, together with some new tunes. The veteran singers did not approve of these innovations, and many characterized them as irreligious and unscriptural. Quite a dispute occurred in which the whole town became interested, and in May, 1787, there was an article in the town-meeting warrant as follows: "To see if the town will vote to come into any general rule in regard to carrying on the singing part of the public worship of God, and whether the singers shall sing a part of the time without reading, and how the psalm shall be read, whether by line or verse, or act any thing thereon." A committee was chosen to consider the matter and report at the next meeting.

In accordance with the report of this committee rendered at a town-meeting soon afterward it was voted "to sing five times in the worshipping on the Lord's day, in the following manner,—the first singing before prayer, without reading; after prayer, with reading line by line, and set such tunes as the Congregation can in general sing: first in the afternoon, before prayer, without reading; after prayer, with reading; after sermon, without reading." This

was a compromise which suited both parties, and the innovators had the satisfaction of carrying three out of five of their points.

During these two years considerable private controversy was going on in regard to the location of the new meeting-house. Meanwhile Jedediah Cooper and Jacob Upton, the two tavern-keepers in the westerly part of the town, despairing of getting any satisfaction out of the town, determined, together with some of their neighbors, to have a meeting-house among themselves at any rate. They accordingly erected a frame, which was covered after a time, and used occasionally for worship. It was just within the limits of the town, and was a desolate looking building. The proprietors did not take much care of it and its shabby and dilapidated appearance earned for it the name of "the Lord's Barn." It was sold and taken down about 1825, and the proceeds of the sale (about thirty-six dollars) were divided among the proprietors.

September 9, 1788, the subject was again brought before the town by means of an article in the warrant,—"To see if the town will erect a meeting-house in the center of the town, or receive any part of Westminster that shall be willing to join with us, and then erect a meeting-house in the nearest convenient place to the center."

This article was inserted by the people of the west and no action was taken on it at this meeting; but at an adjourned meeting September 23d, a committee, consisting of Moses Hale, Daniel Putnam, Jacob Upton, Asa Perry and Oliver Stickney, was chosen "to examine and find out a place to erect a meeting-house in the most convenient place to accommodate the inhabitants of the town of Fitchburg." The result of the investigation of these five gentlemen was that two of them found "the most convenient place" to be in the west, two in the east, while the remaining one was upon the fence. Their report was rendered to the town October 2d, and was rejected as soon as given, and the gentlemen were promptly discharged from further service in that direction. Immediately thereafter a motion was made to place the new house on the site of the old one; this was forthwith negatived. Then, "after some consideration on the matter," as the records state, it was voted "to erect the new meeting-house in the nearest convenient place to the center." Such brilliant progress must have astonished the people, for a few minutes later it was voted "to reconsider all votes hitherto passed relating to this matter," after which the meeting was adjourned to the following day.

At nine o'clock the next morning the parties proceeded to business. The first thing done was to vote "not to erect the meeting-house where it now stands." It was then moved to place it "on the hill near Phineas Sawyer's house, on the land belonging to the heirs of Mr. Ezra Upton."

This location was in the westerly part of the town, and the motion to place the house thereon was carried, thirty-two voting in favor of it and seventeen against. Thus, by a vote of nearly two to one, it was decided to build the new house in the west, and the people in that section were greatly rejoiced thereat. A committee was chosen, consisting of Reuben Smith, Asa Perry, Phineas Sawyer, Elijah Carter and Jacob Upton, to inform the inhabitants of the west part of the town of this action and consult with them. It was voted that this committee "be invested with power to agree with the owners of the new frame erecting for a meeting-house in the northwesterly part of the town, if that appears cheapest for the town,—otherways be invested with power to provide materials and timber for building a new meeting-house in the prudentest manner for said town, on said plat of ground." This committee was directed to report at the next meeting.

This was a bitter pill for the east, and the people of that section, resolved on retaliation, called a town-meeting October 21st, "To see if the town will comply with a request of a number of the inhabitants of the town of Fitchburg, to grant that they, together with their respective estates and interests, may be set off from Fitchburg and annexed to Lunenburg." This was one alternative proposed by the east. The other was that the town allow the petitioners the old meeting-house, with Mr. Payson as their pastor, and let them be incorporated as a "poll parish." It was voted "to give those petitioners that called the meeting leave to withdraw."

The honest people, who, for the sake of peace and reconciliation, had favored the west at the meeting October 2d, were now very much alarmed. Holding the "balance of power" as they did, they were in rather an awkward predicament. If they favored the east, the west threatened to form a new parish; if they favored the west, the east evinced strong symptoms of either forming a new parish, or returning to the parent town of Lunenburg.

Meanwhile, the gentlemen of the committee appointed by the town October 2d, undaunted by this blast from the east, were prosecuting their labors with great zeal and confidence. They had bargained for the new frame belonging to Jacob Upton and others, prepared a site for the new house on the land of Ezra Upton's heirs and done sundry other wise things.

November 17, 1788, a town-meeting was held to hear their report, which was duly submitted, whereupon it was voted not to accept the report, and insult was added to injury by summarily discharging the committee from further service. This was done by the peacemakers, who were at their wits' ends, and this time threw their influence into the eastern scale. At this meeting a committee was chosen "to find the center of the town."

December 18, 1788, this committee reported in town-meeting that the centre of the township had been found, after a careful survey, to be on the land of one

Thomas Boynton, about five hundred feet north of the pound. This report was accepted, and Thomas Cowdin, Phineas Hartwell, Oliver Stickney, Daniel Putnam and Paul Wetherbee were chosen a committee to bargain for a site in that locality. This committee bought of Mr. Boynton twenty-two and a half acres of land, a little south of the pound, paying therefor two dollars and thirty-three cents per acre, and the town approved this action.

This location did not suit the people in the west, and they forthwith resorted to their old scheme of forming a new town, and called two meetings for that purpose, thereby frightening the conscientious peace-makers nearly out of their wits. The petitioners, however, did not put in an appearance at either meeting, and in consequence these two meetings were uncommonly peaceable. The petition was of course dismissed each time. In fact, the whole thing was but a ruse on the part of the men of the west to keep the attention of the people from a deep-laid scheme which they proposed soon to spring upon the unsuspecting public.

November 2, 1789, it was voted "to erect a new meeting-house on the land purchased of Thomas Boynton," and a committee of seven was chosen to take charge of the matter. Two weeks later the town voted to reconsider all votes heretofore passed on this subject; and thus, at the end of four years, the town was in the same position regarding this matter as when operations were first entered upon, with the exception of owning twenty-two and a half acres of real estate. The reason of this strange action was the culmination of the move on the part of the west, alluded to above. The people in that region, together with the inhabitants of adjoining portions of Ashby, Ashburnham and Westminster, had presented to the General Court a powerful petition for an act of incorporation into a town.

This petition set forth in glowing colors the delightful situation of the contemplated town—how nature had lavished all her skill upon it—how admirably adapted for a township by itself was the noble swell of land—and that nothing in nature or in art could exceed the grand and imposing spectacle of a meeting-house towering from its summit, while beneath the said swell was a region of low, sunken land, which almost cut off the petitioners from intercourse with the rest of mankind.[1]

This meant business, and the inhabitants of Fitchburg and the three adjoining towns not included in the proposed new town speedily drew up a spirited remonstrance, in which every statement of the petitioners was denied, and the whole project denounced as visionary. During all of 1790 the attention of both parties was wholly engrossed with this matter, and the result was that the General Court refused to incorporate the new town.

Both parties were much in need of a breathing spell after this vigorous contest, and it was not until September 7, 1791, that the battle was renewed. On that date it was voted, forty-one to twenty-three, "to erect a new meeting-house in the center of the town, or in the nearest convenientest place thereto." This double-barrelled superlativeness is proof postive that the spirit of the people was in no wise cast down by the fruitless struggle of the past five years. Though the people could not decide upon a location, they were bound to have plans drawn for a new meeting-house at all odds, and at this meeting a committee was chosen to plan a new house. October 10th, this committee reported to the town "to build a house sixty by forty-six feet, with a porch at each end twelve by eleven feet, with stairs into the galleries." There were to be forty-six pews on the ground floor and twenty-five in the galleries, to be sold to the highest bidders, and three years were to be allowed for the completion of the house. This report was accepted November 14, 1791, and on the same date a committee was chosen to clear a spot on the land purchased of Thomas Boynton and build the house.

For as long a period as six weeks thereafter it really looked as if the matter was settled; but everything was completely upset December 27, 1791, by a vote "to dismiss the committee chosen to build a new meeting-house from further service."

Almost three years then elapsed before any further action was taken by the town in this matter. The people, however, showed their dogged obstinacy by refusing, on several occasions, "to repair the meeting-house windows, and to paint the outside of the meeting-house."

The town again renewed operations September 3, 1794, by voting "to erect a meeting-house in the center of the town, or in the nearest convenientest place thereto, to accommodate the inhabitants thereof for divine worship." Joseph Stearns and David Kilburn, of Lunenburg, and Benjamin Kimball, of Harvard, were chosen by ballot as a "committee of three disinterested persons out of town" to discover that much-to-be-desired spot, "the nearest convenientest place to the center." This committee found the centre to be about a quarter of a mile northeast of the pound, and decided that the most eligible location for the house was about half a mile south of this point, which would have placed it not far from the present junction of Main and River Streets. Their report was rendered to the town October 21st, and rejected, thirty-six to twenty-nine. So the opinions of interested and disinterested persons seem to have been considered of about equal value—as good for nothing.

A month later a motion to place the house on the site selected by the out-of-town committee was defeated, forty-eight to forty-five. A committee was then chosen to select a suitable location, and December 1, 1794, reported in favor of "setting the meeting-house near the high bridge under the hill" (the same place the out-of-town committee selected). This report was accepted, strange to say, sixty-one to forty-seven. A town-meeting was called January 8, 1795, to choose a committee to purchase this site;

[1] Torrey's "History of Fitchburg:" Fitchburg, 1836.

but, with its customary obstinacy, the town refused, at this meeting, to choose such a committee, and so ended the project of building the house there.

January 26, 1795, it was voted "to erect a meeting-house on the town's land they purchased of Thomas Boynton, about five rods southwest from a large white oak tree, and to pattern it after the Leominster meeting-house." It was to be completed by December 31, 1796.

February 16, 1795, it was voted to pattern it after the Ashburnham meeting-house. "Likewise voted to have the length of said house sixty-two feet by forty-eight feet, the posts to said house to be twenty-seven feet in length, and that the undertaker to build the house give bonds, with good bondsmen, to fulfil the contract." The contract was given to John Putnam, Jr. At subsequent town-meetings minor details in regard to the construction of the house were settled.

September 1, 1795, a committee of five was chosen "to stake out and oversee the clearing and levelling of the meeting-house spot for the underpinning on the town land," and also "that the Selectmen lay out a four-rod road in the best place to accommodate the travel to the new meeting-house spot."

There seemed at this time to be a very good prospect of building the new house on the town's land; but it was not so to be, for October 19, 1795, a town-meeting was called "to know the sense of the town, whether the former vote in placing said meeting-house should be altered." After considerable discussion it was decided, by a vote of forty-four to thirty, "to place the new meeting-house at the crotch of the roads, near Capt. William Brown's house" (where the Upper Common now is). This was a final decision, though why it should have been is rather difficult to see, because this location was a trifle east of the town's land. It was intended to have the house face directly "down street," but the opposition mustered sufficient strength to change this plan so that it should face south and "stand cornerwise to the street."

So at last this momentous question was settled, and early in the summer of 1796 occurred the raising. Great preparations were made for this important event. May 9, 1796, a town-meeting was called "to see if the town will make any provision for the refreshment of the Raisers and also the Spectators that shall attend upon the raising of the new Meeting-house." This was a most amicable meeting, and it was unanimously voted "that the town provide one barrill W. I. Rum and Loaf Sugar sufficient to make it into Toddy for refreshment for the Raisers and Spectators that shall attend the raising of the new Meeting-house." A committee was also appointed, consisting of Deacon Kendall Boutelle, Deacon Ephraim Kimball, Deacon Daniel Putnam, Reuben Smith, Joseph Polley, Dr. Jonas Marshall and Asa Perry, "to deal out the Liquor to the Raisers and Spectators on Raising Day." Any one would suppose that a barrel of rum ought to make an amount of "Toddy" sufficient to satisfy the cravings of those who would be present at the raising; but the people were bound to have a rousing time after waiting so long for it, and to prove conclusively to the country round about that there was nothing small about them; for, before this meeting adjourned, it was voted "that the committee to deal out the Liquor and Sugar sufficient for the Raisers and Spectators, in case the barrill of W. I. Rum and Sugar already voted should be insufficient, procure more and bring in their account to the town for allowance."

This was the only meeting held to consider the subject of the new house during the ten years, where there was no contention or exhibition of spleen. For once the good people of Fitchburg were all of the same mind, and a "barrill of W. I. Rum," which, at the present time causes so much controversy, in the presumably degenerate days of 1796, acted like oil upon the troubled waters.

A few days later the raising came off successfully, but there is no definite statement as to the amount of rum and sugar consumed thereat. The following copy of the order to reimburse Deacon Boutelle for the refreshment expenses may, however, throw some light on the subject:

FITCHBURG, May y^e^ 12 : 1796.

To Ebenezer Thurston Town treasurer you are hereby Directed to pay De^n^ Kendall Boutwell thirty eight Dollars and one Cent it being for providing rum and shugar for the Raising of the new Meeting house and this with his Rec^t^ shall be your discharge for the above sum.

D C
38 1

JOHN THURSTON
PAUL WETHERBEE
} Selectmen.

On the back of this order is written the receipt and settlement as follows:

May y^e^ 12 : 1796 Recd a Note in behalf of the Town of fitchburg of thirty Eight Dollers and one Sent in full of the within order.

KENDAL BOUTELL.

April 19 : 1797 Order Settled with the Treasurer.

Such is the history of probably the most stubbornly fought and protracted meeting-house controversy on record. Zeal, obstinacy and bitterness on the part of both factions characterized the contest throughout, and so fierce was the strife that the people of neighboring towns for miles around were in the habit of coming in large numbers to attend the town-meetings held in Fitchburg during these ten years.

The edifice was dedicated January 19, 1797, Rev. Zabdiel Adams, of Lunenburg, preaching the sermon.

The controversy produced a very serious effect upon the town's good minister, Rev. Mr. Payson, who, moreover, was much troubled by the inroads made upon his flock by the Methodists, Baptists and Universalists. He became enfeebled in body and mind, but continued to preach most of the time until the autumn of 1793. By that time his mental infirmity had increased so much that the church and town united to call a council to consider the matter. This council met about the middle of November, 1793, but

was unable to settle anything to the satisfaction of all concerned.

During the following winter and spring the town hired other ministers to preach, and April 7, 1794, all parties agreed to reassemble the council of the previous year and abide by whatever decision it should arrive at. The council accordingly met April 29th, and decreed that the town should pay Mr. Payson a sum equivalent to about five hundred and thirty dollars and dismiss him from the pastorate. This proposition was accepted by the town May 2, 1794, and Mr. Payson's connection with the town, as its pastor, was finally dissolved.

Mr. Payson continued to live here without any improvement in his mental condition, and on May 28, 1804, while visiting at the house of his brother-in-law in Leominster, committed suicide. He was buried in the town cemetery in Fitchburg, where the tombstone erected to his memory by his son can still be seen.

The two councils assembled here in November, 1793, and April, 1794, were provided with board and lodging at the expense of the town. The members thereof were cared for at the tavern of Mrs. Cowdin, the widow of Thomas Cowdin. The bill for their entertainment is somewhat of a curiosity in its way and is as follows:

FITCHBURG, Nov. 11th, 1794.

The Venerable Council's Bill.

28 meals of victuals at 1s. 6d	$7 00
17 suppers at 1s	2 83
17 breakfasts at 1s	2 83
34 dinners at 1s. 6d	8 50
9 suppers at 1s	1 50
2 breakfasts at 1s	33
10 lodgings at 4d	54
Horse keeping	10 00
Liquor	7 50
Total	$41 03

Rec'd Pay't Hannah Cowdin.

For about a year after Mr. Payson's dismissal Rev. John Kimball preached for the people. The church voted to give him a call and November 21, 1794, the town concurred. His salary was fixed at £90 per year, with a settlement of £200, to be paid as follows: £25 at the ordination, £75 one year therefrom, and £100 seven years after ordination. Mr. Kimball delayed his answer, and April 6, 1795, the town voted to give him an annual salary of £112. May 6, 1795, Mr. Kimball declined the call.

November 26, 1795, the town voted to concur with the church in extending to Rev. John Miles an invitation to become their pastor at a salary of four hundred dollars per year. Mr. Miles declined.

Various ministers then preached here, among them the Rev. Thomas Noyes, whom the church, early in 1787, voted to call. The town was notified of this action at a meeting April 3, 1797, and voted not to concur. Then, by a vote of forty-three to twenty-four, the town signified its willingness to extend a call to Rev. Samuel Worcester. During a brief adjournment of the town-meeting, the church met and voted to call Rev. Mr. Worcester, agreeably to the preference of the town; and the town, reassembled after the adjournment, then voted to concur with the church. The title of the church to precedence in calling the pastor was thus distinctly recognized.

Mr. Worcester's salary was fixed at four hundred dollars per year, with the privilege of taking his supply of wood from about twenty acres of the town's land. June 20, 1797, this was changed by voting to deduct twenty pounds from his annual salary (making it $333.33), and give him a "settlement" in addition of two hundred pounds ($666.66), one-half to be paid one year after ordination, and the remainder two years after, with interest. Mr. Worcester accepted the call July 22, 1797, and the last Wednesday of the following September was selected as the day for his ordination, and on that day, September 27th, he was duly ordained, Rev. Dr. Samuel Austin, of Worcester, preaching the sermon.

In the month of October, after his ordination, Mr. Worcester was united in marriage with Miss Zervia Fox, of Hollis, N. H., which was Mr. Worcester's native town. He then "settled down" in Fitchburg and entered with zeal on the work of the ministry, and for a time everything went on prosperously; but new beliefs and doctrines were fast gaining ground, which led, in 1801, to the division of the town into three societies and a year later to Mr. Worcester's dismissal.

In March, 1798, the town voted that "the Selectmen try and see what market they can make of the old meeting-house." June 21st, following, it was voted that it be sold at public auction, the pew-holders having liberty to take out their pews before the sale, if they desired. Benjamin Fuller bought it at the auction and proposed to move it away, but Mrs. Cowdin, the widow of Thomas Cowdin, to whom the land, on which the house was, belonged, threatened to proceed against him if he did so. September 17, 1798, the matter was brought before the town, and it was voted "to give up Mr. Fuller's obligation for the old meeting-house and give him three dollars for his trouble." The matter was finally settled by giving the underpinning to Mrs. Cowdin and selling the house; and in May, 1799, the proceeds of the sale were equally divided between the town, the pew-holders and Mrs. Cowdin.

At this time considerable attention was paid in town-meeting to the request of the Methodists and Baptists in town to have their "minister tax" abated; and a little later the town actively opposed a petition to the General Court made by the people in the northwest part of Fitchburg and in adjoining parts of Ashby, Ashburnham and Westminster, to form a "pool parish" among themselves. The "Fitchburg Universal Christian Society" had been formed and rapidly gained power in town affairs. The result of all this dissension was that in 1801 the majority of the people became dissatisfied with Mr. Worcester

and the town was divided into three societies. March 2, 1801, the town chose a committee consisting of the assessors to proportion the number of Sundays each society should use the meeting-house, according to the amount of taxes paid by the members of each. On the 13th of April following, the report of this committee was accepted, giving the use of the house as follows: Society in the east part of the town (Universal Christian Society), twenty-four Sundays; Rev. Mr. Worcester's society, seventeen Sundays; the society in the west, eight Sundays; and the remaining three Sundays in the year were apportioned to the Baptists and Methodists.

One week previous to this, April 6, 1801, the town had voted that it would be "for their peace and happiness to dissolve the contract with the Rev. Samuel Worcester as their minister, agreeable to the contract made with him at the time of his settlement." A committee was appointed to wait on Mr. Worcester and inform him of this vote and get his answer in regard to dissolving the contract. Mr. Worcester, after conferring with the church, returned an answer to the effect that he desired to dissolve the contract, but claiming the right, solely for his church and himself, of appointing a council of five churches to dismiss him in regular ecclesiastical form, the town to defray the expenses of such a council. The town accepted this proposal. The council, composed of Rev. Messrs. Cushing, of Ashburnham, Lee, of Royalston, Payson, of Rindge, N. H., Austin, of Worcester, and Hill, of Mason, N. H., and eight delegates from their churches, convened June 22, 1801, and decided that it would be best for Mr. Worcester to continue in his pastorate. This decision was formally accepted by both the church and the town. This truce, however, did not last long. Committees of conference were appointed, *ex parte* councils held, etc., and the upshot of the matter was that on December 7, 1801, the town declared the contract with Mr. Worcester null and void, raised one hundred and thirty dollars and appointed a committee to hire preaching, and voted "that the sexton be directed not to open the meeting-house doors upon any occasion unless by direction of the Selectmen or the committee to hire preaching."

During the following six months numerous councils were convened, and on one occasion there were two councils in session here at the same time. Finally, a mutual council was agreed to, and the pastor was regularly dismissed, September 8th.

Thus, notwithstanding the votes of the town, dividing the house of worship between different societies, with the reiterated threats of the "Universal Christian Society" to take possession of his pulpit for the number of Sabbaths allowed them; and notwithstanding the vote explicitly declaring "the contract for his support dissolved," with other measures of a corresponding character, he *retained his pulpit to the last*, and received his salary, according to the terms of his settlement, until, in due order and form, and agreeably to his own wishes, he ceased to be the pastor of the church and the minister of the town of Fitchburg![1]

[1] "The Life and Labors of Rev. Samuel Worcester, D.D.," by S. M. Worcester, D.D.: Boston, 1852.

Rev. Mr. Worcester preached his "Farewell Sermon" on August 29, 1802, on which occasion a very large congregation gathered to hear him.

The most important result of this protracted controversy was the dissolution, soon after Mr. Worcester's dismissal, of the parochial powers of the town. Two societies were formed. The First Parish held the church property, and in 1804 Rev. William Bascom became its pastor. In the same year the other society settled Rev. Titus T. Barton, and in 1805 built a small house of worship on the corner of what are now known as Main and Rollstone Streets. Mr. Barton was dismissed in February, 1813, whereupon the First Parish made overtures for a re-union of the two societies which were accepted the latter part of that year. About that time Mr. Bascom requested to be dismissed, which request was granted.

For over a year the church had no settled pastor, but in August, 1815, Rev. William Eaton accepted a call, and preached until June 30, 1823, when he was dismissed at his own request. A considerable minority did not agree with him in religious opinions, and October 31, 1823, a final separation of the two societies occurred. The majority retained the church property, and its organization has since been known as

THE FIRST PARISH (Unitarian).—Rev. Calvin Lincoln, Jr., the first Unitarian pastor in Fitchburg, was ordained June 30, 1824, and continued as pastor until 1855, a period of thirty-one years. From 1851 to 1854 he had as his colleague Rev. Horatio Stebbins. Rev. William P. Tilden was pastor from 1855 to 1862; and since then the church has had five ministers, the last and present pastor being Rev. William H. Pierson, who was installed in 1881.

This society used the house dedicated in 1797 as their place of worship for about forty years. In the autumn of 1836 this house was removed, and the present brick church, completed in 1837, was erected on nearly the same site. It stands in a very picturesque situation at the head of the Upper Common. Its interior has been materially changed several times since the church was built. About 1871 an addition was built in the rear, and a very large and fine organ put in; and ten years later new pews were put in, the side galleries taken away, stained-glass windows substituted for the old-fashioned kind, and the whole interior generally renewed at a cost of several thousand dollars. The auditorium is now one of the brightest and finest in the city. During the summer of 1888 a brick chapel, named Phillips Chapel and costing some twelve thousand dollars, was erected in the rear of the church.

THE CALVINISTIC CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY.—The early history of this society is, of course, identical with that of the First Parish, with the exception of the few years of separation prior to the latter part of 1813. In October, 1823, those individuals who could not sympathize with the religious opinions of the First Parish formed a new society, and

on the 31st of that month it was voted by them "that this church remove its connection from the First Parish and unite with the Calvinistic Congregational Society, formed this day in the town of Fitchburg." The church, numbering one hundred and two persons, immediately removed to the house built in 1805. In 1828 the building was enlarged. In 1848 the present brick church was built, and some twenty years later the high flight of stone steps on Rollstone Street was removed, the entrance and vestibule of the church materially changed and improved, and a commodious and handsome brick chapel built on Rollstone Street, next to, and connected with, the church.

Rev. Rufus A. Putnam was the first pastor of this society. He was ordained in February, 1824, and dismissed, at his own request, in March, 1831. Since then the society has had nine ministers, the longest and most important pastorates being those of Rev. Ebenezer W. Bullard, 1838 to 1852; Rev. Alfred Emerson, 1858 to 1870; Rev. Henry M. Tyler, 1872 to 1876; and Rev. Dr. S. Leroy Blake, 1880 to 1887.

The present pastor is Rev. Clarence R. Gale, who began his ministry over this society January 1, 1888.

As time went on the building occupied by this society became inadequate to accommodate the increased congregation, and the need of another society, in the easterly part of the town, became very evident; and in 1868 a portion of its members organized

THE ROLLSTONE CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY.—The first public services of this new society were held in the hall of the American House, beginning March 8, 1868. The church was organized on April 16th following, and Rev. Leverett W. Spring was engaged as pastor for one year. A site for a new church was soon purchased, at the corner of Main and Snow Streets, and the corner-stone of the edifice was laid October 5, 1868. The church, which is a large and handsome brick structure, was dedicated February 24, 1870. In connection with it is a fine chapel, also built of brick, and named in honor of the donor, Dea. David Boutelle, Boutelle Chapel. Dea. Boutelle contributed liberally to the needs of this society, his gifts towards the building fund aggregating upwards of twenty-eight thousand dollars.

The pastors of the Rollstone Church have been Rev. L. W. Spring, 1868 to 1875, and Rev. George R. W. Scott, D.D. Dr. Scott began his ministry here in the autumn of 1875, and remained in active service till December, 1885, when he was obliged to give up work and seek needed rest. He immediately went to Europe, and Rev. Dr. W. S. Alexander was engaged to supply his pulpit during his absence. Dr. Scott, finding that continued poor health forbade his return to the charge, sent in his resignation, which his people very reluctantly accepted. The present pastor, Rev. Charles S. Brooks, was installed on May 11, 1887.

Some twenty-five years before the Rollstone Church separated from the parent stem, there was a division of the Calvinistic Congregational Society of a far different character. In 1843 the intense feeling on the slavery question gave rise to this division and resulted in the formation and organization of

THE TRINITARIAN CONGREGATIONAL SOCIETY.—This society erected a church building at the corner of what are now known as Main and Church Streets, soon after the secession of its members. Rev. George Clark was the first pastor, and the succeeding pastors were: Revs. Foster Pettibone, Charles Bristol, George Trask and Elnathan Davis.

The members of this church performed active and earnest work in the interests of the slaves, and through their efforts Fitchburg became known as one of the stations on the "Underground Railroad to Canada," in the flight of the slave to freedom. The slavery question was the only strong bond of union among these people, and when the slaves were emancipated, the object of its organization was gone. Its last sermon was preached on the day when the equality of the negro, before the law, was guaranteed. November 15, 1871, the church building was sold to Mr. John M. Carpenter for fourteen thousand three hundred dollars. Chiefly through the efforts of Rev. George Trask, the proceeds of the sale were given to the Freedmen's Aid Society, with the exception of the sum of two thousand dollars, which was presented to Rev. Elnathan Davis, a former pastor, as a token of appreciation. Since November 18, 1872, the building has been occupied, in part, by the Fitchburg post-office.

THE FIRST BAPTIST SOCIETY.—Undoubtedly there have been Baptists in Fitchburg ever since the incorporation of the town, but no mention is made of the denomination until 1783. In December of that year, "thirteen profest Baptists" sent in a petition to the town, asking that their "minister tax" be abated. The names of the petitioners were Charles Willard, David McIntire, Samuel Gibson, David Whittemore, Ephraim Nile, Ephriam Howard, Elijah Willard, Elijah McIntire, Solomon Gibson, William Haskell, Daniel Willard, Abraham Willard, Lemuel Haskell, Thomas Gibson, Joseph Polley, Jonathan Page and Simeon Shattuck.

No special attention seems to have been paid to this petition until May 16, 1787, when there was an article in the town warrant, "To see if the town will abate any of the profest Baptist Minister Rate." Deacon Kendall Boutelle, Daniel Farwell and William Brown were chosen to investigate the matter, and reported to the town two days later, when, "after some deliberation on s^{d} matter," the town voted "that the people in s^{d} town that are profest Baptists, that petitioned to the town in the year 1784, be discharged from paying the Minister Rate after s^{d} year."

In the northerly part of the town were other Baptists, but they were of the "Free-Will" order, and

had no connection with the beginnings of the present Baptist Church in Fitchburg. These people built a shabby, barn-like meeting-house near the Ashby line, and in June, 1810, "The First Baptist Society of Fitchburg and Ashby" was incorporated, and continued in existence for some years.

Let us now return to our "seventeen profest Baptists" who were exempted from paying a minister-tax. They dwelt in the westerly part of the town, in the vicinity of Dean Hill, and, in conjunction with the Methodists in that locality, utilized the building heretofore spoken of as "The Lord's Barn" as a place of worship. But this society in the west gradually dwindled away and became merged in the other societies in town.

In 1801, as we have seen, there were, however, a sufficient number of Baptists and Methodists in the town to entitle them to the use of the meeting-house for three Sundays in the year.

The beginnings of the Baptist Church and Society in Fitchburg were identified with two residents of Leominster,—Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Crocker,—who, about 1828, removed to Fitchburg. March 2, 1831, Mr. Crocker and nine other gentlemen formed the "Fitchburg Village Baptist Society." The *society* thus antedated the *church*, which was organized as a branch of the Princeton Church June 8, 1831, on petition of Mr. and Mrs. Crocker, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Bemis and Mr. Augustus H. Searle.

For over two years services were held in the old (then new) Academy building hall. New members were rapidly added. The place of baptism, in those early days, was the pond on Punch Brook, just north of Academy Street. For some years this pond has not been in existence.

In 1833 the society bought a lot and erected a new and commodious church on what is now Main Street, a little west of the Common. The building, now used as a carriage repository, still stands in the same location. November 14, 1833, the building was dedicated and the branch church was, on the same date, severed from the parent stock. The independent church then had sixty-two members.

The rapid growth of the society during the next twenty years made it necessary to either enlarge the old church or build a new one. The latter course was wisely decided upon, and March 1, 1854, the present handsome edifice, costing twenty-five thousand dollars, was dedicated.

June 8, 1881, this church observed its semi-centennial anniversary, which was largely attended, and proved to be an occasion of great rejoicing. An important feature of this celebration was the reading by the pastor, Rev. I. R. Wheelock, of a valuable historical address, to which the writer of this present history is indebted for much of the foregoing.

In 1887 the interior of the church was thoroughly renewed, a fine organ put in and a handsome brick chapel erected, largely through the munificence of Samuel E. Crocker, Esq., for whom the chapel has been appropriately named. It was dedicated February 14, 1888. The total cost of the chapel and improvements was twenty thousand dollars.

The First Baptist Society has had fourteen different pastors settled over it since its organization, the longest pastorates being those of Rev. Kendall Brooks, 1855 to 1865; Rev. Stillman B. Grant, 1867 to 1874; and Rev. Isaac R. Wheelock, 1875 to 1885. The present pastor is Rev. Frank Rector, who was installed over this church in November, 1886.

The First Methodist Episcopal Society.—Fitchburg seems to have been first visited by a Methodist preacher about 1794, when Rev. John Hill, of the Needham Circuit, came here for a brief season. A small Methodist society was then organized and meetings were held from time to time for a few years in the "Lord's Barn," built by Jacob Upton and others in 1786.

About 1803 several Methodists moved into town, among them Mr. and Mrs. William Walton, who, during their stay of seven or eight years in town, did good work in sowing the seed of Methodism. Services were held from time to time by itinerant preachers.

No Class was organized in town until March, 1831, at which time Rev. Warren Emerson organized a Class of only three members. It was formed at the house of Mrs. Jane Mack, widow of Thomas Mack, who came to Fitchburg from Ireland in 1824. The leader of this Class was Mr. Samuel Marsh, of Lunenburg, and the two other members of it were Mrs. Jane Mack and Mrs. Jane McCormick.

In April, 1831, Mr. Elijah Brigham moved into town from Worcester and was immediately appointed leader of the Class.

In 1834 Rev. Joel Knight began to labor in Fitchburg, and in March of that year the Methodist society was organized. Twenty-two members were added during Mr. Knight's first year here. He remained another year, during the course of which Mr. Elijah Brigham was licensed as a local preacher.

In 1836 Fitchburg became a Methodist Station, and Rev. Joseph S. Ellis was appointed pastor of the society during that year; but the people were not able to support a minister, and no one was appointed to preach in Fitchburg during 1837–8–9.

In the spring of 1840 the Class was revived, two hundred dollars appropriated by the district, and in the following July Rev. John Tate was appointed to preach here. The hall in the Academy building, where meetings had previously been held during Mr. Knight's ministry, was again hired, and before long was found insufficient to accommodate the rapidly increasing attendance. The need of a church edifice was evident, but the people did not feel able to incur the necessary expense. Accordingly, on February 15, 1841, the people here had a conference with brethren in Ashburnham and Lunenburg. The result of their deliberation was a resolve "to build a

meeting house, 60 feet by 42 feet, provided that fifteen persons could be found to be responsible for building and paying for the house."

The names of the fifteen persons who became thus responsible are: Major Ephraim Jones, William S. Jones, James Gilchrist and Samuel Marsh, of Lunenburg; Eben Frost and Walter Russell, of Ashburnham; James Puffer, of Westminster; and Elijah Brigham, Daniel Emory, Nahum Wetherby, Nathan Caswell, Roswell Graham, Ebenezer C. Hayden, Edward Aldrich and James Hartwell, of Fitchburg.

March 1, 1841, Major Jones and Messrs. Puffer, Brigham, Emory and Graham were appointed a building committee. A site was purchased near the foot of the present Upper Common, and the building erected during the following summer. It was dedicated September 14, 1841, Rev. Miner Raymond preaching the sermon. On the next day the first board of trustees was elected, consisting of the following: Roswell Graham, William Wilder, Elijah Brigham, Samuel D. Phelps and Daniel Emory.

Since 1841 this society has prospered, and the original church edifice, which still stands in its old location on Main Street, was twice enlarged—once during the pastorate of Rev. Samuel Tupper, in 1853–54, when an addition of fifteen feet was made to its length, and a second time in 1868, when upwards of four thousand dollars were spent in repairs and enlargement.

In October, 1885, this society purchased of Dr. Thomas S. Blood a lot on the corner of Fox and Elm Streets, and in the course of the next three years erected a large and handsome brick structure on this land. The cost of the edifice was thirty thousand five hundred and eighty dollars, of which amount twenty-five thousand two hundred dollars had been pledged previous to the dedication of the church, which occurred February 29, 1888. The exercises were held on the afternoon and evening of that day, and there was a large and notable gathering each time. Bishop Andrews, of Washington, D. C., preached the sermon, and it is worthy of record that before 10 P.M. that day the entire deficit of five thousand three hundred and eighty dollars was pledged. After the money had been all pledged, the trustees formally surrendered the church into the hands of Bishop Andrews, who then dedicated it, according to the Methodist Episcopal Church ritual, to the worship of Almighty God.

The first pastor of this church was Rev. Joel Knight, and since then it has had twenty-seven different pastors settled over it. The present pastor is Rev. Jesse Wagner, who began his work here in April, 1888.

West Fitchburg Methodist Episcopal Society.—In November, 1874, a Methodist Sunday-school was organized in West Fitchburg, and a chapel was soon after built. November 17, 1881, the West Fitchburg Methodist Episcopal Society was organized. The chapel being found too small, their present church was built in 1882, and dedicated May 11, 1883. Rev. F. T. Pomeroy was pastor the year preceding the organization, and remained, at the earnest request of the people, till April, 1884. Since then there have been three pastors, the present pastor being Rev. W. W. Baldwin, who began his work here in April, 1887.

The First Universalist Society.—One of the chief difficulties with which the Rev. Dr. Worcester had to contend during his pastorate here was a religious sentiment within his flock, denominated "Universalism;" and it is recorded that the Rev. John Payson, Fitchburg's first pastor, was also troubled in spirit from this same cause. All this goes to show that the principles of the Universalist faith were early developed in this town.

These sentiments gradually gained adherents, and Universalist meetings were occasionally held. Soon after the old meeting-house was fitted up for a town-house, in 1837, the Universalists began to have meetings in it occasionally, with preaching by ministers of their faith in neighboring towns; and as a result, the First Universalist Society of Fitchburg was organized October 9, 1844, after which date services were regularly held in the town-hall each Sunday.

August 4, 1846, the society appointed a committee to see about building a church edifice, and on February 11, 1847, it was voted "that there is a sufficient amount of funds raised on the subscription paper to take measures to commence building a meeting-house." At the same time Hiram Davis, Everett Sprague, Charles Upton, Albert C. Upton, Abel Derby, Harrington Sibley and E. S. Bowditch were chosen a building committee, with full authority to purchase land and build a church.

This committee purchased a site at the corner of Main and Rollstone Streets, prepared plans and reported their doings to the society a week later. The report was accepted, and work begun at once. The church was of brick and stone, and was completed during 1847, and was at that time considered one of the finest buildings in town.

For nearly forty years the society continued to occupy this church, but in the summer of 1884 a lot was purchased on the corner of Day and Union Streets, at a cost of three thousand eight hundred dollars; and March 30, 1885, it was unanimously voted to proceed at once to erect on this site a church edifice in accordance with plans previously prepared by a committee chosen for the purpose. Rev. F. O. Hall and Messrs. J. S. Wilson, H. L. Rice, F. S. Lovell and J. D. Littlehale were chosen as a building committee. The corner-stone was laid June 18, 1885, and during the succeeding eight months their present fine and attractive house of worship was erected at a cost of thirty thousand six hundred and twelve dollars. Its doors were first opened to the public on the evening of February 23, 1886.

Rev. Mather E. Hawes was the first pastor of this society, and continued his ministry until the spring of 1849. Since then the society has had ten pastors, the longest pastorate being that of Rev. Frank Maguire,—1870–79.

The present pastor, Rev. Frank O. Hall, is a graduate of Tufts College Divinity School, and began his ministry here on June 1, 1884.

THE FIRST EPISCOPAL SOCIETY (*Christ Church*).—Episcopal services appear to have been first held in Fitchburg during the latter part of 1862, in the lower town-hall, and were conducted by Rev. W. G. Hawkins.

October 7, 1863, the Episcopal Society was organized here, and one week later the church was duly organized under the statutes of the Commonwealth by the name of Christ Church.

Rev. Mr. Hawkins preached until April, 1863, when he was succeeded by Rev. Henry L. Jones, of New York City, and on October 14, 1863, Mr. Jones was unanimously chosen the first rector of Christ Church. At the same time the following officers were chosen: Wardens, Alvah Crocker and Augustus Whitman; Vestrymen, C. H. B. Snow, G. F. Fay, L. B. Jaquith, C. L. S. Hammond and Thomas Trees.

For about five years after Mr. Jones first came to Fitchburg, the society held services regularly in the lower town-hall, but the need of a church home soon became very evident, and about 1866 the society purchased of Dr. George D. Colony his estate, situated on Main Street, between Hartwell and Fox Streets, for eight thousand dollars. During 1867 their present fine, stone church edifice was built at an expense of over fifty-three thousand dollars. The corner-stone was laid April 22, 1867, and just one year later, April 22, 1868, the handsome and attractive church was consecrated by the Rev. Manton Eastburn, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts.

Rev. Mr. Jones continued as rector until February, 1875. Since then there have been three settled rectors.

Rev. Charles Morris Addison, the present rector, is a graduate of the Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge, and assumed the charge of Christ Church parish on June 1, 1885.

SAINT BERNARD'S PARISH (Roman Catholic).—Catholic services seem to have been held in Fitchburg as far back as 1842, but no society was organized until 1847. In 1848, under the pastorate of Rev. M. F. Gibson, a church was built on Water Street. There were then about eight hundred in the whole parish.

Rev. Edward Turpin became pastor in 1856, and remained ten years. He was succeeded, in 1866, by Rev. C. M. Foley, who, in 1869, built the present brick church edifice, which is one of the finest in town. Rev. P. J. Garrigan took charge of the parish in 1875. He greatly embellished the interior of the church, and dedicated it with imposing ceremonies in 1879. Father Garrigan also built the parish house on Water Street, next to the church, and the parochial school and convent on First Street. He also purchased land and built the Catholic Church in West Fitchburg.

In the summer of 1888 Father Garrigan was asked to accept the position of vice-rector of the Catholic University recently established in Washington, D. C., and after much deliberation concluded to accept the position. He left Fitchburg early in November, 1888, closing a long and valuable pastorate, and will be greatly missed by his parishioners, now numbering over four thousand.

Since he came to Fitchburg, Father Garrigan has been a prominent citizen. He has been a member of the School Committee, but is chiefly noted, as a public man, for the noble and effective work he has accomplished here in the cause of temperance.

WEST FITCHBURG ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH—*Church of the Sacred Heart.*—This parish was organized in 1878 in West Fitchburg, and Father Garrigan, as before stated, purchased a lot and built thereon the present neat church edifice. For a time it was sustained as a branch of Saint Bernard's Parish, but it is now self-supporting.

Its first pastor was Rev. James Canavan. He was followed by Rev. James Donahoe. The present pastor, Rev. J. L. Tarpey, began his work here in June, 1886.

Connected with these two Catholic Churches are twelve different societies, organized in the interests of temperance, doctrinal instruction and charity.

The French Catholic Society.—This society was organized in 1886. Rev. C. Beaudoin has been its pastor since organization.

In December, 1886, the society purchased fifty-two thousand feet of land on Walnut Street, and a dwelling-house thereon was converted into a parsonage and school. A small chapel was erected, and it is the intention of the society to build a church on this land in the near future.

CHAPTER XLII.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY.

THE educational history of Fitchburg will, for the sake of convenience, be considered under two heads, viz.: Public Schools and Libraries. Neither of these all-important departments of our history has, as far as the writer is aware, ever been written upon in a way by any means complete. It is therefore proposed, in this history, to give special prominence to the subject of education, and to place before the reader a large number of facts relating to the history of the beginnings and progress of education in Fitchburg.

The writer is fortunate in having access to a very large number of reports and original documents and

papers relating to this subject, collected and preserved by his father, Charles Mason, Esq., who has always been deeply interested in the education of youth, and was, for some years, prominent and active in the school and educational affairs of the town of Fitchburg.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—The early settlers of this town do not seem to have paid much attention, or devoted much money to the fostering of public education. The earliest mention in the town records of any public action respecting the establishment of schools in town occurs in the report of a town-meeting held September 12, 1764, and is as follows:

Voted, that there be two scools in s^{d} town and that mr. John fitch and Kindal Boutwell and their neighbors shall have the benifitt of their scoole money in order to provide scooling among themselves.

Voted, that eight pounds be raised in order to provide a scoolemaster in s^{d} town.

Voted, Amos Kimball Eph^{m} Whitney and Thos. Dutton be a scoole comite.

The amount of money appropriated was very small, being equivalent to only a trifle over twenty-six dollars.

The "two scools" appear to have been kept, however, during the winter of 1764–65,—one in William Chadwick's corn-barn, near the present Pearl Hill School-house, and the other in Samuel Hunt's tavern, —but who the "scoolemaster" was is not stated.

November 21, 1765, it was voted in town-meeting "to have 2 scools in s'd town and Mr. Poole and Mr. John fitch with their neighbors have the benefit of their scoole money in order to provide among themselves."

"*Voted*, that £3 be raised for scooling. Thomas Cowdin, Kindal Boutell and Jon^{a} Wood Com."

So the town had only about ten dollars to expend for education in the winter of 1765–66.

The next fall, however, the people returned to their first appropriation of £8, and voted "that two-thirds be laid out in the middle of the town, and the rest by the Com. as they shall think proper on the outsides of the town."

During the following three years a like sum was annually appropriated, and equitably distributed.

January 11, 1770, the town, for some reason unknown, voted "not to have any scoole this winter, but reserve their money till next fall."

Oct. 1, 1770, the town raised £5 13*s.* 4*d.* for schools, and the next fall £9 3*s.* 4*d.*; and October 19, 1772, £20 were raised; and it was also voted to build four school-houses in the town, "each quarter of the town to build their own school-house at their own expense, free from any town tax, only that each quarter have their proportion of the Town's Boards and Nails left after finishing the Meeting-house." A committee of five was chosen to fix the location of the school-houses.

During the next four years the annual appropriation was £20.

October 4, 1774, the following votes are recorded, showing that a sharp lookout was maintained with regard to the expenditure of the school money:

Voted, that all the quarters of the town that don't see that their part of the scool money that is not scooled out within the year be returned into the Town Stoke. (This vote is rather blindly recorded, but one can catch the idea.)

Voted, to add what scool money remains not yet laid out that was raised the last year to the £20 now raised to be laid out in providing a scool or scools.

In 1777 the appropriation was raised to £30.

The effect of the depreciation in the currency is seen in the amounts raised for school purposes during the next three years, which were £200 in 1778, £500 in 1779 and £2000 in 1780. In the last-named year Thomas Cowdin generously added £500, "to be scooled out in the scool-house sot on said Cowdin's land."

In 1781 the town raised "£60, hard money, to hire school Master, Masters or Mistresses." The same sum was raised in 1782, but the appropriation for each of the two following years was reduced to £40.

In 1785 it was voted "to hire a Grammar School Master for the town; the said Grammar School to be kept four months, and each quarter to have their month, the said Grammar School to begin in town before December next." The appropriation this year was £45, and remained at that figure until 1789, when it was increased to £50.

April 5, 1790, it was voted "to new district the town," and a committee of seven was appointed for this purpose. September 9, 1790, raised £50, and voted "that the several schools in town be free schools for the use of the town."

At a later meeting the report of the committee to redistrict the town was rejected, and it was not till 1798 that a report on this matter was accepted. The town was then divided into eleven districts.

In March, 1798, £100 were raised for schools. This was the first year that the annual appropriation was voted at the March meeting.

It was necessary to build school-houses for the new districts, and at a town-meeting, June 21, 1798, a committee was appointed "to estimate the bigness of the school-houses." The committee reported at the same meeting, and their report was accepted,—"that the houses be twenty-four feet by twenty feet, and finished with Gallery seats; lathed and plastered overhead, to be glassed with six windows, 12 squares of 7 by 9 glass in each, and to be finished outside and in, all except clap-boarding." The report further provided that the old school-houses be appraised, and their value refunded to the proprietors, and that the building of the new houses be let out to the lowest bidder. A committee of three was chosen to let out and inspect the building of the new school-houses.

September 17, 1798, the selectmen were appointed a committee to appraise the old houses, and, at an adjourned meeting, October 8th, reported their valuation as follows:

The School house nigh Mr. Daniel Wetherbee's	$92 00
The School house nigh Mr. Simeon Farwell's	93 00
The School house nigh Mr. Amos Lawrence's	90 00
The School house nigh Mr. Abraham Farwell's	80 00

The School house nigh Mr. Elijah Carter's..... 80 00
The School house (frame) nigh Mr. Daniel Harris'..... 6 00

At the same meeting it was voted to raise ten hundred and eighty dollars to expend in building and furnishing the school-houses.

In 1799 one hundred and fifty pounds were raised for schools, and the committeemen were directed "to agree with the teachers that they are not to be allowed anything for keeping schools Saturdays in the afternoon." The selectmen were authorized to provide locks and keys and window-shutters for the several school-houses.

In 1800 one hundred and fifty pounds were raised, and in each of the three following years, five hundred dollars. From 1804 to 1808, six hundred dollars was the sum appropriated; and in the latter year forty dollars were added "to be distributed among those school districts the selectmen shall think most need it." A committee of eleven was also chosen in 1808 to examine schools, and it was voted "that the committee be requested to attend the schools at their commencement and close, and it be the duty of the school committeemen to inform the examiners when the school begins." It was also voted that the School Committee furnish the selectmen, during the last week in August, an exact return of the number of scholars in their respective districts, so that the school money could be equitably divided.

In 1809 raised six hundred and forty dollars "to be laid out as last year," and chose a committee consisting of Rev. Mr. Barton, Rev. Mr. Bascom, Dr. Peter Snow, Leonard Burbank and Joseph Simonds, to inspect the schools.

In 1810 seven hundred dollars were appropriated for schools, and in 1811 six hundred and forty dollars; and in the latter year, a committee of seven was chosen, "to consider the expediency of any alteration in the Middle School District" (District No. 1). At an adjourned meeting April 1, 1811, this committee reported "that the district should be divided and a new district formed." This new district, as outlined by the committee, corresponded to that portion afterwards called the "Old City."

The report was accepted, and in the following July it was voted to divide District No. 1, in accordance with the report of the committee, and call the new district No. 12. Also voted to give the new district ninety dollars toward building a school-house. This vote was reconsidered, and it was then voted to pay the sum of ninety dollars for this purpose in March, 1815.

In 1812 the school district boundaries were more accurately defined by a committee chosen for that purpose. The school appropriation that year was seven hundred dollars, and the next year eight hundred dollars.

The foregoing is an abstract of the more important actions of the town in regard to public instruction during its first half-century of existence. During the early years of this period the town furnished very meagre facilities for the education of the children; and, as a matter of fact, the larger part of the instruction given in those days was furnished by private teachers.

For the first few years there were no school-houses even, the schools being kept in vacant rooms of private houses, or taverns. Fuel was gratuitously supplied by the neighborhood, and the teachers "boarded round." The first school-houses were probably built in 1773,—one in the middle of the town and the other three in the west, north and south parts of the township respectively.

In 1798 there appear to have been five school-houses in town, according to the appraisal report previously cited, and the frame of a sixth in process of erection.

In 1800 the school-house in the "Center District," or No. 1, stood on what is now Main Street, a few rods west of the present junction of Circle and Main Streets. It was a low, unpainted wooden building, standing with its end to the road. The other ten were in locations probably closely corresponding to those now occupied by our present long-established suburban school-houses.

In 1812, the year after District No. 1 was divided, a brick school-house was built in the new district, No. 12, and still remains there, forming a portion of a dwelling-house at the upper corner of Crescent and Blossom Streets.

In 1815, by vote of the town, a new school-house was built in District No. 1. It was a wooden building, painted yellow, and containing two rooms. It stood at the present junction of Main and Mechanic Streets, on the site now occupied by D. H. Merriam's house.

The early School Committees seem to have been chosen for prudential purposes only, until 1808, when an additional committee of eleven (reduced to five the next year) was appointed to examine and inspect the schools. After 1826, in accordance with legislative enactment, School Committees were chosen to exercise substantially the same powers and functions as at present.

This law was passed in 1826, and at an adjourned town-meeting in that year it was voted "that the Selectmen be a committee for the superintendence and regulation of schools agreeably to an act of the General Court passed 1826." Later at the same meeting it was voted to add the clergymen of the town to the committee. The first School Committee actually chosen by the town under this law was in 1827, and consisted of Rev. Calvin Lincoln, Rev. Rufus A. Putnam, Dr. Jonas A. Marshall and Messrs. Ebenezer Torrey, David Brigham, Ivers Jewett and Abel Fox.

During the second half-century of the town's existence considerable progress was made in educational matters. Fitchburg grew rapidly, and increased accommodations and more teachers were necessary, and

the people seem to have been willing to appropriate money to meet the increasing needs.

In 1830 the appropriation was eleven hundred dollars, and in 1840 had risen to fifteen hundred dollars.

In 1819 the custom of enumerating the school-children in town May 1st was adopted.

About 1830 the High School Association, of Fitchburg, was formed by a number of prominent citizens who were interested in education. The directors of the Association were Benjamin Snow, Francis Perkins and Dr. Charles W. Wilder, and its secretary and treasurer was Dr. Jonas A. Marshall. This Association proved to be of very material assistance in promoting the cause of education here, and many of our older citizens owe their knowledge of the higher branches of learning to the instruction rendered available by it.

A building called the Academy was erected in 1830 by the Association at a cost of twelve hundred dollars. It stood just in front of the location of the present High School building, on land given for the purpose by Capt. Zachariah Sheldon. The Academy was let to private persons, who taught therein almost all the higher branches. At one time Hebrew was included in the list of studies. Benaiah Cook, A.B., with Mr. Ezra Reed as his assistant, kept the first school in the Academy, and the building was used for private instruction until 1849, when the town purchased it of the Association and established a high school in it.

In April, 1831, a committee of one from each school district was chosen "to examine into the evils of our schools and point out remedies." The report of this committee was read June 11, 1831, and "accepted very unanimously," and it was voted to print and distribute four hundred and fifty copies of it.

In 1835 the number of children attending the district schools in Fitchburg was 560—289 girls and 271 boys—and the teachers employed numbered 25, of whom 14 were ladies. The average wages per month were, in winter, $16.67; in summer, $4.30.

Of the Academy, which was intended only for young persons who had already acquired a common-school education, Mr. Torrey, writing in 1836, says in his "History of Fitchburg": "It is a commodious, two-story building, situated a few rods easterly of the common. It is furnished with two school-rooms on the lower floor, the former of which will accommodate 65 scholars, and the latter 30. The average number attending for several years past has been about 30."

In 1835 an attempt was made to have the higher branches of learning taught in the district schools, but the town refused to sanction any such proceeding.

In 1840 the need of a new school-house in District No. 1 became very evident. The "yellow school-house," built in 1815, was filled to overflowing, and the pupils were soon all transferred to a new brick school-house—the pride of the town—erected on what is now School Street, near Main Street. This house is still standing, and is occupied by schools of the primary grade. During the summer of 1888 an extensive addition was built, reaching nearly to Main Street.

In 1846 the brick house in District No. 12 was abandoned and the pupils transferred to a new and commodious brick school-house on Day Street.

The first printed school report of the town of Fitchburg was for the year ending April 3, 1843. It was not printed by vote of the town, but by the subscriptions of public-spirited citizens, and is an eight-page pamphlet in large type, bearing the imprint of "W. J. Merriam, Printer, Fitchburg, Mass."

It contains no tabulated statistics, but deals chiefly with the defects in the school system of that day. Some of the "causes unfavorable and, in some cases, almost ruinous to our schools, which neither good teachers nor faithful committees can obviate" are enumerated as follows:

First. *Bad School Houses.*—Under this head it is stated that a few of the school-houses in town are good ones, pleasantly located, in good repair and provided with suitable grounds, etc., while the rest are very bad in all these respects.

Second. Many of our schools suffer from inadequate tuition.

The committee recommended as remedies for this evil larger appropriations and a reduction in the number of school districts.

The irregular attendance of pupils is spoken of as a third serious drawback to the prosperity of the schools, and also the non-attendance of "young people between the ages of sixteen and twenty-one," of whom there were said to be over two hundred in town, "only eighty of whom attend our public schools at all." The report closes with an earnest exhortation that parents and guardians exert their utmost influence to have the young persons under their care attend school.

No school report was printed the following year, but since then annual reports have been printed, and the writer is fortunate enough to possess a complete set of them, including the report for 1842–43.

The report for the year ending March, 1845, was printed by vote of the town. It is a pamphlet of twenty-eight pages, closely printed and containing in addition six tables of attendance, &c. It was prepared by Charles Mason, Esq., chairman of the School Committee, and is an exhaustive document containing much valuable information regarding the conduct and condition of the schools and useful suggestions in the way of their improvement.

The year 1845 was a lively one in the school affairs of Fitchburg. At the annual town-meeting, March 3, 1845, sundry articles in the warrant relating to the establishment of a town school, new districting, &c., were referred to a committee composed of one chosen from each district, as follows: No. 1, Charles Mason; 2, Robert L. Friar; 3, John Whitcomb; 4, Abram

Osborn; 5, Levi Downe; 6, Ivers Phillips; 8[1], David D. McIntire; 9, Asa Raymond; 10, David Lowe; 11, John Andrews; 12, David Boutelle; 13, Isaac B. Woodward.

This committee met March 18th and thoroughly discussed the subject and adjourned to the morning of April 7th, when a report, prepared by the chairman, Mr. Mason, was read in committee and unanimously agreed to. In the afternoon of the same day this report was presented in town-meeting and the measures therein recommended were adopted. Of these measures the following were a part:

> That the present division of the town into school districts be discontinued, such discontinuance to take effect on the 15th day of May next, from and after which day the existing school districts of the town, including No. 12½, shall be abolished; and that the town purchase of the several districts, at a fair and just appraisal, their respective schoolhouses, and their right and interest in the land on which the same stand, . . . and that henceforth the town provide, at the common expense of the town, school-houses for the several school districts that shall be formed within its limits.

It was the portion of the above relating to school districts that produced contention. No objection was made to the purchase of the school-houses by the town, though it was an unusual proceeding in those days.

At this meeting, April 7th, a committee was chosen to appraise the school-houses and report their value to the assessors, to be by them credited to the taxpayers in the several districts toward payment of their taxes. This was attended to and the transfer duly made to the town.

A committee was also chosen at this meeting to divide the town into suitable school districts. This committee performed their duty and presented a report at a town-meeting held May 5, 1845. The report was accepted and referred, together with the whole subject matter, to a special committee for revision. This committee, which consisted of Nathaniel Wood, Levi Downe, Ivers Phillips, Abel F. Adams and Levi Kendall, was requested to report August 11, 1845. This date found nothing done by the committee and the four first-named gentlemen sent in their resignations. Charles Mason, John Whitcomb, Dr. Thomas R. Boutelle and William Woodbury were chosen in their places respectively, and the members of this new committee were "authorized to have their Report or Reports printed and distributed among the inhabitants of the town for their examination prior to the next March meeting."

There resulted from the labors of this committee two reports,—a majority report, signed by Messrs. Mason and Whitcomb and Dr. Boutelle, recommending the division of the town into eight school districts, to be wholly under the supervision of the School Committee; and a minority report, signed by Messrs. Woodbury and Kendall, recommending the division of the town into ten school districts, each district to have entire control of its own school, and the School Committee to serve only for the purpose of examining teachers and occasionally visiting the schools.

In the majority report was a table of the school districts as then existing, which is, perhaps, worth inserting here:

District.	Name.	Established.	Remarks.
1.....	Centre.....	1798.	
2.....	South Fitchburg	1798.	
3.....	Whitcomb's.....	1798.	
4.....	Turnpike.....	1798.	
5.....	Downe's.....	1798.	
6.....	Baldwinville.....	1798.	
7.....	Williams'	1798.	United with No. 8 in 1844.
8.....	Dean's	1798.	
9.....	Page's.....	1798.	
10.....	Phelps'.....	1798.	
11.....	Pearl Hill.....	1798.	
12.....	Old City.....	1811.	Taken from No. 1.
12½...	Half District.....	1836.	Taken from Nos. 10 and 12.
13.....	Crockerville.....	1838...	Taken from Nos. 6.

These two reports were read in town-meeting, March 2, 1846, and were both accepted and laid on the table. It was then voted "to adopt the territorial limits for school districts as they existed in 1844, except the half-district." A committee, consisting of Levi Downe, Abel Marshall and William Carleton, was chosen "to assign the territory which was formerly the half-district, and fix the limits of the old districts." This committee reported April 6, 1846, and their report was accepted. The town clerk added to the record the following comment: "So ended our great effort to new district the town."

The year 1845 was also noted in the educational annals of the town because of a very large and successful Teachers' Institute held here. The Institute began its sessions October 28th and closed November 7, 1845. The attendance was fifty males and eighty-five females, most of whom were teachers in Fitchburg and neighboring towns.

The following gentlemen contributed their services as lecturers or instructors, or both, during the session: Hon. Horace Mann, Boston; R. B. Hubbard, Esq., Worcester; W. B. Fowle, Esq., Boston; Thomas Sherwin, Esq., Boston; Rev. Barzillai Frost, Concord; N. Tillinghast, Esq., Bridgewater; Amasa Walker, Esq., North Brookfield; George S. Hillard, Esq., Boston; Charles Mason, Esq., Fitchburg; and Asa Fitz, Esq., Boston. Mr. Hillard was unable to be present, and the lecture prepared by him was read by Charles Sumner, Esq., of Boston, at that time just entering upon his glorious public career.

The pecuniary means necessary for holding this Institute, as well as three others held at about the same time in Pittsfield, Bridgewater and Chatham, were furnished by Hon. Edmund Dwight, of Boston, who placed in the hands of Hon. Horace Mann, then Secretary of the State Board of Education, the sum of one thousand dollars for this purpose; and at a special meeting of the Institute, November 7th, a set of resolutions were adopted expressing the obligation

[1] Nos. 7 and 8 were, in 1844, united into one district, called No. 8.

and thanks of the members to Hon. Edmund Dwight for his munificence, to Hon. Horace Mann and Charles Mason, Esq., "for the efficient service they have rendered to the cause of popular education by their labors in the establishment of this Institute," to the lecturers and instructors for their valuable gratuitous services, and to the citizens of Fitchburg for their hospitality.

All the local work was performed and arrangements made by Mr. Mason, and at the close of the sessions, November 7th, the ladies of the institute presented to him a handsome gold pencil in recognition of his efforts to make the Institute a success.

In 1845 the School Committee established a small library for the use of the public school teachers. A subscription paper, now in Mr. Mason's possession, was circulated, and the money thus obtained was used for the purchase of some forty books and pamphlets on educational subjects. These were afterward presented to the Fitchburg Public Library.

The town did not vote to print the school report for the year ending March, 1846, and in April of that year a subscription paper, also now in Mr. Mason's possession, was carried around and $23.16 raised, for which sum the report was printed the following May.

After 1846 the report was annually printed by vote of the town.

On several occasions since 1836 there had been articles in the warrants relating to the establishment of a high school in town, but these had always been "passed over." March 5, 1849, however, the town voted "to establish a High School to be kept throughout the year, with suitable vacations, the school committee to put it in operation as soon as convenient," and eight hundred dollars were appropriated for this purpose.

The town purchased the Academy of the High School Association and enlarged it. Mr. Anson S. Marshall was engaged as the first principal of the Fitchburg High School, and in March, 1850, there were eighty-two pupils in attendance.

The town was now thoroughly awake on the subject of education. During the year ending March 1, 1850, over two thousand dollars were expended for new school-houses in South Fitchburg and Crockerville and the addition to the Academy building, and about eleven hundred dollars for painting and repairing the old houses. The annual appropriation had risen to about four thousand dollars.

During the next ten years much was done towards bringing the schools into good working condition. The High School was well attended, and proved a success from the start. The scholars in the school were divided into two grades called the First and Second Departments. This method was retained until the spring of 1855, when the town voted to abolish the Second Department of the High School and establish in lieu thereof three grammar schools—one on Day Street, one on West Street and the third in West Fitchburg. These schools were put in operation before the end of April, 1855.

In 1856 seven thousand dollars were raised, to be equally divided between the high, grammar and district schools.

It was becoming very evident that increased accommodations would soon be necessary, especially for the High School; but it was not till 1859 that buildings were actually erected, though in 1858 the South Street house was enlarged at an expense of nearly two thousand dollars.

In 1859 the East Street School-house was built, and also a new house in District No. 11, the two costing about five thousand dollars.

In 1860 what is now the High Street Grammar School building was erected at a cost of about twelve thousand dollars. This was a commodious, well-built, brick house, with accommodations for three hundred and sixty scholars; it was heated by furnaces. The High School occupied the upper portion, and several schools of lower grade were kept in the rest of the building.

The West Fitchburg Grammar School building was also erected in 1860, at a cost of about three thousand three hundred dollars, and furnished accommodations for seventy-two scholars. Both these houses reflected great credit on the building committee, consisting of Edwin Upton, William O. Brown and Arnold Wilson.

The appropriation for schools in 1860 was seven thousand four hundred and fifty dollars.

After the removal of the High School to the new building the Academy was used for various purposes. It was here that Mr. E. Butterick began the business of making shirt-patterns. He was successful and later removed to New York City, where he established one of the largest pattern and fashion houses in the world. About 1865 the town sold the Academy building for seven hundred dollars, and a few years later it was moved, and became a portion of the Rollstone House.

In 1867 began another period of school-house building. During that year the Middle Street house was erected at a cost of upwards of thirteen thousand dollars.

In 1868 the town appropriated $16,000 for the support of schools and expended nearly $100,000 for new buildings and alterations and repairs of old houses.

The High School had outgrown its quarters, and in 1868 the erection of a handsome High School building was begun on the old Academy lot. It was completed in 1869, and cost upwards of $50,000. It still serves the purpose for which it was built, and is a well-arranged, commodious school edifice—an ornament and credit to Fitchburg.

In 1868 the Day Street School-house was almost entirely rebuilt and considerably enlarged, at an expense of about $30,000.

Since 1870 much has been done toward improving the facilities for the instruction of the youth of this city.

Early in 1873 Mr. Eli A. Hubbard, who was principal of the High School, 1854–57, was secured to fill the newly-established office of superintendent of schools. He began his duties in April, 1873, and held the position about two years, when he resigned, much to the regret of our citizens. In 1875 Mr. Joseph G. Edgerly was elected his successor, and has held the office to the present time. Mr. Edgerly has attended faithfully to his duties, and his annual reports are documents full of interesting and valuable information regarding the progress and needs of the schools of the city.

The general condition of our public schools since the city form of government was adopted can perhaps best be shown by the following table giving the annual appropriations, number of teachers employed and average daily attendance of pupils from 1873 to 1888 inclusive :

Year.	Appropriation.	No. of Teachers.	Avrg. Daily Attend'ce.
1873	$29,000	55	1686
1874	35,000	56	1728
1875	35,000	54	1750
1876	38,000	57	1783
1877	33,500	56	1868
1878	32,100	55	1917
1879	34,140	54	1834
1880	32,200	55	1771
1881	33,500	57	1865
1882	37,200	59	1977
1883	37,500	59	2094
1884	40,300	65	2233
1885	46,470	63	2305
1886	48,100	67	2306
1887	51,000	68	2204
1888	55,500	68	2185[1]

The appropriations above given do not include the amounts voted for repairs and new school-houses, but simply the appropriations for teachers' salaries, fuel, care of school-houses and rooms, and minor incidental expenses.

The law passed in 1884, requiring cities and towns in this State to furnish school-books to the pupils, caused an average increase of $4500 in the annual school appropriations for the last four years, and this is included in the figures for 1885–88 in the above table.

In 1886 the Catholics established a parochial school here, and converted their old church into a school-house for this purpose. A large proportion of their children attend this school, thus causing a considerable falling off in the attendance of the public schools. A parochial school building is now in process of erection in West Fitchburg.

Our school-houses are kept in good repair, the city making a special appropriation of several thousand dollars annually for this purpose.

In 1874 the High Street Grammar School building was considerably enlarged, at an expense of $10,000, and within a few years the Day Street house has been much enlarged and improved, at considerable expense.

During the past five years a number of new and substantial brick school-houses have been built, the most important of which are the Rollstone Street house, erected in 1883, one on Maverick Street and another on Highland Avenue, built in 1885, and the Clarendon Street house, built in 1887. The aggregate cost of the four structures was about $50,000, nearly one-third of which was expended on the Clarendon Street house, which has several improvements that the older buildings lack. It is said to be the best lighted, best heated and best ventilated building in town.

The city now owns school property valued at about $250,000. There are twenty school buildings, in which are kept forty-nine schools, graded as follows; one High School, four grammar schools, twelve intermediate, twenty-five primary and seven suburban ungraded schools. These are taught by some seventy teachers, most of whom are graduates of our own public schools. Instruction in singing and drawing is also given throughout the school year by two competent teachers.

For several years past a number of evening schools have been maintained during the winter season.

The passage of the Illiterate Minor Bill by the Legislature in 1887 obliged the city to largely increase its provisions for evening schools. During the fall session in 1886, and the two sessions in 1887, 622 pupils registered at these schools, though the average nightly attendance was only sixty-three. At the session early in 1888, 588 pupils registered, and the average nightly attendance was 227.

An evening drawing-school is also maintained every winter, and is very well attended.

We will conclude this section on the public schools of Fitchburg with a few remarks concerning the High School. The building, which is pleasantly located on a lot bounded by Academy, Davis, Pleasant and High Streets and is surrounded by well-kept grounds, contains one large school-room, one smaller and five recitation-rooms, besides a laboratory, mineralogical cabinet, reception-room, etc., all of which are exclusively devoted to the High School.

The school has prospered and been a credit to the town and city since it was established, in 1849, and has been under the care of competent instructors, both principals and assistants, who have labored faithfully to maintain a high standard of scholarship.

The names and terms of service of the principals of the Fitchburg High School since its establishment are as follows:

Anson Southard Marshall, A. B.....1849-51
Enoch Gibson Hook, A.B.....1851
Martin Heald Fisk, A. M.....1852

[1] Spring and summer te. ms of 1888.

Rev. Ezekiel Hale Barstow, A. M.	1852–53
Jonathan Clarkson Brown, A. B.	1853–54
Rev. Milan Hubbard Hitchcock, A. B.	1854
Eli Andrews Hubbard, A. M.	1854–57
Hanson Leland Read, A. M.	1857–62
Francis Huntington Snow, A. B.	1862–63
Edward Dorr Pritchard, A. M.	1863–64
Rev. Walter Whitney Hammond, A. M.	1864–65
Ruel Baxter Clark, A. B.	1865–75
Ray Greene Huling, A. M.	1875–86

Herbert William Kittredge, A.M., the present principal, began his duties here in September, 1886, and under his management the school has been satisfactorily carried on since. He is efficiently aided in his work by six assistant teachers—four being ladies and two gentlemen.

The number of pupils in the High School at the present time (autumn of 1888) is two hundred and fifty-six—the largest number ever enrolled in the school.

In one respect, we regret to say, our High School has not kept up the high standing it once had. Fifteen years ago the Fitchburg High School was recognized as an excellent fitting-school for college, and ranking with the High Schools of Worcester, Somerville and other large cities. During the eight years following 1867 thirteen of its graduates entered Harvard College alone, and every one passed through the entrance examinations with credit to himself and the school; and during the same eight years as many graduates entered other colleges.

Since 1875 the school has lost its prestige in this respect, not because of lack of ability or desire on the part of the principals of the school to fit boys for college, but because the popular sentiment decreed that so much time and attention should not be devoted to classical study in the High School; but it is to be hoped that some time in the future the Fitchburg High School may regain its former high rank as a fitting school.

Libraries.—The Fitchburg Public Library, which is one of our most valuable and highly appreciated educational institutions, was not established until 1859; but for thirty years previous there was in Fitchburg some description of library, whose volumes were more or less accessible to the citizens.

Inasmuch as our present library is the natural outgrowth of these early collections of books, it is proper and advisable to give a short history of these efforts of the citizens to get a library together, prior to 1859, when the town came to the rescue, appropriated money and provided accommodations for a free public library.

The Fitchburg Philosophical Society.—This appears to be the first literary association in Fitchburg of which we have any knowledge. It was organized about 1828 for the purpose of having lectures and debates,—what, in the rural parlance of to-day, is called a "Lyceum." It was before this society that Mr. Wood, in 1831, delivered his course of lectures on the early history of Fitchburg.

It was the intention of this society to accumulate a library, and, with this purpose in view, a number of books were purchased with money subscribed by the members, and Drs. Marshall and Abercrombie kindly furnished accommodations in their office for these books. The principal portion of this early collection consisted of a set of forty-seven large volumes, entitled "The Cyclopedia; or, Universal Dictionary of Arts, Sciences and Literature." This work was compiled by Abraham Rees, D.D., F.R.S., and comprised forty-one volumes of print, the other six containing maps and plates. These books were in themselves almost a complete library, and must have been quite expensive. The entire set has come down to our day, having been successively the property of the Philosophical Society, Library Association, Athenæum and Public Library.

At the present time the "Cyclopedia" is in the Wallace Library and Art Building, and one day in July, 1888, the writer took occasion to go there for the special purpose of seeing this relic of by-gone days. All forty-seven volumes were found packed away in a basement room, and the librarian informed the writer that no one had ever before, to his knowledge, asked to see these books since he became librarian, fifteen years ago.

The volumes are in an excellent state of preservation, and it seems as if they ought to occupy a place of honor in the library, and be carefully preserved, for unquestionably Rees' "Cyclopedia" may be considered the foundation of the Fitchburg Public Library.

The Philosophical Society existed until 1838, but did not accumulate much of a library. It was succeeded, in 1838, by

The Fitchburg Library Association.—This was a stock organization, each member thereof holding one or more shares. The Association purchased the books belonging to the Philosophical Society and in the course of the next fourteen years added enough to make, in 1852, a total of about five hundred volumes.

The library of the Association was kept in Mr. Phineas S. Crocker's book-bindery and stationery store, a small, one-story wooden building on the site now occupied by the Stiles Block. Mr. Crocker was for several years librarian, and some of our older citizens well remember his genial and accommodating manners. George E. Towne, Esq., in his address at the dedication of the Wallace Library and Art Building, July 1, 1885, speaking of Mr. Crocker as a librarian, said, "The care bestowed by him upon the few volumes, the satisfaction with which he aided applicants in their selections, and the pride he felt in having been selected as worthy to bear such tremendous responsibility, were something marvelous to see."

Books were loaned to members, and it is probable that no very strict account of the delivery and return of books was kept, for when the affairs of the Asso-

ciation were wound up in 1852, eighty volumes, or about one-sixth of the total number, were found to be missing.

The Fitchburg Library Association cannot be said to have been a flourishing institution. The people did not take hold of the enterprise with the enthusiasm that was essential to make it a success. The membership was not large, there being only thirty-three shareholders in 1852.

By that time it had finished its mission of preserving and gradually increasing a collection of books, the nucleus of a future public library, and was ready to give way to, and be absorbed by, a new and stronger library organization,—

THE FITCHBURG ATHENÆUM.—December 6, 1851, a number of citizens who were desirous of having a new library association formed in town, met at the Fitchburg Hotel to talk the matter over. At this meeting it was decided to start a subscription paper, and also to confer with the shareholders of the Fitchburg Library Association, and ascertain upon what terms they would dispose of their library to the new association. A committee of five, consisting of Charles Mason, Rev. C. Woodhouse, Asher Green, W. B. Wood and L. H. Bradford, was chosen to take the matter in charge and report at a future meeting, "to be called at such time as the committee shall see fit." It was also voted that this committee report, at the same time, a plan of organization for the proposed library association.

It was not until March 4, 1852, that the committee made their report to the citizens interested. The meeting was held in the town-hall and a preliminary report read by Mr. Mason, chairman of the committee.

The substance of this report was that the names of one hundred and twenty-five subscribers, at five dollars each, had been obtained by Mr. William B. Wood; that the members of the Fitchburg Library Association had voted to transfer their library to the proposed new association, provided each of its members be entitled to one share in the new association, and become a member of it, with all the privileges of new subscribers. As the membership of the Library Association was thirty-three, and each share in the new association was worth five dollars, this would be equivalent to paying one hundred and sixty-five dollars for the library which contained, as was supposed, about five hundred volumes. The committee considered this a fair price and recommended that the library be purchased on the terms stated.

The report then proceeded to enumerate the advantages that would arise from the institution of such a library in Fitchburg, and marked out, in a general way, a plan of organization and the methods to be used in carrying on the association. Each member (except those who came in from the Fitchburg Library Association) was to pay five dollars, and thereby be entitled to one share in the association and to pay one dollar per year, to be applied to the increase of the library. Provisions were also made for officers, board of directors, etc., and suitable regulations for the loaning and returning of books.

It was also recommended to have a course of lectures each winter, that vigorous efforts be made to increase the number of subscribers and that, "at a proper time, the Association be organized, as Proprietors of a Library, as a corporation, under the provisions of the Revised Statutes."

This report was printed in full in the *Fitchburg Sentinel* of March 12, 1852, and at its conclusion was the following:

The above report was unanimously accepted and the committee were instructed to present a plan of organization at a future meeting and, in the meantime, to take measures to procure additional subscribers and to obtain suitable accommodations for the Library in the new Town House.

In accordance with the last instruction, the matter of providing a room in the town-house, that was to be built immediately, was brought before the citizens at the annual town-meeting, April 5, 1852, and it was voted "that the building Committee be authorized to procure or provide a room for the Library Association in the new Town House."

Matters progressed favorably in all respects, and by the following autumn the association was about ready to begin its work. The name fixed upon was the Fitchburg Athenæum, and the shareholders were duly organized as a library association under that name.

One of the first acts of the Athenæum was to make arrangements for a course of lectures by well-known men during the winter of 1852–53. The committee on lectures was Charles Mason, Rev. John Jennings and Rev. Horatio Stebbins, and no pains were spared by this committee to secure an able and popular course of lectures.

This was essentially an experiment, but the citizens appreciated the earnest labor of the committee and made it a success in every way. Season tickets for the course were put at a price certainly within the reach of all, a price that seems ridiculously small in these days, viz., one dollar for gentlemen and fifty cents for ladies.

In the *Sentinel* of December 17, 1852, appeared the following:

FITCHBURG ATHENÆUM LECTURES.

A course of *twelve* Lectures will be delivered before the Fitchburg Athenæum the current winter. The Introductory lecture will be by the Rev. Mark Hopkins, D.D., President of Williams College, on Tuesday evening, Dec. 21st, at the Meeting House of the Calvinistic Congregational Society. The exercises on the Tuesday evening succeeding will be a POEM, by the Rev. John Pierpont, of Medford.

The announcement then went on to state that the list had not yet been completed, and mentioned the names of five prominent lecturers with whom dates had already been arranged.

The following is a correct copy of the list of lecturers and the dates on which they appeared before the Fitchburg Athenæum audiences. It is a list with which any lecture bureau might well be satisfied and

even be proud of. It is copied directly from the manuscript list in the possession of Mr. Mason, the chairman of the Lecture Committee, who did most of the arranging and corresponding with the various lecturers:

Rev. Mark Hopkins, D.D., Williamstown	Tuesday, Dec. 21, 1852
Rev. John Pierpont, Medford	Tuesday, Dec. 28, 1852
Hon. Josiah Quincy, Jr., Boston	Tuesday, Jan. 4, 1853
Hon. Horace Greeley (Lecture), New York Charles Thurber, Esq. (Poem), Worcester	Tuesday, Jan. 11, 1853
Rev William Mountford, Gloucester	Tuesday, Jan 18, 1853
Richard H. Dana, Jr., Esq., Boston	Tuesday, Jan. 25, 1853
Edwin P. Whipple, Esq, Boston	Tuesday, Feb. 1, 1853
Rev. Theodore Parker, Boston	Tuesday, Feb. 8, 1853
Oliver Wendell Holmes, M.D., Boston	Tuesday, Feb. 15, 1853
Hon. John J. Gilchrist, Charlestown, N. H	Wednesday, Feb. 23, 1853
Hon. John G. Palfrey, Cambridge	Tuesday, Mar. 1, 1853
Rev. Samuel Osgood, New York	Tuesday, Mar. 8, 1853

The first three lectures were given in the Calvinistic Congregational Church, but the remaining nine were delivered in the hall of the new town house, as the following extract from the *Sentinel* of January 7, 1853, shows:

ATHENÆUM LECTURES.—The remaining nine lectures of the course will be in the New Town Hall, which will be first used for that purpose on Tuesday evening, Jan. 11th. A lecture will then be delivered by the HON. HORACE GREELEY, of the New York *Tribune*, and a poem by CHARLES THURBER, ESQ., of Worcester. We anticipate seeing the elegant and spacious hall filled with an audience of the intelligent citizens of the neighboring towns, as well as of our own, to enjoy the rich intellectual treat which may be expected on the occasion.

These anticipations were fully realized, for the audience that evening was the largest of any during the course, numbering about nine hundred and fifty.

That the course of lectures, as a whole, was a success, financially as well as intellectually, is shown by the following, taken from the "First Annual Report of the Board of Directors of the Fitchburg Athenæum."

The average attendance upon the lectures was about 750; the largest number present at any one time was probably 950, which was on the evening of the first lecture in the new Town Hall. About 725 tickets were sold for the whole course, and about 950, in all, for single evenings. The gross proceeds of the lectures amounted to $630.69, the expenses of the course to $411.25, leaving a surplus of $219.44 to be applied to the uses of the Library.

From this same report we also learn that five hundred and fifty books were purchased during the year and about forty-five donated; and these, with the four hundred and thirty-five volumes in the library transferred from the Fitchburg Library Association, made a total of over a thousand volumes, which, thirty-five years ago, might well be considered a very good-sized library.

At any rate, it is certain that the officers and members of the Fitchburg Athenæum had every reason to be fully satisfied with the results of the association's first year of existence.

Lack of space forbids our speaking at greater length of the Athenæum and its work. For several years more it continued in a prosperous condition, and in 1858 had a membership of one hundred and sixty, and a library of about fifteen hundred volumes.

The time was then near at hand for the establishment of a free town library; the Athenæum, as had been the case with the library associations preceding it, had fulfilled its mission and was soon to be absorbed by a library of larger scope and greater permanency.

THE FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY.—In 1851 the Legislature enacted a law which provided that any town or city, so desiring, might appropriate a sum, not exceeding one dollar for each ratable poll, for the establishment of a free public library.

At the time when preparations were making for the organization of the Athenæum, in 1852, some of the citizens were rather in favor of changing the plan and organizing a town library, as provided for by the statute of the preceding year. There was much uncertainty, however, as to whether the town would vote the money at that time or not, and the idea was not pushed.

By 1859 the town of Fitchburg was ready to take measures to secure a free public library. It must be admitted that Fitchburg was rather slow in taking action on this matter. Our neighbor, Leominster, had a public library some three years before ours was established.

The subject was debated by the citizens of Fitchburg more or less, but no decisively favorable public action was taken in regard to it until the spring of 1859.

The warrant for the annual town-meeting that year was given March 26th, and was the longest warrant since Fitchburg's incorporation. It contained thirty-two articles, the twenty-fifth of which was as follows:

Art. 25.—To see if the Town will appropriate the amount allowed by law for the establishment of a Free Town Library, or act anything thereon.

The sentiment of the citizens seeming to be in favor of establishing a free library, the shareholders of the Athenæum held a meeting March 31, 1859, to consider the expediency of presenting their library to the town. After much discussion it was decided in the negative, by a vote of twenty-five to fourteen.

Annual town-meeting day in 1859 was April 11th. It was a dull, disagreeable day, but as the citizens were more than ordinarily interested in the municipal proceedings, there was a good attendance. Every one of the thirty-two articles was acted upon in the course of the day, and the people doubtless left the town-house with the firm conviction that they had done a good day's work. And so they had; for, by voting "to appropriate the sum authorized by law for the establishment of a Free Town Library" (this sum being one thousand, eight hundred and thirty-one dollars in the case of Fitchburg), they pledged their money and best efforts to found and perpetuate an institution which has proved to be a great blessing, and whose usefulness and value will increase as the years roll on.

At this meeting the citizens also chose the first board of trustees of the Fitchburg Public Library,

consisting of the following gentlemen: Goldsmith F. Bailey, Joseph W. Mansur, Dr. James R. Wellman, Dr. Jabez Fisher, Dr. Thomas R. Boutelle, Thornton K. Ware, Hanson L. Read, Moses G. Lyon and John J. Piper.

May 10, 1859, occurred the annual meeting of the shareholders of the Fitchburg Athenæum; and at this meeting it was voted "to instruct the president and treasurer to sell all the property of the institution, aside from the money in the treasury (about seventy-five dollars), to the town of Fitchburg for four hundred dollars." The town subsequently authorized the purchase of the property for the sum named, and thus came into possession of some sixteen hundred volumes, which made quite a nucleus for the public library. Several members of the Athenæum very generously relinquished their proportion of the sale, to the amount of $166.84, so that the books really cost the town less than two hundred and fifty dollars.

There was also in town another collection of books, about two hundred in number—the Agricultural Library—which the trustees purchased on very favorable terms.

The trustees entered upon their work with zeal. It was decided to continue the library in the room previously occupied by the Athenæum, in the town-house (corresponding closely to the present offices of the city auditor and mayor), and it was somewhat enlarged by the addition of the room adjoining in the rear. Mr. Daniel Stearns, who had been connected with the Athenæum as its secretary, was appointed the first librarian of the public library, and during the summer and autumn of 1859 the books were placed on the shelves and catalogued, new books purchased and all arrangements perfected; and about the middle of November the following notice appeared in the *Sentinel:*

FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY.

All persons wishing to avail themselves of the privileges of the Fitchburg Public Library are requested to open their accounts at once, as it will be impossible to do so in Library hours after the Rooms are open for the delivery of books.

The Library will be open for the purpose of opening accounts with such as may desire it, until further notice, during the regular Library hours, viz.,—

From 2 to 5 and 7 to 8 P. M. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 P. M. on Saturdays, holidays excepted.

☞ Notice will be given of the time of opening for the delivery of books.

D. STEARNS, Librarian.

Fitchburg, Nov. 16, 1859.

The first donation to the library was $100 from Thomas Mack, of the firm of C. F. Hovey & Co., of Boston. Mr. Mack was born in Fitchburg, and has, on several occasions, remembered his native town in a similar manner. This generous sum was used for the purchase of the "Encyclopædia Britannica." Seventy-five volumes were presented by Hon. Eli Thayer, of Worcester, and various citizens of Fitchburg donated books. The trustees purchased 1200 volumes; so that in all there were over 3500 books on the shelves before the library was opened.

By the last of November, 1859, everything was completed, and the following appeared in the *Sentinel:*

THE FITCHBURG PUBLIC LIBRARY will be open for the delivery of books on THURSDAY, Dec. 1, 1859, at 2 o'clock P. M.

D. STEARNS, Librarian.

It is quite evident that the people of the town freely availed themselves of the privileges offered them, for in the *Sentinel* of December 23, 1859, it was stated that during the three weeks that the library had been open, 2775 volumes had been delivered and 1937 returned. Over 1200 persons had opened accounts. It was further stated that the hours were insufficient, and "while the present demand continues" the library would be kept open every evening, except on Sundays and holidays.

The number of books in the library at that time was given as 3783.

Since then the number of volumes has steadily increased, and the figures, at intervals of five years, as given in the Trustees' reports, are 6244 in 1865, 8053 in 1870, 10,676 in 1875, 12,481 in 1880, 16,146 in 1885 and at the present time there are upwards of 19,000 volumes on the shelves in the handsome and commodious Wallace Library and Art Building.

The number of persons taking out books has increased from fourteen hundred and twenty-five in 1860, to about nine thousand in 1888.

Since the founding of the library four catalogues have been issued, viz., in 1859, 1873, 1881 and 1886. The last is in itself quite a large volume. Much time and care were devoted to its preparation by a gentleman skilled in such work, and it is a very complete and accurate catalogue. Supplements have also been printed, in the intervals between the issuing of the catalogues, giving the list of books added from time to time.

As before stated, Daniel Stearns was the first librarian, being appointed to the position by the trustees in November, 1859. The names and terms of service of the librarians succeeding Mr. Stearns are as follows: Benjamin P. Todd, from April, 1861, to April, 1862; John M. Graham, from April 1862, to April, 1865; Charles N. Fessenden, from April, 1865, to September, 1866; Henry Jackson, from September, 1866, to January, 1873; Prescott C. Rice, from January, 1873, to the present time.

The control of the library has, from the beginning, been vested in a board of trustees, chosen annually by the citizens while Fitchburg was a town, and by the mayor and aldermen since the city form of government was adopted. The number of trustees was nine at first, but later was increased to twelve, the present number.

It is worthy of note that one of the present trustees was also a member of the first board chosen in 1859—Judge Thornton K. Ware. Judge Ware has more-

over served as a trustee every year since 1859, save one, from April, 1861, to April, 1862, and since 1875 has been chairman.

In 1861, Rev. William P. Tilden, then pastor of the Unitarian Society here, presented to our library a model of a full-rigged ship of war, of his own construction. It was a fine and very perfect piece of workmanship, and for years occupied a conspicuous and honored place in the library-room. In 1885 it was transferred to the "Relic Room" in the Wallace Library and Art Building, where it continues to attract attention and elicit admiration.

In 1861 the town voted to authorize the trustees to invite the officers and soldiers from this town serving in the army to donate any trophies they might obtain and wish to present to the library for preservation, and in response thereto a number of flags, swords, muskets, shells, etc., were sent by Fitchburg men, and are now to be seen, together with other similar ar icles since contributed (including the elegant sword, sash and belt presented to Colonel Edwin Upton by the enlisted men of the Twenty-fifth Regiment) in the relic room.

A sum of money sufficient for the maintenance and suitable increase of the Fitchburg Public Library has been annually appropriated by the town and city.

Hon. William H. Vose, at the time of his death in 1884, left the sum of one thousand dollars to the city of Fitchburg, the income thereof to be paid annually to the trustees and used "for the purchase of periodicals or other reading matter for the reading-room."

The library remained in the rooms first occupied until the latter part of 1879, when it was removed to more commodious quarters provided for its accommodation in the extension built just previously on the rear of the City Hall building. Here it remained until the summer of 1885, when it was removed to its present elegant and spacious abode in

THE WALLACE LIBRARY AND ART BUILDING.—Early in 1884 one of our most prominent and benevolent citizens, seeing and appreciating the fact that our public library was sorely in need of more ample and fitting accommodations, was prompted by his public-spirited benevolence to make to the city of Fitchburg a most generous proposition.

Before the City Council, in joint convention assembled, on the evening of Tuesday, March 25, 1884, appeared Judge Ware, who said that he was present at the request of Hon. Rodney Wallace, who, before his departure for the South, a few days previous, had left with him the following communication to be presented to the City Council:

To His Honor the Mayor, and the City Council of the City of Fitchburg:

GENTLEMEN:—The subscriber has felt for a long time that a building, with proper appurtenances, for our Public Library here in Fitchburg was much needed and makes the following proposition, viz.:

I propose to convey by proper deed to the city of Fitchburg my lot of land situated at the corner of Main Street and Newton Place, and to expend, with the advice and approval of the Trustees of the Public Library, within the next two years, a sum not less than forty thousand dollars ($40,000) in erecting a building on said lot; said building to be under the care and management of the Board of Trustees of the Public Library for the time being, and to be used for a Free Public Library, Reading Rooms and Art Gallery, and for no other purpose.

And it is understood that the city government, accepting these donations for the above purposes, shall assume and bear the current expenses of said building, grounds and appurtenances, after the Library Building shall have been completed and furnished.

If the above proposition is accepted, I shall proceed to carry out the same as soon as it can conveniently be done.

RODNEY WALLACE.

Fitchburg, March 17, 1884.

This was a most complete and gratifying surprise to the members of the city government, and also to all the citizens of Fitchburg when they learned of it, as they very quickly did.

The following order, introduced by Mayor Davis soon after the reading of the above communication, was unanimously adopted:

Ordered, That the city of Fitchburg accepts the donation of Hon. Rodney Wallace of the lot of land on the corner of Main Street and Newton Place, and the Library building to be erected by him thereon, upon the conditions and in accordance with the terms and provisions contained in his written communication and proposal to the Mayor and City Council; and places on record its profound appreciation of the public spirit and munificence of the donor, and its recognition of the incalculable benefits which will result to his fellow-citizens and their descendants and successors for all time from this noble gift.

On motion of Alderman Joel a committee, consisting of Mayor Davis, Alderman Joel and Councilmen Flaherty and Parkhill, was appointed to prepare a set of resolutions, thanking Mr. Wallace for his munificent gift; and at a subsequent meeting appropriate resolutions, prepared by this committee, were read and placed on the records, and a copy forwarded to Mr. Wallace.

At a meeting of the trustees of the Public Library, held April 7, 1884, a resolution was adopted, expressive of their hearty appreciation of Mr. Wallace's action, and their desire to co-operate, in every way, with the generous donor in carrying out the details of his proposed undertaking; and a committee, consisting of Rev. Philip J. Garrigan, Henry A. Willis and Lewis H. Bradford, was authorized to present a copy to Mr. Wallace.

On the lot of land donated to the city for the library building stood a mansion-house, for many years familiar to our eyes. For a considerable time it was the residence of Dr. Charles W. Wilder, and later of Otis T. Ruggles, Esq. This house was sold at auction May 5, 1884, and soon moved to the lower part of the city.

Work was begun on the foundation of the new library building on June 10, 1884, and from that date to the completion of the edifice, early in the summer of 1885, was continued without intermission, and every portion of the work (which, by the way, was mainly done by Fitchburg mechanics and artisans) was done in a most thorough manner.

The following is a somewhat detailed description of this handsome and substantial building as it stands to-day.

It is built of Trenton pressed brick, with brown

sandstone trimmings and is in the Greek style of architecture. Its frontage on Main Street is seventy-four feet, its depth sixty-five feet, and there is a central front projection, six by twenty-five feet.

The front entrance is approached by a wide walk of pressed brick and a flight of twelve steps of dressed granite, between ornamental buttresses of the same material. The front doors are placed in a recess eleven feet wide and six feet deep. Over this recess is a heavy double arch, supported on either side by two columns of polished red granite with carved capitals. Above the arch are three square-headed, single-light windows and the name of the building in raised letters—the word "WALLACE" above the middle window, and the words, "LIBRARY AND ART BUILDING" just under the three windows. Still above are three circular windows, set in sandstone and round sandstone columns with carved foliage capitals occupying the spaces between the windows. The whole projection is surmounted by a gable with modillion and dentil cornice, all of copper. In the frieze of this cornice is inscribed "1884," the date of erection, with scroll-work either side of the inscription.

In the window over the doors of the main entrance is the city seal, an exquisite piece of work, upon a plate of Venetian and antique glass, of two thicknesses, and five feet in diameter; and in the lower corners of this window are panels of glass emblematic of art and literature.

Passing through the front doors one enters the entrance hall, floored with Italian marble and wainscoted with Italian and Tennessee marbles, relieved by rosettes of French red. The ceiling is handsomely frescoed in oil. This hall is lighted by a large brass chandelier.

From the entrance hall one passes into the waiting-room, which is finished in oak and frescoed in neutral tints. Around the sides are placed oak seats, upholstered in brown leather.

The delivery counter is beneath the arch opening into the main library room. This book-room is twenty-six by seventy feet and sixteen feet in height. It is well filled with neat oaken cases, to hold the many thousand volumes, and at either end of the room are large fire-places of brick, sandstone and marble. Connected with this room, at its southwest corner, is a small room for the librarian's use, and next to that is the elevator, which runs from the basement to the upper story.

On the left of the waiting-room is the room for books of reference, and on the right the reading-room for magazines. Both of these apartments are simply, yet elegantly, finished in oak, handsomely frescoed, and contain large fire-places. All the furniture is of oak. Connected with, and in front of, the reference-room is a small, well-furnished apartment for the use of the assistant librarian.

Returning to the entrance hall, one sees, on the east side, two staircases,—one leading downward to the basement, where is located the public reading-room, which is furnished with a large number of daily and weekly newspapers. In the basement are also the boiler-room and two large apartments used for working-rooms and storage purposes. The other staircase leads upward to the Art Gallery, and is made entirely of marble in the same style as the entrance hall.

Ascending this really palatial stairway, one comes to the upper vestibule, whose high, arched ceiling is most artistically and elegantly frescoed. It is lighted by a magnificent chandelier, of eight burners, made of brass, copper and oxidized silver.

On the right of the vestibule is the Trustees' Room, which is handsomely frescoed, carpeted, finished in mahogany and heated by an open fire-place. All the furniture in this room is of mahogany. Adjoining it is a toilet-room for the use of the trustees.

From the vestibule a door leads directly into the Art Gallery, a room thirty-three by forty-four feet, and thirty-two feet in height. It is lighted entirely from above by corrugated glass panels in the ceiling and windows of the same glass on the four sides of the monitor roof.

The wood-work of the ceiling is frescoed in dark olive and bronze, and the general effect of the cove beneath is a gold scroll upon a light blue background. In the cove are four large paintings, one on each side of the room—"Apollo Musagetes," "Old Masters," "Arts and Sciences" and "Modern Art."

The fresco painting of this room is of the pure German Renaissance style, and is remarkably rich and harmonious in color effect. The dado is a dark olive, relieved by a band of gilt, and the walls for the oil paintings are a Pompeiian red, surmounted by a frieze of rich color and handsome design. Upon these walls already hang thirteen large and valuable oil paintings, the works of well-known artists. These were all presented to the Art Gallery, most of the donors being citizens of Fitchburg. Two were presented by Thomas Mack, Esq., of Boston, and one each by the late Robert Graves, Esq., of New York, W. G. Beaman, the artist, of Boston and R. Lovewell, the artist, of Chelsea.

At the sides and in the rear of the Art Gallery are four smaller rooms. The west room is devoted to photographs, and contains a valuable collection of about three hundred photographic copies of works of art in European galleries, selected for the library some years ago, by Miss Eleanor A. Norcross, a set of fifty photographic copies of works of art in the Corcoran Art Gallery, Washington, D. C., presented by the Corcoran Art Gallery, beside other photographs that have been purchased or presented.

The east room is devoted to engravings and water colors, and is already quite well filled with works of various artists. Among the many pictures in this room may be mentioned an "artist's proof" engrav-

ing, "The Jersey Beauties," by Douglass, presented by Henry Hale, Esq., of New York; a water color, "Gathering Sea Weed, Pacific Coast," by F. A. McClure, presented by Dr. D. B. Whittier, of Fitchburg; and a pastel, "Woodland Solitude," by our own townsman, Mr. E. H. Rogers, presented by Hon. Rodney Wallace, who is also the donor of many of the paintings, pictures, etc., that adorn the walls in various portions of the library building.

Of the two rooms in the rear of the Art Gallery, one is used for the exhibition of drawings and other art work by the pupils in our public schools, of which a very creditable display may now be seen there, and the other is the "Relic Room," filled with interesting and valuable antiquities and curiosities, collections of minerals, coins, etc., all of which have been donated.

The works of art, relics, etc., in the Art Gallery and the rooms adjoining are worthy of a much more extended description than is allowed by the limits of this history.

All these rooms are open to the public on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, and are much frequented and enjoyed by our citizens, as well as by strangers visiting the city.

The library is open for the delivery of books from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. every week-day, and the reading-rooms are open during the same hours, and also Sunday afternoons.

The present librarian, Mr. Prescott C. Rice, has held the position since January 1, 1873, and is aided efficiently by two assistants, Miss Florence R. Dwinnell, assistant librarian, and Mr. George E. Nutting.

The Wallace Library and Art Building was dedicated July 1, 1885. The main library room (the book-cases and delivery counter not being at that time placed in position) was used for the exercises, which were attended by a large assemblage of invited guests and citizens of Fitchburg. Mayor Alonzo Davis presided.

Rev. S. L. Blake, D.D., pastor of the Calvinistic Congregational Society, invoked the divine blessing, after which Mr. Wallace formally presented the building to the City Council in the following words:

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen of the City Council:

In March, 1884, I made to your honorable board a proposition as follows:

To convey to the city, by deed, this lot of land and, with the advice and approval of the Trustees of the Public Library, to expend, within two years, not less than forty thousand dollars in erecting a building on said lot, to be under the management of the Trustees for the time being, and used for a Free Public Library, Reading Rooms and an Art Gallery, and for no other purpose. The City Government in accepting this shall assume and bear the current expenses of the same.

All this was accepted with the kindest expressions.

Plans were prepared and received the approval of the Trustees, and June 10th work was commenced upon the foundations of this building. The best materials of all kinds were selected, the best mechanics employed, and more faithful service could not have been rendered had each man employed been the sole owner of the building.

Our best thoughts have been given to have the building adapted to the purposes for which it was intended, and I have found pleasure in giving it my personal attention. No pains or expense have been spared to make the building first-class in all respects, and it is nearly or quite fire-proof.

Cost of building	$70,000
Cost of furniture	2,000
Cost of land	12,500
Total	$84,500

In the hands of the City Government and under the management of the Trustees, I have perfect confidence that the building will be well cared for, and, as a home for the Library, Works of Art and Free Reading Rooms, it will be of increasing value to our people. With pleasure and the most earnest wish that to many of our people these rooms may prove to be a place of rest and profit, and help make the journey of life more pleasant and useful, I now present to you the deed of this property and keys of the building.

Mayor Davis, in receiving, as the representative of the city, the deed and keys, responded thus:

Mr. Wallace: The city council, in behalf of the citizens of Fitchburg, accept your munificent gift and return their sincere and heartfelt thanks. You have more than fulfilled your promises to the council in March, 1884. Through your great generosity this community will attain higher degrees of moral and mental worth. May your life be spared many years to witness the noble results you desire.

Ex-Governor John D. Long then delivered an eloquent and impressive dedicatory address, the original manuscript of which is now in the "Relic Room."

Mr. Ray Greene Huling, principal of the Fitchburg High School, then read a poem written for the occasion by Mrs. Caroline A. Mason.

Remarks were then made by Hon. Henry B. Peirce, Secretary of State, representing the Commonwealth.

Interesting addresses followed, given by Judge William S. Shurtleff, of Springfield; George E. Towne, Esq., of Boston; and Professor Henry M. Tyler, of Northampton.

This closed the exercises, which were interspersed with choice musical selections, rendered by the Russell orchestra.

The day of the dedication of this beautiful and valuable building will ever be regarded as among the most memorable in the history of Fitchburg.

CHAPTER XLIII.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

MANUFACTURING.

FITCHBURG has for many years been a manufacturing place of considerable note, and the varied products of her mills, factories and great machine-shops have to-day a reputation which, in many cases, is by no means limited to the United States.

The origin of all these industries, of which our city is now so justly proud, can be traced back to that unmitigated nuisance of the early settlers of the town, the north branch of the Nashua; and to Amos and Ephraim Kimball, who had the temerity, in 1750, to build a dam across this obnoxious stream, belongs the honor of being the pioneer manufacturers of what is now Fitchburg.

They built this dam just above the location of the present "Stone Mill" dam. At first it was frequently

carried off by freshets, but in a few years a more substantial dam was built of logs and V-shaped. Here the Kimballs erected a saw and grist-mill, which was in operation for many years thereafter.

It was forty-four years before a second attempt was made to build a dam across the stream, and one of the daring Kimball family had a hand in the building of it.

In 1794 the son of Ephraim Kimball (who was also named Ephraim) and Jonas Marshall built the second dam, near the present site of the Pitts Mill, on West Main Street, and erected on this water privilege a saw-mill, and soon afterward clothiers' works and a trip-hammer were built a few rods below it.

Soon after the close of the Revolutionary War a fulling-mill and clothiers' works, a carding-machine and works for grinding scythes were established on the water privilege of the elder Kimball.

No further attempt was made during the rest of the century to utilize the water power, and the above-named concerns seem to have constituted the "manufacturing establishments" of Fitchburg up to the year 1804. In that year the third dam was built, and will be spoken of under "paper manufacture."

This was certainly a very small beginning, but it taught the people here that possibly the river was good for something after all, and that they might make it do enough work for them to pay for all the bridges it had carried away.

Cotton Manufacturing.—In 1807 there was another Ephraim Kimball (this time a grandson of the first Ephraim) on hand to build a dam, which was the fourth, across the river. On this site was erected a cotton-factory, now a part of the brick mill in Factory Square.

This was the third cotton-factory erected in the State, and was built and operated by a company of about thirty persons, including the workmen, who were obliged to take shares. The building was of brick, and thirty by sixty feet in size.

For a time the company did not prosper, but in a few years improved machinery was put in, and the business began to be lucrative. Unfortunately, however, the company had neglected to secure a proper title to the whole dam, and trouble soon began. The builder of the dam owned the land on the opposite side of the stream, and the line between his property and that of the company ran in the middle of the river. He had lost money in building the dam and demanded four hundred dollars of the company to cover his loss. No notice was taken of this demand, whereupon he informed the company that half of the dam belonged to him, and offered to sell it to them for twelve hundred dollars. This offer being refused, he sold a part of the land and the title to his half of the dam to sundry persons, who immediately began to erect works on the bank across the stream. They freely used the water, and finally cut away their half of the dam. The cotton company, then in the enjoyment of a prosperous business, had to suspend operations, and became involved in a lawsuit, which was finally decided against them, with heavy damages.

The result of all this was that in 1816 the company failed, and the property was sold for about one-third of its value to Messrs. Putnam & Perkins, who operated it as a cotton factory until 1822, when they sold it to Messrs. Town & Willis, who converted it into a woolen-mill; and its history as such for the following sixty-five years will be given under woolen manufacture.

In 1887 the Parkhill Manufacturing Company purchased the property, enlarged the building and put in cotton machinery, thus restoring to the first cotton factory built in Fitchburg its original industry.

The second attempt at cotton manufacture in this town was made by Captain Martin Newton, in 1810, in a small building near the site of the present "Stone Mill." He succeeded so well that in 1812, with Solomon Strong and Jonathan Flint, he built a cotton factory on what was afterwards called Newton's Lane. Here cotton manufacture was profitably carried on for over a quarter of a century. Later the building became a part of the Atherton estate, and was used for manufacturing of various kinds. It is now owned by the Putnam Machine Company.

The "Red" or "Rollstone" Mill was built in 1813 by John and Joseph Farwell and Nehemiah Giles, on the site of the Kimball & Marshall saw-mill, previously mentioned. Cotton cloth was made here.

In 1816 the mill was bought by Putnam & Perkins, who soon sold it to General Ivers Jewett, who, in 1833, sold it to Town & Willis. This firm continued the manufacture of cotton goods in this mill, and in 1834 secured Mr. Levi Sherwin to manage the business. Mr. Sherwin bought one-quarter interest in the mill in 1843, and the other three-quarters in 1857. In 1867, after having had the active management of the mill for thirty-three years, Mr. Sherwin sold it to Mr. Hiram W. Pitts, of Leominster.

Mr. Pitts built the present substantial brick mill to take its place in 1876. He died a few years ago, and, since 1882, his son, Mr. B. M. Pitts, has operated the factory, which is known as the Fitchburg Cotton Mill, or, perhaps, better as the Pitts Mill.

Cotton and carpet warps, batting, twine, etc., are produced. There are five buildings, the largest being the brick structure erected in 1876, which is fifty by one hundred feet and three stories high. It is well equipped with machinery, which is run mainly by water-power; but there is steam-power in readiness to use when the water is too low to be of service.

The cotton-mill built on Phillips' Brook, about 1815, was afterward operated by Perkins & Baldwin. It was swept away in 1850 by the flood caused by the giving way of the Ashburnham reservoir.

Just above Perkins & Baldwin's factory a small cotton-mill was built by Colonel Ivers Phillips about

1845. It was soon converted into a flannel-mill, and, in 1850, was swept away by the flood. It was rebuilt and burnt in 1852. Soon afterwards a mill was erected on the same site, and used by Colonel Phillips for the manufacture of hosiery, etc., and, since 1861, has been operated as a woolen-mill by various parties.

The "Stone Mill," on Laurel Street, was built by Oliver Fox, in 1826. It was operated as a cotton-mill for a time by Mr. Fox, but he soon leased it to Percy Atherton; still later it was run by other persons and used continuously as a cotton-mill until 1868, when it was purchased by Joseph Cushing, who has since operated it as a flour and grain-mill and elevator.

A curious fact in relation to the construction of this massive building is, that no derrick was used to place the huge blocks of granite in position. The blocks were all hauled up an inclined plane by oxen.

The Fitchburg Duck Mill in South Fitchburg, now owned by David Nevins, was built about 1848, and was formerly the property of George Blackburn & Co. Cotton duck is made here and the salesrooms are in Boston.

The Parkhill Manufacturing Company is by far the largest cotton manufacturing establishment in town.

In the autumn of 1879 John Parkhill, Arthur H. Lowe and Thomas R. B. Dole formed a partnership and purchased the building long owned and operated by the late Hon. Alonzo Davis as a chair shop. The firm put in thirty looms, and began the weaving of colored cotton goods in February, 1880.

In 1882 the firm was dissolved, and the Parkhill Manufacturing Company incorporated with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. Since then their business has enlarged wonderfully. In 1882 an addition, one hundred and thirty-five by thirty-five feet, and two stories high, was built; in 1883 a third story was added; during the next two years another building, one hundred and fifty by fifty-five feet, three stories high, and a new engine-house were built; in 1887 a new dye-house, one hundred and forty by fifty-five feet, two stories high, and an immense steam chimney were put up, and the factory of the Fitchburg Woolen Mill Company purchased, as has been previously stated.

This thriving company, of which John Parkhill is president and Arthur H. Lowe treasurer, now operates about one thousand looms, employs about five hundred hands and produces something like nine million yards of cloth annually. The *Toile du Nord* goods made here have a justly celebrated reputation.

Early in 1888 the company built a causeway from their Circle Street mills across the pond to Rollstone Street, the intention being to fill up most of the pond, and utilize the made land, as the interests of the company may indicate.

The success of this corporation caused the starting of the two following important cotton-mills in Fitchburg.

The Cleghorn Mills, incorporated in 1885 with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, are located near River Street, and include a brick building, one hundred and seventy by sixty feet, and four stories high, and an annex of wood of the same dimensions, two stories high.

These mills went into operation in December, 1885, employ over two hundred hands and produce fine dress goods. Andrew Cleghorn is president and A. H. Lowe treasurer.

The Orswell Mill, the latest addition to the cotton industries of Fitchburg, was incorporated in 1886 with a capital of two hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. The mill was built in 1886, and is three hundred and forty-six by seventy-eight feet, and four stories high. It has a capacity of twenty thousand spindles, is now in full operation, and produces a fine quality of cotton yarn. Warren M. Orswell is president and manager and Walter F. Stiles, treasurer.

Woolen Manufacture.—This was early begun here, though in a small way. In 1793 Ephraim Kimball had a carding-machine and fulling-mill near his saw and grist-mill, and close by were clothiers' works, where cloth was dyed, fulled and sheared.

The first woolen-mill put into operation here was the brick building, which, as before stated, was originally a cotton-factory, and was converted into a woolen-mill in 1822.

The following concise history of this enterprise, written just previous to his death, in 1884, by Hon. William H. Vose, for thirty-five years manager, and for many years treasurer of the company, is well worth preserving here:

In 1822 Samuel Willis and Abial J. Town purchased the Brick Cotton-mill in the centre of the then village of Fitchburg, and founded what has ever since been known as the Fitchburg Woolen-Mill. They furnished it with two sets of cards and the necessary looms, spinning jennies and finishing machinery for the manufacture of cassimeres made exclusively from fine wool. Subsequently Paul Farnum and Daniel Kimball (commission merchants of Boston) became owners in part, Abial J. Town, Samuel Willis, Paul Farnum and Daniel Kimball constituting the Company, and having an equal interest in the business.

In 1834, the mill and machinery having been injured to some extent by fire, an addition was made to the main building, other necessary buildings erected, the water-power improved by a new dam and the capacity of the mill increased to three sets of narrow cards with Goulding's improved Condensers and Spinning-Jacks, whereby the process of first carding the wool into *rolls* and then converting the rolls into *roping*, on what was called a *Billy*, was dispensed with, and the wool was taken from the Condenser to the Jacks, without any intervening process, and spun into yarn.

The improvements in woolen machinery by Goulding marked an era in the progress of the manufacture of woolens in New England.

The writer was employed in this mill in 1828–29 as a spinner on a Jenny of 80 spindles. The yarn was wound (as spun) on the spindles in "cops," and then "warped" on "warping-bars," consisting of a wood frame with pins in the sides, or posts, on which the female operatives extended the yarn by passing to and fro as many times, and using as many pins as would give the required length to the warp, after which the warp was "sized" in a tub and drawn through a metal tube by hand to press the sizing out, and then stretched out in the sun, or in a warm room, to dry, and was then ready to be drawn into the harness and reed for the loom.

Later this primitive process has been superseded by the "Dresser," as now practised, by which the yarn is warped, sized and dried by one continuous process.

After the enlargement of the mill in 1834 the proprietorship continued unchanged until the death of Mr. Willis, in 1843, when the interest belonging to his estate was purchased by Porter Piper, and the interest of Paul Farnum was bought by William B. Towne. The Company, as thus constituted, continued until 1848, when the interest of Porter Piper was bought by William H. Vose, the present treasurer and manager. William B. Towne died in 1853, when Roby R. Safford became the owner of the one-fourth belonging to his estate. In 1855 Abial J. Town, the senior member, and one of the pioneers of the Company, died, and his interest was purchased by Daniel Kimball and William H. Vose, two of the surviving partners.

In 1860 Daniel Kimball and William H. Vose bought the interest of R. R. Safford, and became sole owners.

In 1864 Daniel Kimball sold one-half of his interest to two of his sons, Daniel Kimball, Jr., and Herbert W. Kimball; and William H. Vose sold one-half of his to his only son, George F. Vose, and the ownership became as follows, viz.: Daniel Kimball, one-fourth; William H. Vose, one-fourth; Daniel Kimball, Jr., one-eighth; George F. Vose, one-fourth; Herbert W. Kimball, one-eighth.

In 1861–62 the mill was enlarged and new machinery put in, increasing its capacity to five sets, and other improvements added, materially increasing its capacity and value.

In 1866 William H. and George F. Vose purchased the several interests of the Kimball family and became sole owners.

In 1867 George F. Vose died and his interest was purchased by Rodney Wallace, Rufus S. Frost and Paul R. Hazeltine, and the ownership became as follows: William H. Vose, one-half; Rufus S. Frost, one-eighth; Rodney Wallace, one-fourth; Paul R. Hazeltine, one-eighth.

Paul R. Hazeltine died in 1878 and William H. Vose purchased the interest of his estate in the Company, making the several interests in the following proportions, viz.: William H. Vose, five-eighths; Rodney Wallace, one-quarter; Rufus S. Frost, one-eighth.

The Company has never, from the outset, failed to meet every obligation; has always maintained a high reputation for the character of its goods—having never used any cotton, shoddy or flocks in them—and for integrity and honorable dealing. Its members have been prominent amongst the business men of the community, connected with its financial institutions, and most of them honored, at various times, with positions of public trust and responsibility.

The invariable and continued success of the Company affords an example of what may be accomplished by careful, prudent and economical management of a comparatively small mill, with constant supervision of the details of its business, without making haste to be rich.

After Mr. Vose's death the mill was managed for a year by his grandson, William V. Lowe, who was succeeded by Mr. Marcien Jenks, and in 1887 the property was sold to the Parkhill Manufacturing Company.

In 1823 a brick mill was built by Tyler, Daniels & Co., near the location of the present mill of the George W. Wheelwright Paper Company. It was later owned by various parties, who operated it as a woolen-mill. Samuel Slater, a noted mill-owner in those days, purchased it about 1830, and although, on account of his death soon after, it was in his possession but a short time, it was for many years thereafter known as the "Slater Mill." It was pulled down some twenty-five years ago. Hon. Joseph W. Mansur, one of the prominent men of Fitchburg thirty years ago, was one of its latest owners and occupants.

In 1832 Hollis Hartshorn built a brick woolen-mill, nearly half a mile below the Slater mill. It was in operation for only a few years, being burnt in 1836.

Between 1861 and 1865 four woolen manufacturing concerns were started here, all in the westerly part of the town. Two of them were in Rockville and located on Phillips' Brook. One was the hosiery-mill previously spoken of as belonging to Col. Ivers Phillips. In 1861 it was fitted up as a woolen-mill, and has since been run as such by various individuals. It has been enlarged and additional buildings have been erected For some years the plant has been known as the Berwick Mills, and is operated by James McTaggart, Jr. The mills consist of three buildings, the main one being of brick and wood, forty by one hundred feet, and three stories high, and equipped with suitable machinery. It is run by water-power, but steam-power is in readiness to use if the water gets too low.

During the summer of 1888 Mr. McTaggart erected, close by the mills, a fine brick building, forty by fifty feet, to be used for a spinning room, and put into it three new Bassett & Jones operators.

The mill just below this was for some time occupied by Whitman & Miles, but in 1863 was converted into a woolen-mill. It became known as the Baltic Mill, and was for some years operated by James Phillips, Jr. In January, 1886, James McTaggart, Jr., acquired possession of it, and ran it in connection with the Berwick Mills. During the summer of 1888, however, it was not running.

In 1864 Alvah Crocker, Charles T. Crocker, George F. Fay and others built a woolen-mill near the junction of Westminster and Sanborn Roads, in West Fitchburg, to which the name of Beoli Mill was given.

In 1865 Jeremiah Booth & Co. began the manufacture of woolen goods in a brick mill on West Street, and continued there about ten years.

The only woolen manufacturers now doing business here are James Phillips, Jr., and James McTaggart, Jr. Of the mills operated by the latter we have already spoken.

Mr. Phillips ranks among the heavy woolen manufacturers of New England. He began business about 1872, in partnership with Edward M. Rockwell.

In 1872 Messrs. Rockwell & Phillips purchased the Beoli Mill, which at that time contained but twelve looms. In 1875 Mr. Phillips became the sole owner, and since then the business has increased vastly, and the greatly enlarged mills, which are now widely known as the Wachusett Mills, contain 150 broad looms, give employment to some 400 hands and produce worsted coatings and suitings of well known excellence, to the value of over $1,000,000 annually.

For some years he operated the Baltic Mill, as has been before stated.

About 1875 Mr. Phillips began to run the mill previously occupied by J. Booth & Co. It was known as the Booth Worsted Company until 1882, when the Star Worsted Company was organized with a capital of fifty thousand dollars—James Phillips, Jr., president, and George N. Proctor, treasurer. This com-

pany has since continued to run the same mill on West Street—now known as the Star Worsted Mill. Worsted yarn is here made to the value of about four hundred thousand dollars annually, all of which is used by the Wachusett Mills and the Fitchburg Worsted Company. The Star Mill gives employment to one hundred and twenty-five hands.

The Fitchburg Worsted Company was incorporated in 1880 with a capital of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars—James Phillips, Jr., president, and George N. Proctor, treasurer. The brick mill in South Fitchburg, formerly owned by George Blackburn & Co., was purchased and enlarged, and has since been used by this company for the manufacture of fine worsted suitings. The mill contains two hundred and fifty narrow looms and employs nearly four hundred operatives. The value of the annual product is about one million dollars.

The cloth made at the Wachusett Mills and the Fitchburg Worsted Company's mill is all of high grade, and is considered equal to any manufactured in the United States.

The goods made at the Berwick Mills, operated by James McTaggart, Jr., are likewise of excellent quality, and embrace a fine line of fancy cassimeres for men's wear.

CHAIR MANUFACTURING.—This industry was begun here about 1816, by Levi Pratt. He built two dams on Sand Hill Brook, and at the northerly dam erected a saw-mill, and at the southerly a small shop for the manufacture of chairs. This shop was on the present easterly portion of the Pratt Road, near the house where Andrew Pratt now lives. In this shop and in a larger one, built in 1833, he made chairs for over thirty years.

John D. Pratt, afterward in company with Alonzo Davis, manufactured chairs here at an early period, his shop being located at the old Punch Brook Dam, near Academy Street.

In 1845 Alonzo Davis came to Fitchburg, and in company with Augustus Rice began the manufacture of chairs in Newton's Lane. The business was soon removed to the "Newton Factory," adjoining. Mr. Rice retired from the firm and John D. Pratt and Hiram Wood became partners with Mr. Davis. Still later this firm was dissolved and Mr. Davis formed a partnership with Mr. Pratt's sons, Henry T. and Charles E. Pratt.

In 1855 increase of business necessitated the construction of a new factory, which the firm built on what was known as "Tuttle's Flat." It was of brick, one hundred and fifty by forty feet, and four stories high. Here, the firm of A. Davis & Co. carried on the chair business until 1864, when Mr. Davis became sole proprietor. He continued the business until 1877, when the depression in trade made it unprofitable, and he closed the concern, which, till then, had been a source of profit to himself and a credit to the manufacturing interests of Fitchburg. In 1879 he sold the property to the Parkhill Manufacturing Company.

At this time there is but one corporation engaged in this industry here—the Walter Heywood Chair Manufacturing Company. This is a representative establishment, one of the largest in the country and widely known in foreign lands.

The founder of this company was Walter Heywood, who came to Fitchburg in 1841. In company with Leander P. Comee he built the Heywood & Comee block, and for a time the firm dealt in dry goods and groceries in the store now occupied by Leander Sprague & Co.

In 1844 the firm hired a part of the "Red Mill" on West Street, and began to make chairs. Ten hands were employed at first. The business increased, and two years later was removed to the upper portion of Alvah Crocker's building just erected on the site now occupied by the Fitchburg Steam Engine Company's shop.

December 7, 1849, this building was entirely destroyed by fire, and soon afterward the firm of Heywood & Comee was dissolved.

Mr. Heywood, by no means dismayed, secured temporary accommodations for the business; and as soon as Mr. Crocker completed the erection of a new building, one hundred and thirty by forty feet, three stories high, on the site of the one burned, he hired the whole of it. The business prospered, and in 1852 Messrs. Alton Blodgett, Lovell Williams and George E. Towne were admitted as partners; and soon afterward the firm leased land belonging to Mr. Crocker, in the rear of the chair-shop, and erected two large buildings thereon.

In 1856 a foreign trade was opened, which, later, extended to nearly every country in the world.

In 1864 George H. Spencer was admitted as a partner.

May 31, 1869, the Walter Heywood Chair Company, with a capital of $240,000, was organized as a stock company, under a special act of the Legislature.

The prosperity of the new company was, however, doomed, in the near future, to meet with a serious check. On the night of July 21, 1870, a fire broke out, which proved to be the most disastrous and costly in the history of Fitchburg, even up to the present time. By it was laid in ruins the entire establishment of this company, as well as several other buildings. The property loss amounted to over $120,000, of which $90,000 fell on the Walter Heywood Chair Company. Their insurance was $52,500.

This was a severe, but by no means a fatal, blow. Very soon after the fire the members of the company began to look about for a new site, and shortly purchased some nine acres of land on River Street, where the erection of the present commodious and well-appointed buildings was immediately entered upon and prosecuted with vigor.

The plant consists of three large main buildings of

brick, two stories high, with an attic. Two of these structures are each three hundred feet long and fifty feet wide, and the third is the same length, but ten feet narrower. All of them are located on the westerly side of River Street, ranging one behind another. Some three hundred men are employed in these shops.

There is also a handsome brick building, just north of the shops, used for office purposes, besides numerous lumber sheds, stock-houses, etc. A railroad track, a quarter of a mile long, owned by the company, connects their premises with the main line of the Hoosac Tunnel Route.

The company also own mills in Barton, Vt., where chair stock is prepared.

This corporation successfully weathered the long-continued depression in trade which began soon after the new buildings were occupied, and at the present time has a large and firmly-established business.

In 1874 Mr. Towne sold his interest to Hiram A. Blood.

The founder, Walter Heywood, died in 1880, and, in order to settle Mr. Heywood's estate, the company, in 1885, sold out to a new corporation, composed of the surviving members of the old company, known as the Walter Heywood Chair Manufacturing Company, which company carries on the business at the present time, Lovell Williams being the president and George H. Spencer, superintendent and treasurer.

Soon after 10 o'clock on the night of April 6, 1888, fire broke out in the shop next to River Street, the eastern of the three main buildings, and for a time threatened to outrival the fire of 1870. The building was used as a paint and varnish-shop, and burnt fast and furiously; and but for the heroic exertions of the entire Fitchburg Fire Department and the aid of a strong west wind, which blew the flames away from the other two huge buildings close behind it, the entire establishment would have been destroyed. As it was, the paint-shop was mainly destroyed, the loss being twenty-five thousand dollars. It was rebuilt of its former dimensions during the summer of 1888.

FURNITURE MANUFACTURING.—In connection with chair-making comes very naturally the manufacture of furniture.

Fitchburg has but one establishment devoted to this industry exclusively. The business is conducted by Carmi M. Parker, under the name of Parker & Co. Mr. Parker began the manufacture of furniture in Merrimac, N. H., and in 1880 came to Fitchburg, where he has since carried on the same business in a large factory, formerly occupied by the American Rattan Company, in Newton Place.

The machinery is run by steam, and about forty hands are employed, most of whom are skilled workmen. House and office furniture is here manufactured from the various ornamental and durable woods, and is of excellent quality and finish. Mr. Parker has a salesroom, under the name of the Fitchburg Furniture Company, on Main Street.

Mr. Parker has already built up a thriving business, and his factory has made a place for itself among the longer established manufacturing interests of the city.

Furniture is made to some extent by Mial Davis, at his North Street mills; and the Charles A. Priest Lumber Company make the manufacture of school furniture one of their specialties, at their factory on Rollstone Street.

SHOE MANUFACTURING.—Shoes have, of course, been made here on a small scale since the earliest period of our history as a town.

The first individual, however, to use machinery in the manufacture of shoes in Fitchburg was Elijah M. Dickinson. He began to make them by hand in Marlboro' in 1842. Twelve years later he removed to Fitchburg, and continued the business in a shop at the corner of Main and Laurel Streets. He soon removed to a shop that he built on Oliver Street. Here he remained about six years, when, needing more room for his increasing business, he hired the factory in Newton's Lane, formerly the property of Captain Martin Newton, but then owned by Shepard F. Atherton.

Here he first began to use machinery, and soon built up a flourishing business, and after remaining in this factory for some ten years, he moved into a building on Summer Street, owned by the Simonds Manufacturing Company.

During the last few years of his stay in Newton's Lane, Mr. Dickinson was in partnership with Henry D. Goodale, the firm-name being E. M. Dickinson & Co. Nathaniel Corning succeeded Mr. Goodale as partner about the time of the removal of the business to Summer Street. In 1876 Edgar F. Belding succeeded Mr. Corning, the firm-name remaining E. M. Dickinson & Co. This partnership continued some eight years, during which the firm, in 1881, erected the present substantial brick factory on the corner of Main and North Streets. The firm of E. M. Dickinson & Co., as at present constituted, consists of Mr. Dickinson and his son, Charles P. Dickinson, who has been associated with his father since about 1878.

The firm manufactures a fine grade of misses' and children's shoes, and employs about one hundred and twenty-five hands. The capacity of the factory is one thousand five hundred pairs per day, and the firm's trade is largely in the West and Northwest.

The Sole-Leather Tip Company, located in this building, is also owned and operated by this firm. Several million pairs of sole-leather tips are annually produced by this company, which are purchased by shoe manufacturers all over the United States and in Canada.

Mr. Edgar F. Belding, formerly a partner with Mr.

Dickinson, began to manufacture shoes on his own account in November, 1885. His business is carried on in the name of E. F. Belding & Co., and occupies the two upper floors of the Fitchburg Steam Engine Company's building. Children's and misses' shoes of a fine grade are here made at the rate of seven hundred pairs per day, and employment is furnished for some eighty hands.

Mr. Belding intends soon to erect a new factory which will double his present capacity and afford better facilities for carrying on his rapidly increasing business.

He was one of the first to make and introduce sole-leather tips, and in 1884 the Fitchburg Sole-Leather Tip Company was incorporated with a capital of thirty thousand dollars, Henry A. Willis being president and E. F. Belding, treasurer and manager. The company does an extensive business in this line, selling their sole-leather tips for children's, misses' and youths' shoes to many of the leading shoe manufacturers of this country. The company owns valuable patented machinery expressly designed for the manufacture of these tips.

Paper Manufacturing.—This has been and still is one of the two largest industries of Fitchburg.

The first paper-mill in town was built by Thomas French in 1804, and stood on the site now occupied by the Rollstone Machine Co.'s works on Water Street. Mr. French also built a dam across the stream at this point. It was the third dam and was constructed in 1804.

General Leonard Burbank was the owner of the mill, which went into operation in 1805; and as long as it remained standing it was known as the Burbank Paper Mill, though it was afterward owned by Crocker & Gardner and still later by Alvah Crocker. For over twenty years it was the only paper-mill in town.

Alvah Crocker was the founder of the paper-making industry here, though he did not build his first mill until 1826. This mill was erected in what was then a swamp, difficult of access, as there was at that time no road along the river. It occupied the site of Rodney Wallace's present middle mill. Mr. Crocker expended considerable money on this spot, the dam alone costing fifteen hundred dollars; and in addition to the natural disadvantages of the place, he had other great difficulties to contend with.

Soon after his mill was built it was badly damaged by a freshet, and before long, to keep up with the times, he had to change from hand-labor to machinery, involving an expense of some ten thousand dollars. He was owing several thousand dollars on his original investment in the dam and mill, and to cap the climax, the commission house in Boston that had taken his paper in exchange for rags, chemicals, etc., informed him that he was in debt to them some four thousand dollars, and refused him further credit.

With his characteristic indomitable pluck, Mr. Crocker worked day and night, opened separate accounts with his paper customers and exerted himself to the utmost to pay his debts, both principal and interest. The success of his arduous toil is well known.

Mr. Crocker was a true business man in every sense of the word—honest, clear-headed and possessed of great foresight. The majority of so-called business men do not look beyond their own particular line of business, and the advancement of their own interests.

Fitchburg has been blessed in the past, and is blessed at the present time, with some men who have broader views—who see that whatever advances the public good will be sure, sooner or later, to help them also. Among such the name of Alvah Crocker stands out prominently, and will be long remembered.

As an instance of his way of doing, the following is worthy of preservation. In 1834 the town of Fitchburg employed Mr. Crocker to secure a road along the Nashua River to the Westminster line. The landholders on the route of the proposed road refused to part with their land on terms which Mr. Crocker considered just and favorable to the interests of the town. He therefore bought the whole strip of land along the river to the Westminster line himself, and gave to the town what was needed for the Westminster river road. He did this at considerable personal expense, both of money and time, but it proved to be the basis of his financial success, for since then most of the paper-mills of Crocker, Burbank & Co., have been built on this land.

The building of the Fitchburg Railroad is another example of his far-seeing sagacity.

In 1851 Gardner S. Burbank came to Fitchburg, and went into partnership with Mr. Crocker, thus founding the well-known firm of Crocker, Burbank & Co. Charles T. Crocker was admitted to the firm in 1855, and George F. Fay and Samuel E. Crocker in 1863. Mr. Burbank retired from the firm in 1866, and in 1874 Alvah Crocker died. The business was carried on by the surviving members, under the same firm-name, until about 1879, when two new members were admitted—George H. Crocker, son of Samuel E. Crocker, and Alvah Crocker, son of Charles T. Crocker.

Since 1872 the office of the firm has been in the brick building formerly occupied by the Fitchburg National Bank.

During the first twenty years of its existence this firm acquired the control of a number of large paper-mills, of which the following, taken from Mr. Eben Bailey's sketch of Fitchburg in the "History of Worcester County," published in 1879, is a brief history:

The Snow Mill, or Upper Mill, was built in 1839 by Samuel S. Crocker. Benjamin Snow, Jr., bought it in 1847, and Benjamin Snow, Jr., and Samuel Whitney sold it in 1862 to Crocker, Burbank & Co. The Cascade Mill was built about 1847. It was owned in that year by Samuel A. Wheeler, George Brown and Joel Davis. It was afterward bought by Franklin Wyman, E. B. Tileston and Jonathan Ware, who sold it to Crocker, Burbank & Co. in 1863. The Upton Mill, on the road

to William Woodbury's, was built in 1851 by Edwin Upton and Alvah Crocker, and came into the possession of Crocker, Burbank & Co. in 1859. The Lyon Mill was built in 1853 by M. G. & B. F. Lyon, and bought of Moses G. Lyon by Crocker, Burbank & Co. in 1869. The Hanna Mill was built by George and Joseph Brown about 1852. It was afterward owned by Samuel Hanna, who bought it in 1853 and sold it in 1860 to Crocker, Burbank & Co. The Whitney Mill, in Rockville, was built by Whitney & Bogart in 1847. It was afterward owned by Crocker, Burbank & Co., then by Samuel Whitney and later by William Baldwin, Jr., who sold it in 1868 to Crocker, Burbank & Co. The Stone Mill, below the Snow and Cascade Mills, was built in 1854. One-half of it was owned for some time by Samuel A. Wheeler and Joel Ames, and the other half by Alvah Crocker. Crocker, Burbank & Co. came into possession of one-half in 1864, and Alvah Crocker sold the remaining half to Crocker, Burbank & Co. in 1871.

The Snow Mill was destroyed by fire, October 15, 1884, the loss being thirty-five thousand dollars. All the other mills are in operation at the present time, and produce about thirty tons of book, card and newspaper every twenty-four hours.

As is seen by the above list of mills belonging to this firm, there were other persons here engaged in the manufacture of paper prior to 1860. Prominent among them was the firm of Jesse Lyon & Sons. One of their mills came into the possession of Crocker, Burbank & Co., and the other became the basis of the Fitchburg Paper Company.

December 31, 1864, Rodney Wallace, Benjamin Snow, Jr., and Stephen Shepley bought this paper-mill, and the Kimball scythe-shop near by, and began the manufacture of paper under the firm-name of the Fitchburg Paper Company. Stephen E. Denton was soon after admitted to the firm and took charge of the business at the mill.

In July, 1865, Mr. Shepley sold his interest to Messrs. Wallace and Snow. Mr. Denton died in June, 1866. January 7, 1869, Mr. Wallace bought Mr. Snow's interest, and January 23d of the same year purchased the interest of Mr. Denton's estate of Mrs. Denton. Since then Mr. Wallace has been sole proprietor of the Fitchburg Paper Company.

He soon made improvements in his mill whereby its product was increased from one ton of paper per day to two tons. In 1876 he built a substantial stone dam, and two years later erected a new brick mill just below the old one, thereby increasing the product to about six tons of paper per day.

In 1887 he built another large brick mill, near the junction of Phillips' Brook with the Nashua, and the present capacity of the three mills is over twenty tons of hanging, card, coloring and lithographing paper per day.

Quite a village has sprung up around the two older mills. Just across the river are the tracks of the Fitchburg Railroad, and Mr. Wallace has a freight station of his own, where all the raw material is received and the finished product shipped.

The office of the Fitchburg Paper Company is in the Fitchburg Savings Bank block. Mr. Wallace's two sons, Herbert I. and George R. Wallace, are actively associated with him, as is also his brother, William E. Wallace, in the management of the extensive business and attending to the office duties.

The mill of the George W. Wheelwright Paper Company, on Fourth Street, was built in 1864, by George W. Wheelwright & Son, and was for some years known as the Rollstone paper-mill.

The present company was incorporated in 1880 with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, and manufactures news, card, book and staining paper. The capacity of the mill is about five tons per day.

The office of the company is on Devonshire Street, Boston.

The mill of the Falulah Paper Company is located on Scythe-shop road, South Fitchburg. The company consists of Seth L. and Albert N. Lowe. The mill occupies the site of the Richardson scythe-shop, and was built by the Snow Paper Company in 1884. It came into the possession of the Falulah Paper Company in October, 1886.

Manilla paper is made at this mill at the rate of some three tons per day.

IRON INDUSTRIES.—By far the greater portion of the manu acturing companies here are engaged in the production of machinery. Though not begun as early as some of the other industries, it has taken deep root here; and within the last forty years has developed wonderfully.

The steam-engines and machinery made in Fitchburg have, we may truthfully say, an almost world-wide reputation.

It will be impossible to enter fully into the history and details of our many machine-shops, steam-engine manufactories, foundries, etc., in this limited sketch, but an attempt will be made in the following pages to give some idea of our great interests in this line of manufacturing.

The founders of the iron business here were two brothers, John and Salmon W. Putnam, who, in 1838 removed their business from Ashburnham to Fitchburg. The firm of J. & S. W. Putnam hired a room, twenty by thirty feet, in the old Burbank Paper Mill, then owned by Alvah Crocker, and began, in a small way, an industry that has since then become so large and important as to give to Fitchburg the name of the "Machine City."

Their business at first was mainly repairing, and furnished employment for themselves only; soon they began to make new machinery for various mills, and were obliged to hire an apprentice, and soon after a journeyman was engaged. The firm then began to make gear-cutting machines after the model of one devised by John Putnam; and this machine is now, nearly a half century later, made by the Putnam Machine Company with very slight change in its mechanism.

Their business rapidly increased, requiring, from time to time, an addition to their floor-room; and, in 1845, Alvah Crocker erected for them a brick building, one hundred and fifty by forty feet, they occupy-

ing the lower floor and Heywood & Comee the upper portion.

On the night of December 7, 1849, this building, as has been before stated, was entirely destroyed by fire, and the machine and chair-making industries of Fitchburg came very near being snuffed out together in their infancy. The firm of J. & S. W. Putnam lost twelve thousand dollars, the accumulation of over ten years of hard work, and had no insurance; but two weeks after the fire the brothers were at work again under a temporary covering of boards.

They paid all their debts and the next year the firm made, as it were, a new start in a building erected for them by Mr. Crocker, and now occupied by the Union Machine Company.

About this time Charles H. Brown and Benjamin Snow, Jr., were admitted as partners, and the firm-name became J. & S. W. Putnam & Co.

The Putnam Machine Company.—In 1854 the firm of J. & S. W. Putnam & Co. was increased by the addition of four new members—Messrs. Charles Burleigh, John Q. and Sylvester C. Wright and Danvers A. Tenney; and, on August 10, 1854, these eight individuals were organized as a partnership under the name of the Putnam Machine Company. Four years later, in 1858, the company was incorporated as a stock company, with a capital of forty thousand dollars. In 1866 the capital was increased to one hundred and sixty thousand dollars.

In 1855 the company began the manufacture of steam-engines. In that year Charles H. Brown brought out a new engine, which was patented by himself and Charles Burleigh. The patent was assigned to the Putnam Machine Company, and the engine, known as the "Putnam" Engine, has since been, and still continues to be, manufactured by the company.

In 1866 it became evident that larger accommodations were imperatively needed. Accordingly, the company purchased about twenty-six acres of land, including the Atherton estate in Newton's Lane, and in July, 1866, began the erection of the extensive shops, foundries, etc., now occupied by the company. These buildings were completed during the next two years at a cost of over $200,000, and were admirably arranged for carrying on the company's large business.

The main machine-shop, extending along Putnam Street from Main Street nearly to the tracks of the Fitchburg Railroad is a one-story brick building, 625 feet long and 48 feet wide. In it are seven different departments, each being devoted to the manufacture of special kinds of machinery, but there is no partition throughout its entire length. Along the centre of the shop are thirty-five iron columns which support the main line of shafting, which runs all the machinery in the building. Power is furnished by three large cut-off steam-engines of the company's own manufacture.

Connected with the Main Street end of the main shop is the office of the company, a handsome brick building of two stories, with a Mansard roof. From the east side of the main shop project five wings, twelve feet square, used as offices for the foremen of the various departments; and from the west side extend seven wings, six being 52 by 36 feet, and the seventh 52 by 44 feet, used for the setting up of the machinery made in the seven corresponding departments.

This extensive building is lighted by about three hundred large windows, and there are five hundred gas-burners ready for use when needed. It is heated by over six miles of steam-pipe, and has a floor-room of 37,000 square feet. In a word, the works, which were built from plans designed by S. W. Putnam, could not have been more conveniently or effectively arranged.

Along the west side of the main shop is a roadway with which each of the seven wings communicates by means of large folding doors, so that heavy machines can easily be loaded upon trucks by powerful cranes.

West of the roadway are located the iron and brass foundries, pattern-shops, store-houses, &c. At the extreme southern end of the main shop is the blacksmith-shop, with its forges and heavy hammers.

At the time of the incorporation of the company Salmon W. Putnam was chosen president and manager, and continued to conduct the large business with great sagacity and ability for nearly fourteen years. His death occurred February 23, 1872, and was deeply felt by the community as well as the company. The senior member, John Putnam, though not active in the management of the affairs of the company, was for many years a director and one of the largest stockholders. He was daily at his place, where he was a most energetic and skillful workman up to the time he retired from business, in 1886. Many improvements in the machinery made by the company are due to his ingenuity and skill. He died July 31, 1888, aged nearly seventy-eight years, and his funeral was attended by the officers and employés of the Putnam Machine Company, whose works were closed during the day.

On the death of S. W. Putnam, in 1872, the presidency of the company was offered to John Putnam, but he preferred to continue his work in the field where he had for so many years searched for mechanical secrets rather than to accept an office, the duties of which would involve such a radical change, and he used his influence to have the presidential chair of the company given to Charles F. Putnam.

At the present time the management of the business is vested in S. W. Putnam's four sons,—Charles F., Henry O., Salmon W. and George E. Putnam,—and the works are in full and prosperous operation.

Besides steam-engines a very great variety of machines is made by the company, including lathes, drills, bolt-cutters, gear-cutters, planers, car-wheel borers, shafting, water-wheels, wheel-presses, hangers,

pulleys, &c.; in fact, all kinds of machinery known as machine-shop and special railroad tools.

To show how far their products go, it may be here stated that the first two machine-shops built in China were entirely furnished with machinery made by the Putnam Machine Company. And it is also worth noting that it was the fortune of this company to make the rock-drills, air-compressors and other machinery which rendered possible the completion of that vast engineering feat, the Hoosac Tunnel.

The Putnam Tool Company, with works on Walnut Street, was established in 1882 with Salmon W. Putnam, president, and George E. Putnam, treasurer, and manufactured railroad and machine tools. March 18, 1886, it was consolidated with the Putnam Machine Company.

At the present time the four Putnam brothers and their mother hold a controlling interest in the company, which is officered as follows: President, Charles F. Putnam; Vice-president, Salmon W. Putnam; Treasurer, Henry O. Putnam; General Superintendent, George E. Putnam.

Each of the seven special departments of manufacture has an able man at its head as foreman. Over five hundred hands are employed, many of whom are skilled workmen who have grown old in the employ of the company.

A New York house is maintained as an exhibiting and distributing establishment.

The Fitchburg Steam-Engine Company.—The business of this company was founded in 1871, under the name of the Haskins Machine Company, and is carried on in a substantial brick building on Water Street, occupying the site of the Heywood chair-shop, burnt in 1870.

John F. Haskins organized this company and went into the building as soon as it was completed, and on April 4, 1872, he gave a grand ball in honor of the dedication of the building to the uses of the Haskins Machine Company. Mr. Haskins was full of fun and frolic and, though now a resident in lands across the ocean, is well remembered by many Fitchburg people.

The company manufactured the Blake Patent Pump and the Ellis Vapor Engine chiefly.

In 1875 Hale W. Page, Frederick Fosdick and Charles Fosdick purchased the entire concern, together with its good-will, and changed its name to the Fitchburg Steam Engine Company. Mr. Page was president of the company until his death, May 17, 1887, when Frederick Fosdick was chosen to the position. The officers of the company at the present time are: President, Frederick Fosdick; Superintendent, Charles Fosdick; Treasurer, William E. Sheldon; Secretary, William J. Clifford.

This company employs about sixty hands, most of whom are skilled workmen, and manufactures horizontal and vertical automatic cut-off engines, electric light engines, boilers, shafting, hangers, pulleys, etc.

A specialty has been made of the manufacture of the "Fitchburg" steam-engine, the great merits of which have been everywhere acknowledged.

The products of this company, and particularly their engines, have a wide reputation, and are in use all over the United States. A large foreign trade has also been established, which extends to Central and South America and most of the European countries.

Careful personal supervision of, and strict attention to, the details of the business, on the part of the Fosdicks, have brought to the company its present well-deserved prosperity.

Both brothers are active and prominent in public affairs, Frederick Fosdick having served as mayor of Fitchburg in 1886–87, and Charles Fosdick as president of the Common Council in 1886.

C. H. Brown & Co.—The founder of this well-known steam-engine manufacturing firm came to Fitchburg in 1849; and to him may be ascribed the establishment of the steam-engine business of Fitchburg, which now forms so great a factor in the manufacturing interests of the city.

Soon after coming here Mr. Brown bought one-third interest in the firm of J. & S. W. Putnam; and before long he introduced a new feature into the firm's business,—the making of steam-engines, and took entire charge of this department.

In 1855, as before stated, he brought out the "Putnam" engine, which was built under his supervision until 1859, when poor health compelled him to give up active work for a time; and he soon sold his interest in the Putnam Machine Company.

After four years' rest Mr. Brown again began business, in a small way, in Newton's Lane. It soon began to increase, and in 1866 he hired one-half of the second story of the building occupied by the Fitchburg Machine Works, on Main Street (at that time called Summer Street).

In 1871 he invented a new engine, since well-known as the "Brown" Automatic Cut-off Steam-Engine. Its great merits and points of superiority over other engines were soon appreciated by the trade, and it was not long before it became evident that better facilities and larger accommodations were necessary in order to supply the demand.

At this time, and for some years previous, the business was carried on under the firm-name of C. H. Brown & Co., Elbridge G. Stanley being Mr. Brown's partner.

In 1873 the firm purchased a large lot at the corner of Main and Willow Streets, and erected thereon a commodious and substantial brick building, which has been occupied by C. H. Brown & Co. since 1875.

The present firm consists of Charles H. Brown and his three sons, Charles H. Brown, Jr., Frank E. and John F. Brown.

So large and constant is the demand for the "Brown" engine that the firm manufactures that

exclusively, employing some sixty hands and turning out the engines at the rate of four per month, on the average; and, as soon as built, these engines are sent to purchasers in various parts of the United States and Canada, and also in many foreign countries.

The Fitchburg Machine Works.—The foundation of the business of this company was laid in 1864, by James L. Chapman, who, in the spring of that year, came to Fitchburg and formed a partnership with Sylvester C. Wright, for the manufacture of machinists' tools. This was in "war times," and machinery was very scarce and hard to obtain. The firm's outfit was quite meagre, consisting of an old chain lathe from the "Stone Mill;" an old chain planer from a blacksmith and machine-shop in Townsend; a second-hand Gould shaping-machine bought in Newark, N. J.; an old pattern-maker's lathe and second-hand engine lathe from a shop in Newton's Lane.

This was all the firm could secure, and, with this collection of machines, they started business in the Atherton building, and began to make their own patterns.

In about a year the firm removed to the corner of Main and Laurel Streets, where I. C. Wright & Co.'s hardware store now is. Here, with more room and improved machinery, they prospered. Hale W. Page and Artemas R. Smith were admitted as partners, and thirty hands were employed.

February 2, 1866, the firm moved to the present location of the Fitchburg Machine Works. The building belonged to Sylvanus Sawyer, and stood on what was then called Summer Street. At first the firm hired only the easterly half of the building, but soon bought out Mr. Sawyer and occupied all the building, excepting the portion leased to Charles H. Brown.

January 1, 1867, a stock company was organized, including the four members of the firm and Eugene T. and Lowell M. Miles, Augustus Whitman and Jared Whitman, Jr., under the name of the Fitchburg Machine Company, and for ten years the business was carried on by this company.

In 1877 this company was dissolved and a new one organized under the laws of general copartnership. The name adopted for the new company was the Fitchburg Machine Works, and its members were Sylvester C. Wright (superintendent), James L. Chapman (treasurer), Walter Heywood, Harrington Sibley and Joseph S. Wilson.

On the death of Mr. Wright, in December, 1880, Mr. Chapman became superintendent as well as treasurer, and since then has had entire charge of the business.

This company manufactures all kinds of metal-working machinery, including lathes of different varieties and sizes, iron planers, milling machines, shaping machines, drill presses, etc., and employs some fifty hands.

The products of this company have a well-established reputation, and their purchasers are distributed over a wide extent of territory.

The Simonds Manufacturing Company.—The extensive buildings occupied by this company are situated at the corner of Main and North Streets.

Their business was started in 1864 in the scythe shop of Abel Simonds at West Fitchburg. Mr. Simonds, who, since 1832, had manufactured scythes and edge tools in West Fitchburg, gave up business in 1864 and leased the shop to the new firm. His long experience had made him well versed in the working of steel, and he seems to have handed his knowledge down to his sons.

The firm started under the name of Simonds Brothers & Co., and was composed of George F. and Alvin A. Simonds and Benjamin Snow, Jr. Machine knives, mower and reaper sections, etc., were manufactured and a prosperous business soon established.

In 1868 the Simonds Manufacturing Company was incorporated with a capital of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and the works were moved from West Fitchburg to their present location. Here the same line of manufacture was continued until 1878, when, on account of a consolidation of the mowing-machine knife and reaper section interests by Western manufacturers, the company sold that department of their business, and began the manufacture of saws by an entirely new method of tempering and straightening. They entered the field in competition with many old established saw manufacturing firms, but the superiority of their product, in every respect, soon enabled them to build up a large business, and that, too, at prices in advance of all competitors.

The company's branch works at Chicago and San Francisco have been maintained for some years.

The officers of the company are: George F. Simonds, president; Daniel Simonds, vice-president and treasurer; Edwin F. Simonds, manager of the Chicago works; John Simonds, manager of the San Francisco works.

The inventive genius of George F. Simonds has brought into the possession of this company many valuable patents covering their processes of manufacture and radical improvements in the adjustment of circular saws, etc.

About two hundred hands are employed at the shops here.

A speciality is made of the "Simonds" saw, covered by many patents, a circular-saw unequaled in uniformity and quality of temper, and in its adjustment—facts abundantly attested by the wide sale and universally acknowledged superiority of this saw. Various other kinds of saws are also made by the company, such as crescent-ground, cross-cut saws, straight-ground gang, mill, mulay and drag-saws, band-saws, etc.

The "Simonds" knives, planer knives, etc., and every description of pattern knives are also manufactured by this company and have a very large sale.

The Simonds Rolling-Machine Company.—On Willow Street, close by the Simonds Manufacturing Company's buildings, are the works of the Simonds Rolling-Machine Company.

This is a comparatively new enterprise, and is wholly due to the inventive genius of George F. Simonds, who, early in 1884, had his attention drawn, by an incident, to the possibility of moulding metal articles of circular shape to any given form, while rotating them on their axes between two surfaces moving in opposite directions. Experiments were made with putty balls between wooden surfaces, and so satisfactory were the results that a substantial machine was constructed, which successfully rolled various small articles, such as spheres, small projectiles, machine handles, etc.

The result of this was the incorporation, in November, 1886, of the Simonds Rolling-Machine Company, of Boston, with a capital of four hundred thousand dollars, and George F. Simonds president. This company has purchased all the patents granted to Mr. Simonds in the United States and Canada, relating to the forging of metal articles by rolling.

Patents on this new process of metal-working have been secured throughout the principal countries of the world; and, early in 1886, the Simonds Steel and Iron Forging Company, Limited, with a capital of £150,000 was organized in London, England, by some of the leading British manufacturers.

The works of the Simonds Rolling-Machine Company, located in this city, are for experimental purposes mainly, and about sixty skilled workmen are engaged in testing and developing the capabilities of the machine, which seem to be without limit. The products are turned out with marvellous rapidity, and in accuracy and quality are far superior to those made by any other known process.

As an evidence of the importance of this mechanical discovery, it may be stated that at the last annual meeting of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, held in Boston in February, 1888, the members of the Institute came in a body to Fitchburg on February 23d, expressly to witness the work of this machine.

Companies are now being organized to manufacture under these patents in all the large cities of the United States and Canada, and without doubt this process will soon supersede all others in the manufacture of many articles.

Fitchburg is justly proud of the fact that a son of hers conceived and perfected this important and valuable invention.

The works here are as yet only in embryo, so to speak, and very little manufacturing of products for sale is done. There are, however, a few articles made for sale to a limited extent, such as various kinds of axles, projectiles, machine tool-handles, spindles, etc.

The Union Machine Co.—This company, whose works are on Water St., was incorporated in 1867, with a capital of $60,000, and at first manufactured machinists' tools. In 1870 the manufacture of hose-carriages and steam fire-engines of the "Jucket" pattern was begun, and continued several years.

The making of paper-machinery was begun about 1873, and since then the company has made this line of work a specialty.

In 1876 the company transferred its stock, etc., to Crocker, Burbank & Co., who put in new machinery, and continued to build paper-machinery under the old name of the company.

In 1887 a stock company was formed, with these officers: John Burney, president; Samuel E. Crocker, treasurer; Emmons Crocker, secretary. This company also retained the name of Union Machine Co., and put in new machinery. It ranks to-day among the best establishments of this kind in the country.

Special attention is paid to the manufacture of large Fourdrinier and cylinder paper-machines, and the company also makes rag and Jordan engines, screen-plates, and all other kinds of paper-mill machinery.

This line of machinery is also made by several other concerns in town, as a department of their business.

Francis Sheldon & Co. carry on business as millwrights, and also manufacture rag-engines, cylinder-washers, rag-cutters and dusters for paper-mills.

Ezekiel Davis, who owns the shop formerly operated by Alfred White, in Rockville, makes paper-mill bars and bed-plates and rag-cutter-knives, besides all varieties of machine-knives.

Hardy & Pinder make patent cast-metal screen-plates, used in paper-making.

The Rollstone Machine Company.—This company, whose works are near those of the Union Machine Company, was also incorporated in 1867 and has always made wood-working machinery, and has built up quite a large business. Machines made by this company are in operation in almost all sections of the United States.

George L. Stearns is manager and Henry F. Coggshall treasurer.

In addition to wood-working machinery, this company manufactures the following: The C. F. Smith system of ice-making and refrigerating machines; the E. N. Gates system of hot water heating for dwellings, and the Hodges' Universal Angle Union, for plumbers' use, in connection with steam, water or gas-works.

Beside this company, the following firms and individuals manufacture wood-working machinery:

A. D. Waymouth & Co., who, for the last forty years have made the well-known Waymouth Lathe. Their shop is in Newton Place, and they are the sole manufacturers of A. D. Waymouth's new patent self-adjusting and self-centreing lathe for wood-turning.

Charles W. Wilder makes Wilder's Patent Turning Lathe, which was invented by him, and does all kinds of wood-turning at his shop on Water Street.

C. H. Cowdrey secured improvements on the original Waymouth lathe and makes lathes of his pattern, and also shafting, pulleys, etc., at his shop on Main Street.

The Fitchburg Adjustable Saw-table Company make saw-tables and adjusters of acknowledged superiority at their shop in Newton Place.

Franklin S. Lovell has machine works on Boutelle Street, where he manufactures saw-mill, grist-mill and wood-working machinery. He also makes C. M. Flint's patent saw-mills, as well as gingham machinery, dynamos and various kinds of electrical machinery.

The Burleigh Rock-Drill Company.—Charles Burleigh, the inventor of the rock-drill bearing his name, came to Fitchburg in 1850, and soon became a member of the firm of J. & S. W. Putnam. Later he was prominently identified with the Putnam Machine Company. His death occurred May 28, 1883.

When work was begun on the Hoosac Tunnel all the rock-tunnelling had to be done by hand. It was slow work, and the danger arising from lack of ventilation increased as the work advanced. About 1865 the late Alvah Crocker, it is said, applied to Mr. Burleigh to devise some description of power-drill to complete the tunnel, which at that time it seemed almost an impossibility to finish with the methods then employed.

The result of Mr. Burleigh's study of this difficult problem was the invention by him of the Burleigh Rock-Drill and Patent Air-Compressor, a combination which was capable, not only of drilling holes from three-fourths of an inch to five inches in diameter, to a depth of thirty feet, at a rate of from two to ten inches per minute, according to the nature of the rock, but also of thoroughly ventilating the tunnel at the same time, thus obviating this great and fatal source of danger.

These machines have produced a complete revolu tion in the work of rock-tunnelling. By means of them the completion of the Hoosac Tunnel was rendered possible, and since then large use has been made of them, both in this country and abroad. Among the many great engineering feats, where the use of these machines was indispensable, may be mentioned the Sutro Tunnel, Hell Gate, Brooklyn Bridge and several of the great tunnels in Europe.

In 1867 the Burleigh Rock-Drill Company was incorporated, with a capital of $150,000, to make and sell these machines, of which the world is the market.

In connection with this company is the Burleigh Tunnel Company, incorporated in 1869, with a capital of $50,000.

Boiler Manufacturing.—David M. Dillon, of Fitchburg, was the first person to make boilers of steel, and though laughed at by other boiler-makers for trying such an experiment, the success he has made of it and the wide and constantly increasing sale of his boilers have caused a smile to settle on the genial countenance of Mr. Dillon, showing the truth of the adage, "He who laughs last, laughs best."

He started his business in 1870, in a shop at the corner of Main and West Streets. The people in that previously quiet neighborhood strenuously objected to the noise produced. So, after remaining there two years, Mr. Dillon, finding that he needed more room, and being naturally of an accommodating disposition, moved his works to a shop he had built on Crocker Street, where, for the past sixteen years, he has carried on his rapidly increasing business.

Boilers are also made to some extent by the Burleigh Rock-Drill Company and the Fitchburg Steam-Engine Company.

Of the several other varieties of iron industries not yet mentioned, we have space to speak of none in detail, except the foundries. A few other iron and steel products made here, that may be mentioned briefly, are files, manufactured by Hon. Eli Culley, who has carried on this business here since 1868; agricultural implements, by R. A. Leonard & Son; steel horse-collars and boiler-makers' tools, by Alexander Thompson; pneumatic and hydraulic machines, by the Fitchburg Manufacturing Company; water-motors, by C. A. Sawyer & Co.; electric machinery, by Irving W. Colburn; small tools, models, etc., by C. S. Tolman, H. P. Tyrrell and the Fitchburg Novelty Works; brass finishing, by A. W. Hubbard; and keys, etc., by S. W. Galpin. Lack of space forbids further enumeration.

Several residents of Fitchburg, not yet mentioned, have, by their inventions, done much toward the building up of the machinery business here. Among them are the following: Louis D. Bartlett, inventor and perfector of the Bartlett Automatic Cut-off Steam-engine; Sylvanus Sawyer, inventor of machinery to split rattan into chair cane, and also known for his improvements in rifled cannon projectiles and in the manufacture of jewelers' lathes, etc.; Horace F. Hodges, inventor of Hodges' Universal Angle Union and other ingenious devices; and George E. Bowers, inventor of Bowers' dynamos.

FOUNDRIES.—Besides those connected with the Putnam Machine Company, there are at present in town four foundries,—three iron and one brass.

The one longest established is now operated by the firm of Heywood, Wilson & Co. It is located at the lower end of Main Street, and has always been known as

The Fitchburg Foundry.—This was established by Asher Green about fifty years ago, and for nearly thirty years was located on Water Street, opposite the site now occupied by the Union Machine Company.

Mr. Green was alone at first but, later, David Ware was in company with him, and, for a time, his son, J. S. Green, was associated with them.

In 1860 Mr. Green retired and sold his interest to Waldo Wallace, and the business was carried on under the name of Wallace, Ware & Co., until 1864, when Mr. Wallace became sole proprietor.

In 1866 George Wheelock and Joseph S. Wilson bought half the interest, and, upon Mr. Wallace's death the same year, Walter Heywood and Harrington Sibley purchased the other half. The business was carried on for about two years under the name of Heywood, Wheelock & Co.

In 1868 the present foundry buildings were erected and the business removed thereto; and, about the same time, Mr. Wheelock sold his interest to Hale W. Page, and the name of the firm became Heywood, Wilson & Co. Mr. Page left the firm in 1875, and Mr. Heywood died in 1880, and at the present time the business is carried on by Messrs. Wilson & Sibley, who have retained the firm-name of Heywood, Wilson & Co.

The second oldest foundry is located on Crocker Street, and has always been known as

The Rollstone Foundry.—It was established nearly forty years ago by the firm of Davis, Page & Co., consisting of Joel Davis, Hale W. Page and Artemas R. Smith. After a time, Mr. Davis retired, and the firm became Smith, Page & Co., and, still later, Smith & Page.

On July 21, 1870, the fire which destroyed the Heywood chair-shop also entirely ruined this foundry, causing a loss of twelve thousand dollars. A large brick building was immediately erected on the same site, and the business was carried on by Smith & Page until Mr. Smith's death, in March, 1875.

In 1875 Lyman H. Goodnow removed from Worcester to Fitchburg and became an equal partner with Mr. Page in the business; and, in 1877, Mr. Goodnow became, and has since continued to be, the sole proprietor of the Rollstone Foundry. Mr. Goodnow makes a specialty of the manufacture of large fly-wheels and iron fronts for buildings.

On the night of October 17, 1885, this foundry was again badly damaged by fire, the loss amounting to over fifteen thousand dollars; but the building was soon repaired, and the foundry in operation again.

M. J. Perault's Iron Foundry is on Water Street. The business was started in 1883, by Marshall & Farnsworth, for the manufacture of fine castings.

In July, 1884, Mr. Perault, who had been foreman of the Fitchburg Foundry since 1871, bought the establishment, and has since successfully carried it on.

Brass foundries have been in existence here for over thirty years. In 1858 Messrs. Levi Stevens and George Wheelock had a brass foundry near the Rollstone Foundry. A year or two later the firm dissolved, Mr. Wheelock taking charge of the old foundry and Mr. Stevens starting a new one at the corner of Main and Laurel Streets.

About 1869 Sargent & Earls operated a brass foundry for a year or two in Newton's Lane.

At the present time the only brass foundry in town is that of William A. Hardy, on Water Street.

Mr. Hardy was formerly with Mr. Stevens, and later, in company with George Wheelock, succeeded Mr. Stevens in operating the Laurel Street foundry, under the firm-name of W. A. Hardy & Co.

About 1872 Mr. Hardy became sole proprietor, and removed the business to his present location, where he has since successfully conducted it. He makes a specialty of machinery castings, and is the inventor of Hardy's Patent Car Axle Boxes, and enjoys a considerable share of railroad patronage.

A number of manufacturing establishments have been carried on in Fitchburg, which, for various reasons, have been discontinued, or have removed from town. A few of them have been of importance in the business interests of the place in years past, and are worthy of mention in some detail; and as many of them were engaged in the manufacture of iron and steel products, they come most appropriately under the present head of iron industries.

SCYTHE MANUFACTURING.—This long established and, at one time, very important industry has been extinct here only about ten years.

It was begun in 1796 by John & Joseph Farwell, who had a scythe-shop near the present corner of River and Main Streets. Here they made scythes for a quarter of a century, or so, and the Farwell scythe acquired a considerable reputation.

About 1830 John T. Farwell and Alpheus Kimball started a scythe-factory just below A. Crocker & Co.'s paper-mill, and began to make scythes of the Farwell pattern. Two years later Mr. Farwell left the firm, and the business was carried on by Mr. Kimball, who later took his three sons, Alpheus P., William and John W. Kimball, into partnership, under the firm-name of A. Kimball & Sons. After the death of Alpheus Kimball, about 1860, the business was conducted, from 1860 to 1862, by W. & J. W. Kimball, and after 1862 by William Kimball alone, who sold the shop in December, 1864, to the Fitchburg Paper Company.

Soon after Mr. Farwell dissolved his partnership with Mr. Kimball, he went into company, in 1832, with Abel Simonds, the firm-name being J. T. Farwell & Co.

This firm built a new scythe-factory farther up the river, above the junction of Phillips' Brook and the Nashua. Mr. Farwell retained the right to the Farwell pattern, and the firm manufactured these well-known scythes for about twenty years. During a portion of this time Leonard C. Sanborn was also a partner.

After Mr. Farwell retired Mr. Simonds continued to make scythes and edge-tools, his son, Joseph F. Simonds, being in company with him part of the time, until 1864, when he gave up business and rented the shop to the new firm of Simonds Bros. & Co.

About 1846 Alpheus P. Kimball, in company with John L. Chandler, built a scythe-factory in South Fitchburg, on what is now Scythe-shop road, on the

site of the present mill of the Falulah Paper Company. Here scythe-making was carried on by the firm of A. P. Kimball & Co. for a few years. Mr. Kimball soon sold his interest, and for a time the shop was run by Mr. Chandler, in connection with other partners, under the firm-name of J. L. Chandler & Co.

In 1852 Captain Edwin Richardson took the shop, and manufactured scythes there for about twenty-five years.

It is evident from the above brief account that scythe-making was at one time an important industry here. Official statistics of 1855 show that during that year there were made in Fitchburg seven thousand nine hundred and twenty-five dozen scythes, valued at sixty-two thousand and seventy-two dollars, and that fifty-eight hands were employed in the three scythe factories.

The Whitman & Miles Manufacturing Company.—Among the earliest manufacturers of edge-tools in Fitchburg were Albert G. Page and Alfred White. The firm of Page & White began business in Rockville, where the Berwick Mills now stand, about fifty years ago, and was the origin of the above-named company, one of our most valuable manufacturing establishments, now, unfortunately, not numbered among the industrial firms of Fitchburg.

Page & White made edge-tools of various kinds. After a few years Mr. White retired from the firm, and began business for himself in a large shop in Rockville, farther up on Phillips' Brook, and built up a prosperous business in the manufacture of engine bars and plates, rag-cutter and trimming-knives, shingle-knives, etc. For a time he was in company with Masa Willis, but during a considerable period was alone. He died September 13, 1885, and the business established by him is now carried on by Ezekiel Davis, formerly of the Whitman & Miles Manufacturing Company.

After Mr. White's withdrawal from the firm, Mr. Page formed a partnership with Messrs. F. Stiles and William E. Taylor, under the firm-name of A. G. Page & Company, and continued business at the same shop.

About 1847 this firm was dissolved, and Edward Aldrich became Mr. Page's partner, and the business was carried on by Page & Aldrich until 1852, when a new firm, Page, Whitman & Company, was established, still retaining the old shop. This firm was composed of Mr. Page, Augustus Whitman and Calvin Foster, and made a specialty of the manufacture of socket chisels, planing and paper-knives.

In 1856 this firm was dissolved, and Mr. Whitman and Eugene T. Miles took charge of the establishment under the firm-name of Whitman & Miles. Business prospered, and in 1864 the Whitman & Miles Manufacturing Company was incorporated, and the works removed to new and commodious shops in West Fitchburg. A very large and rapidly increasing business was carried on here for about twelve years, mowing-machine knives being the principal product.

The company had a branch establishment in Akron, Ohio, and in 1876 the Whitman & Barnes Manufacturing Company was formed, and the Whitman & Miles Manufacturing Company consolidated with it. The works were removed to Akron, and Fitchburg thus lost a valuable and prosperous corporation.

The American Rattan Co.—This company was incorporated in 1852, with a capital of $46,800, and manufactured chair-cane from rattan. Previously, this kind of work had been done by hand, but this company put in the machines which had recently been invented by Sylvanus Sawyer and his brother, Addison, for splitting cane.

For many years the American Rattan Company was one of the most prosperous and profitable manufacturing concerns in the United States. The works were in Newton's Lane.

After twenty-three years of prosperity, due largely to the able management of Moses Wood, who was president of the company from its incorporation till his death, in 1869, and also its treasurer from 1855, the company was consolidated in 1875 with the Wakefield Rattan Company, of Boston, and in April, 1878, the business was entirely removed from Fitchburg.

Some idea of the importance of this company may be obtained by stating the value of its products in different years and noting the remarkable increase.

From official statistics we find that the value of the chair-cane produced by the American Rattan Company in 1855 was $50,000; in 1865, $212,500; in 1875 $340,000.

The loss of this company, and of the Whitman & Miles Manufacturing Company—two of our heaviest and most prosperous concerns—coming, one so soon after the other, increased, in no small degree, the business depression then existing in Fitchburg.

The Buckeye Mowing-Machine Company.—This company began business here about 1864, occupying two large wooden buildings in West Fitchburg, near the junction of Depot road and Westminster river road. In connection with it was the Bay State Horse-Rake Company. Mowing-machines, horse-rakes and laundry-machines were here manufactured and a prosperous business was built up.

In 1865 official statistics show that eight hundred and fifty mowing-machines were made here during that year, valued at one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. The product was greater a few years later.

September 15, 1873, one of the large buildings occupied by this company was destroyed by fire and the other considerably damaged, the loss being fifteen thousand dollars. The works were rebuilt, and in 1876 were purchased by Richard A. Leonard, who continued the manufacture of mowing-machines and also made packing cases there until January 29, 1886,

when both buildings were burnt. Soon afterward the mowing-machine business was removed to Worcester, Mr. Leonard continuing the making of packing cases and agricultural implements in a new factory opposite the site of the old shops.

Many other industries have been carried on here in the past that are now extinct in Fitchburg. A few of them may be mentioned, as follows: Tanneries were early established here, and the one operated by Caldwell & Sprague a half-century ago nearly, located near the old V. & M. R. R. engine-house, was quite an important concern. Bellows were made here to a considerable extent during the first half of the present century by various individuals, prominent among whom was Dea. Abel Thurston. Hats were also formerly made here. Parts of piano-fortes were made by Hale W. Page; fan blowers, sewing-machines, etc., by C. P. Marshall; vises by the New England Vise Co.; hoop-machines by the American Hoop-Machine Co. Prior to the discovery of petroleum a large number of candles were made here by John P. Sabin. During the war cannon, cannon-balls and bomb-shells were made here to a considerable extent.

THE GRAIN BUSINESS.—Grist and saw-mills were the first concerns in the manufacturing line started in Fitchburg. We have already spoken of the mill built by the Kimballs about 1750, where for many years the grain for miles around was ground.

From about 1800 to 1822 there was a grist-mill run in connection with the Farwell scythe shop, near the corner of the present Main and River Streets.

A little later Sheldon & Pillsbury's grist-mill was built, on the site now occupied by the Star Worsted Company's mill on West Street. In a few years this mill acquired considerable reputation for bolting flour in a superior manner, and grain was brought to it from places quite distant. It was equipped with two runs of stones, a corn-cracker and flour-bolter, and in 1835, according to Mr. Torrey, the average amount of flour made at this mill was five barrels per day; and Mr. Torrey was of the opinion that during the year 1836 the production would be doubled.

The mill erected about 1836 by Captain Levi Pratt on River Street was, for a time, used by him for the manufacture of powder kegs, but for many years the site has been occupied as a flour and grain-mill. Several parties have carried on this industry there in years past, among them Franklin McIntire and Ira Carleton and the Fitchburg Flour Company. In 1881 Charles P. Washburn purchased the property; and in 1883 Frederick F. Woodward bought one-half interest, since which time the mill has been successfully operated by the firm of Washburn & Woodward.

In 1884 a store-house, one hundred by thirty feet, was built to accommodate their increasing business. The firm possesses every facility for carrying on their large wholesale and retail trade in flour, grain, meal, etc. A branch track connects their mill with the main line of the Fitchburg Railroad close by.

Let us now return to the Kimball saw and grist-mill. On the site occupied by it was built, in 1826, the "Stone Mill," which, for over forty years, was operated as a cotton-mill. In 1868 Joseph Cushing bought the property, and since then the firm of J. Cushing & Co. has carried on the flour and grain business there. Mr. Cushing's son, Milton M. Cushing, was in partnership with him, but died some years ago.

A very large business is done here, the mill having a grinding capacity of several thousand bushels of corn per day. A track, some six hundred feet long, connects the establishment with the main line of the Fitchburg Railroad. This track was built in 1871, and on September 2d, of that year, the completion of the "Joe Cushing Railroad," as it was called, was the occasion of quite a jollification.

In connection with his mill Mr. Cushing has several large store-houses, and, by a rather singular coincidence, he has, just across the stream, a saw-mill and lumber-yard. So the first manufacturing industry in Fitchburg is, at the present time, exactly reproduced on the identical site, though on a vastly greater scale.

THE LUMBER BUSINESS.—As before noted, Fitchburg has had saw-mills located on the various streams and brooks within the limits of the town since the earliest period of its history; and the lumber business has always been an important item in the industries of the place.

It would be useless to try to give, in detail, the history of this business; so we shall content ourselves with simply a brief mention of the more important concerns of this kind that have existed here in the recent past, or are in operation now.

Some twenty years ago the Fitchburg Lumber Company carried on quite an extensive business at their yards on Water Street. The company was incorporated in 1868, with a capital of $200,000, but was not able to go through the financial depression that came a few years later.

Alvah A. Beckwith operated an extensive lumber business, and sash and blind shop on Rollstone Street, over a score of years ago; and after his death, December 17, 1868, the business was carried on by the Beckwith Lumber Company until 1878, when the property was leased by Charles A. Priest, who subsequently purchased it.

Mr. Priest was formerly with the Fitchburg Lumber Company, and operated their yard on Water Street after the company gave up business, until he leased the property of the Beckwith Lumber Company. After purchasing it he greatly enlarged the buildings, and established a prosperous business. He died in September, 1887, since which time the concern has been carried on by the C. A. Priest Lumber Company. The plant is now quite exten-

sive, and a large business is done in lumber and in the manufacture of doors, sash, blinds, stairs and all kinds of builders' finish. A specialty is made of the manufacture of school furniture.

For some years Lorenzo Barker had a lumber-yard and sash and blind factory on North Street. The property afterward came into the hands of Deacon Mial Davis, who greatly increased the facilities for business, and he now operates it as a steam mill, manufacturing doors, sash, blinds and all kinds of house finish. Mr. Davis also deals largely in lumber.

William A. Garno has a steam saw-mill on Lunenburg Street, where a considerable business is done in getting out lumber and making doors, blinds, etc.

Frederick A. Beckwith, son of A. A. Beckwith, has a lumber establishment in Newton Place, and does a large business in building materials, house finish, etc.

Arthur F. Goodfellow has a genuine old-style saw-mill on Wanoosnac Brook, near the Old Turnpike road, where he turns out a large supply of boards.

Of J. Cushing & Co.'s lumber yard and saw mill we have already spoken.

W. C. Johnson has a lumber yard in connection with his other business on Water Street.

Soap and Candle Manufacturing. — This industry dates back to an early period in the history of Fitchburg, for, prior to 1800, there was a soap shop on the site now occupied by Crocker Block, to which tradition says the name "Old Potash" was applied.

At the present time there is but one soap manufactory in town,—that of Cowdin & Walker. Their business has been long established, having been begun by John P. Sabin over forty years ago. Mr. Sabin was for a time in company with Cahill Tolman and S. H. Evans in the "Old City." The firm carried on the grocery business, and also made soap and candles on a small scale.

About 1847 Mr. Sabin began the manufacture of these articles by himself, in South Fitchburg, and speedily built up a thriving business.

Prior to the use of kerosene a large amount of candles was made here. Official statistics show that in 1855 ten tons of tallow candles, twenty-five tons of hard soap and six hundred pounds of soft soap were manufactured here, the aggregate value being eight thousand dollars. In 1865 the production of candles in Fitchburg was only three thousand pounds.

Natt Cowdin became a partner with Mr. Sabin in the soap business about 1860, the firm name being J. P. Sabin & Co. Some years ago Mr. Sabin retired from the business, and for the past twenty years or so Mr. Cowdin, in company with C. C. Walker, has carried on the concern, the firm name being Cowdin & Walker. A considerable business is done here, chiefly in soft-soap. Mr. Sabin died May 14, 1885.

In 1859 Charles Davis began the manufacture of soap in a shop on West Street. He soon formed a partnership with George H. Phelps, and in the course of a few years the firm moved into a new shop on Boutelle Street.

About 1871 Mr. Phelps sold his interest to Mr. Davis who then formed a partnership with his brother, Joel Davis, under the firm name of C. Davis & Co. For several years following the firm did not run the shop, but leased it to A. B. Gibbs & Co., and later to James Mitchell. C. Davis & Co. operated the shop from 1875 to 1882, when the business was given up. Charles Davis died October 29, 1885.

The firm of S. M. Brown & Co. had, for several years, a soap shop on Townsend Street near Pearl Street, but about 1881 the firm removed the business to a location near the Westminster depot.

In 1875 the value of the products of the three soap and candle factories in the city was over twenty-seven thousand dollars.

The Fitchburg Railroad Car Shops.—These are located in what is now called East Fitchburg and are in process of construction at the present time.

The plans prepared provide for six large buildings. Four of them range side by side, each being one hundred by four hundred and eighty feet, and covering about an acre of ground. The one nearest the river is to be the paint shop, the next the passenger car shop, the next the freight car shop and the easterly one the car repairing shop. Each of these immense buildings will be divided by two fire-proof cross walls into three sections.

Of the two other structures, which run at right angles to the four above-mentioned, one is to be the wood-working shop, sixty by three hundred feet, and the other, parallel with it, is to be the machine shop, sixty by four hundred feet. The wood-working shop will be two stories high and the other five buildings one story. The foundations will be Rollstone granite and the structures will be built of brick made at the yards of Edwin A. Goodrich, in this city.

The buildings will be substantial, well-proportioned structures and a credit to the Fitchburg Railroad and the city for which the corporation was named.

Brick Manufacturing.—Edwin A. Goodrich owns and operates three brick-yards in Fitchburg—one on Summer Street, one at South Fitchburg, and the Pound Hill yard, in the northwesterly part of the township. He makes several million bricks annually and has a well-established and prosperous business.

Bakeries.—These have been in existence here for over a century. The first mention of this industry occurs in relation to David Gibson, who, about 1781, built a bake-shop on the site where now stands the house which belonged to the late Ebenezer Torrey, Esq.

For the last sixty years or more there has been a bakery where the steam bakery of H. B. Boutelle now stands, on Circle Street (originally Baker's

Street). For many years this shop was carried on by William M. Pride. It is now under the proprietorship of Henry P. Boutelle, who employs steam-power in the manufacture of bread, crackers, etc., and does a large business, both in this city and in surrounding towns.

Other bakeries in town are operated by James Brock, Horton & Raymond and Phelps & Cooper. Herbert N. Rugg does considerable fancy baking of cake, etc., in connection with the manufacture of confectionery.

GRANITE QUARRYING.—Fitchburg, possessing as it does an almost inexhaustible supply of good granite near the city, in the shape of Rollstone Hill, has made the quarrying and working of granite one of her staple industries.

For many years this source of profit and employment was comparatively unused; during the past seventy-five years, however, extensive quarries have been opened and worked on this hill.

Among the earliest to engage in this business was Samuel A. Wheeler. Fitch Downe, who died recently, was for some years a granite contractor and worker.

For many years Mr. Wheeler did a large and important business in granite. Most of the time he was in company with others. In 1844 Charles Davis was his partner, and the firm furnished the Rollstone granite of which the Fitchburg Railroad Station in Boston is built, beside filling other large contracts. He was also in company with Joel Davis at one time.

Most of the dams and the stone-work of the bridges across the north branch of the Nashua, in Fitchburg, were built by S. A. Wheeler & Co., and still stand as a testimonial to the firm's thorough workmanship.

During the latter part of his business life his son, S. A. Wheeler, Jr., was his partner. Mr. Wheeler died August 30, 1883.

Wells R. Bardwell is another of the old-time stone-workers. He was at one time a member of the firm of Childs, Bardwell & Co., granite workers, on West Street.

The well-known granite firm of former years, Davis, Ames & Co., later Joel Ames & Co., should also be mentioned.

At the present time the following individuals and firms work quarries on Rollstone: Frederick A. Hale, Sylvester P. Litchfield and F. A. McCauliff & Co. There are also several parties engaged in working granite and as granite contractors, as follows: Henry E. Ames, George Hamilton, Daniel O'Connor, William T. Shattuck and George A. Terrell.

Large amounts of granite are annually taken from Rollstone and used for under-pinning and building purposes, paving blocks, flag and curb-stones, monuments, etc. The quarries are worked nearly all the year.

In this connection may be mentioned the industry of marble-working.

The firm of Hartwell & Reed, on Main Street, carries on one of the longest established marble-works in the country. The business was begun by Isaac Hartwell in 1831. Some twenty years later George Reed became his partner. Mr. Hartwell died some years ago, and the business is now carried on by Mr. Reed and his son, Edward H. Reed, the old firm name being retained.

THE FITCHBURG GAS COMPANY was organized in 1852, with a capital of sixty thousand dollars, and has since continued to manufacture gas for the illumination of our streets and dwellings. The company, of which Hon. Rodney Wallace is president, and Henry F. Coggshall treasurer, has gas-works near the railroad, a short distance southeast of the depot, with two gasometers of sixty-five thousand and twenty-eight thousand cubic feet respectively, and maintains about twelve miles of street-mains.

THE WACHUSETT ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY was incorporated in 1883, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, to furnish electricity for lighting purposes. The principal streets in the city are now illuminated by electric lights.

The central station of the company is on Water Street, and is furnished with a two hundred and seventy-five horse-power engine and the usual accompaniments. The capacity is upwards of one hundred and fifty Thompson-Houston arc lights.

Beside street-lights the company furnishes light for many of the stores in town, and, in the near future, proposes to furnish electric power for mechanical purposes. Arthur H. Kimball is superintendent.

There is space to speak of only a few more of the many other industries here that have not yet been mentioned. Though they may seem to be small when compared with some of the great corporations in town, yet they are all of importance to the prosperity of Fitchburg.

The few we shall mention are the American Pruning Company, the Fitchburg Carbonized Stone and Pipe Company, the Fitchburg Enamel Works, Fitchburg Pipe Covering Company, Fitchburg Spirit-Level Company, J. T. Smith, manufacturer of clothes-dryers, towel-racks, etc.; J. Joel and W. J. & F. C. Wheeler, cigar manufacturers; Marshall & Farnsworth, pulley-covering makers; H. B. Adams, S. G. Cushing and the Novelty Turning Company, manufacturers of all kinds of wood-turning, organ materials, etc.; C. L. Tenney, pattern and model-maker; Jonas Whitney, for about half a century a manufacturer of organ materials; S. N. Weston, reed manufacturer; Cyrus Tolman, maker of emery grinders, saw arbors, etc.; besides numerous carriage-makers, carpenters and building contractors, blacksmiths, etc., etc.

A volume might easily be written on this one subject of the mechanical industries of Fitchburg; but want of space compels the writer to omit much and condense what is written. The intention has been to treat all fairly, and it is hoped that this result has been accomplished.

CHAPTER XLIV.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

COMMERCIAL HISTORY.

In a sketch limited as this is we can expect to give only the briefest mention of the more important commercial enterprises which make Fitchburg a business centre of considerable note. It is true that the numerous large manufacturing establishments, which have been dwelt upon at some length in a previous chapter, are the mainstay of Fitchburg's prosperity; but her business-houses, banks and various other commercial organizations are also of great importance, though in a somewhat different way.

It seems proper to begin this chapter with a brief account of the railroad corporations, which unquestionably have been the most important factor in developing our natural resources and mechanical and commercial interests. Each one of these corporations is deserving of a more extended notice, but such would be beyond the scope of the present history.

Transportation Facilities.—Fitchburg is an important railroad centre. In a previous chapter the opening of the Fitchburg Railroad, in 1845, has been spoken of. It was followed three years later by the Vermont and Massachusetts, and about the same time the Cheshire Railroad was put in operation. A few years later the Fitchburg and Worcester Railroad was constructed, and still later the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg Railroad commenced operations. Of late years railroad consolidation has been the rule, and the roads centreing in this city are no exception to it.

The Fitchburg and Worcester, and Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg are now divisions of the great system operated by the Old Colony Railroad Company, and give direct communication between this city and Worcester, Boston and all the cities of Southern Massachusetts, with close connections for New York City and the South.

The Fitchburg Railroad has grown into the great "Hoosac Tunnel Route," having leased the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad, purchased of the State its great "bore," the Hoosac Tunnel, and railroads this side of and beyond the Tunnel, and now controls and operates about three hundred and fifty miles of road, most of which is double-tracked. This line gives the citizens of Fitchburg quick and direct communication not only with Boston and the central and western parts of Massachusetts, but also with Chicago, St. Louis and all the great Western cities. It forms one of the trunk lines between the West and the seaboard, and offers great advantages to shippers of freight.

The Cheshire Railroad is intact at the present time, though probably, at no distant date, it will be absorbed into the Fitchburg system. This road is operated from Bellows Falls, Vt., to South Ashburnham, Mass., and reaches Fitchburg over the tracks of the Vermont and Massachusetts Division of the Fitchburg Railroad. In connection with the Central Vermont Railroad, it offers a through line to all points in Vermont and Canada and is the shortest line from Boston to Lake George. Considerable Western freight comes over this road from the Central Vermont and Grand Trunk Railroads.

Over fifty passenger trains arrive daily at the Union Depot in this city, and heavy freight trains are almost constantly passing through, and it must be evident from this account, brief as it is, that the people of Fitchburg have no reason to complain of the facilities afforded them for traveling and transportation.

In addition to the steam railroads, we have a horse-railroad, recently put into operation by

The Fitchburg Street-Railway Company.—This company was incorporated April 10, 1886, with a capital of $60,000. Work was at once begun, and so rapidly was track-laying prosecuted, that the road began business July 1, 1886, and has proved a paying enterprise and a great convenience to the public. Henry A. Willis, Esq., is president of the corporation. The road is three and a half miles in length, extending from Sanborn Road, in West Fitchburg, through Westminster, River, Main and Summer Streets to the Fitchburg Park, near the Lunenburg line. Extensions have been authorized, and will be made before long, to Waite's Corner, in West Fitchburg, and the city farm in South Fitchburg. The road is well supplied with first-class cars, and upwards of forty good horses are owned by the company.

Banks.—There are at the present time in Fitchburg eight financial institutions—four national and four savings banks.

The Fitchburg National Bank.—This is the oldest in town and has previously been spoken of as the Fitchburg Bank, chartered in 1832. It was reorganized in 1865 under the National Banking Act. It has a capital of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and a surplus of one hundred and forty thousand dollars. The bank began business in a small granite building which, in 1853, was replaced by a brick banking-house, where business was carried on until 1871. In that year the bank removed to its present commodious, and even palatial, quarters in the Fitchburg Savings Bank Block. Since 1871 the old brick bank building has been used by Crocker, Burbank & Co. as an office.

Hon. Ebenezer Torrey was officially connected with this bank from its commencement—the first twenty-seven years as cashier and after 1860 as president. Francis Perkins was the first president, and served until his death, in 1859. Mr. Torrey was elected his successor and held the office until his death, September 3, 1888. October 22, 1888, Brigham N. Bullock was elected president and H. G. Townend, cashier.

The Rollstone National Bank.—This bank, as stated in a previous chapter, was chartered in 1849 as the

Rollstone Bank. It was reorganized into a national bank in 1865, and has a capital of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and a surplus of one hundred and forty thousand dollars. Its first banking house was a small granite building, standing on the site now occupied by the present handsome Rollstone Bank block, which was erected in 1869. Since 1869 the bank, in connection with the Worcester North Savings Institution, has occupied well-appointed and commodious banking rooms on the ground floor of this block.

Hon. Moses Wood was the first president of this bank and served until his death, in 1869. Alvah Crocker was then chosen president and served until January, 1873, when Henry A. Willis succeeded him. Mr. Willis still holds this position and has thus been officially connected with this bank for over thirty years, being cashier from 1858 up to the time he was chosen president. Wilbur B. Tenney has been cashier since 1881.

The Safety Fund National Bank.—This bank was organized April 17, 1874. Its capital is $200,000 and surplus $34,500. Business was begun July 1, 1874, in the second story of Belding & Dickinson's Block, and in March, 1875, was removed to its present location in Crocker Block. This substantial and handsome block was erected by Hon. Alvah Crocker, under an agreement for a twenty years' lease of the banking rooms to the Safety Fund National Bank.

The first president was Henry Allison, and the first cashier Frederick F. Woodward. In 1883 Mr. Woodward went into the grain business, and resigned his position as cashier. He was succeeded by George K. Tapley, who held the position until his removal to Springfield, early in 1888, to engage in other business. Joel G. Tyler, who has been identified with this bank, as book-keeper, since September, 1882, was appointed acting cashier until April 30, 1888, when the present cashier, Walter S. Jenks, was elected.

Mr. Allison has held the position of president up to the present date. Previous to the organization of this bank he was connected with the Fitchburg National Bank for some ten years, and has, therefore, had an experience of twenty-five years in banking.

The Wachusett National Bank.—This bank was incorporated May 20, 1875, chiefly through the efforts of Hiram A. Blood. Its capital at the start was $500,000, but was subsequently reduced one-half, leaving its present capital $250,000 and a surplus fund of $250,000. Business was begun June 1, 1875, in the rooms lately vacated by the Safety Fund Bank in Belding & Dickinson's Block. January 1, 1876, the business was removed to their present banking-rooms in the new Wachusett Bank block, at the corner of Main and Day Streets.

At the present time Omon H. Lawrence is president and George E. Clifford, cashier of this bank.

The Fitchburg Savings Bank.—This is by far the oldest savings bank in town, and was incorporated February 12, 1846, and went into operation on the 3d of the following June. Its business was done in the Fitchburg Bank building until 1871. In that year the Savings Bank erected the Fitchburg Savings building, the largest and most costly business block in the city. The Savings Bank has since then occupied spacious apartments on the same floor with and adjoining those of the Fitchburg National Bank.

Its first officers were Francis Perkins, president, and Ebenezer Torrey, treasurer, the same officers as the Fitchburg Bank had. At the present time Hon. Thornton K. Ware is president, Charles J. Billings, treasurer and Andrew Jewett, assistant treasurer. Deposits, October 31, 1888, $2,372,453.45. Number of depositors, 5888.

Worcester North Savings Institution.—This bank was incorporated May 26, 1868; organized June 13, 1868; began business July 6, 1868. Hon. Moses Wood was its first president and Henry A. Willis, first treasurer. Its banking-rooms are in the Rollstone National Bank building, in connection with the Rollstone National Bank. Since Mr. Wood's death Augustus Whitman, Benjamin Snow and Lowell M. Miles have served in the office of president. Mr. Miles resigned in 1886, and Hon. Amasa Norcross was elected to the office, and holds it at present. Henry A. Willis is still the treasurer, and Benjamin F. Wallis is assistant treasurer. Deposits, July 1, 1888, $2,593,309.15. Number of depositors, 6795.

The Fitchburg Co-operative Bank.—This savings institution was incorporated October 27, 1877, as "The Fitchburg Co-operative Saving Fund and Loan Association," but July 1, 1883, this name was changed, by legislative enactment, to the simpler one given above.

There is not space to give in detail the method of conducting business in this institution, but it is certain that its good influence has been very marked, for many persons have been induced by it to begin the saving of money in a small way. It has tended to encourage industry, economy and thrift, and well deserves the prosperity it has had in the last ten years.

Dr. Jabez Fisher has been its president from the beginning. George E. Clifford was treasurer during the first four years of its existence, and was succeeded by Charles F. Baker, who has since held the position. Joseph F. Simonds has acted as secretary during the life of the bank. His office is in a room of the Rollstone Bank building, and monthly meetings of the shareholders are held there for the transaction of business.

The Fidelity Co-operative Bank.—Early in the year 1888 the idea of starting a second co-operative bank in town took shape, and April 23, 1888, the Fidelity Co-operative Bank was organized. At that time George E. Clifford was chosen president and Frank

D. Page treasurer. The bank started with one hundred and forty-nine charter members and one thousand seven hundred shares subscribed for. It has a room for meetings and the transaction of business in Crocker block, and is a thriving institution.

The Fitchburg Post-Office.—The Fitchburg post-office was established July 1, 1811, and on that date the first postmaster, Jacob Willard, was appointed. He was succeeded January 1, 1813, by Calvin Willard, who seems to have held the position until November 7, 1825, when David Brigham was appointed.

In those early days the post-office was kept in private dwellings. In 1827, when Mr. Brigham was postmaster, the office was in the "Abram Dole house" for a time, and soon afterward was removed to a dwelling-house, further down what is now Main Street. This house now stands in Wesleyan Place, in the rear of the old Methodist Church, and a trace of its former use can now be found in the letter drop, in what was once the post-office room. A wheel about two feet in diameter, provided with alphabetical divisions for holding letters, was all the equipment used.

The next postmaster was Mark Miller, appointed by President Jackson, October 9, 1834. He removed the office to his book-store and printing-office, opposite the tavern, which occupied the site of the present Fitchburg Hotel. Mr. Miller soon resigned his position, and left town.

January 21, 1835, Nathaniel Wood was appointed, and held the position upwards of sixteen years. During his service the post-office was twice moved—in 1835 to a building nearly opposite the present *Sentinel* office, and about 1846 to Shepley's book-store, in the Torrey & Wood block. Call-boxes were first used in the early part of Mr. Wood's service.

May 3, 1851, Goldsmith F. Bailey, Mr. Wood's law partner, was appointed, and held the position two years. He retained the same location as his predecessor, and Mr. Shepley was his assistant.

May 4, 1853, President Pierce appointed John Todd postmaster. The office was soon after removed to much better quarters in the new town-hall building. Mr. Todd's assistant was Charles G. Giles. On account of his removal to New York, Mr. Todd resigned, and January 21, 1857, Joseph W. Mansur was appointed postmaster by President Buchanan. He was re-appointed February 21, 1861, but soon after was removed by President Lincoln. Mr. Giles remained his assistant for a while and was succeeded by Henry Allison.

In 1860 the postmaster's salary was $1727.26 per year.

September 4, 1861, Thornton K. Ware, Esq., was appointed by President Lincoln. His assistant was John W. Kimball. Mr. Ware was re-appointed, but was soon afterward removed by President Johnson, who appointed Colonel George E. Goodrich to the position October 16, 1866. Colonel Goodrich was re-appointed March 3, 1871, and February 24, 1875. His assistants were Alfred A. Marshall and Charles E. Wallace.

November 18, 1872, the post-office was removed to its present location in John M. Carpenter's building at the corner of Main and Church Streets. It was formerly the "Trinitarian Church," but was purchased by Mr. Carpenter in 1871 and entirely remodeled for the use of the post-office.

February 10, 1879, President Hayes appointed General John W. Kimball postmaster and he was re-appointed February 7, 1883. He retained Mr. Wallace as his assistant through his eight years of service.

In 1882 extensive alterations were made whereby much-needed space was added to the post-office accommodations. During the repairs the office was removed to a store in Spaulding's Block, corner of Main and Grove Streets.

In November, 1884, the free delivery service was begun with five carriers. Many of the call boxes, which were no longer needed, were removed, thus giving more room for the business of the office.

October 1, 1885, the special letter delivery service was begun.

The present postmaster, Frederick A. Currier, was appointed February 22, 1887, after a spirited but good-natured contest by four candidates. Mr. Currier retained Charles E. Wallace as assistant postmaster and nearly all the clerks and letter-carriers. An additional carrier was appointed September 1, 1887, and two more August 1, 1888, making eight carriers employed at the present time.

There are about fifty street letter boxes, so distributed as to accommodate as large a number of people as possible.

The business of the Fitchburg Post-office is shown by the following items from the returns of the office for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1888, which were kindly furnished the writer by Mr. Currier: $24,914.19 received from sale of stamps, postal cards and stamped envelopes; gross receipts from all sources $26,222.50; 15,886 money orders and postal notes issued or paid, amounting to $102,625.29; 6761 registered letters or packages handled; 1,917,045 pieces handled by the carriers; 3716 letters advertised; 938 special delivery letters delivered, and 716 special delivery stamps sold.

There is also a post-office in West Fitchburg. John F. Shea, the present postmaster, has held the position since November, 1885.

THE FITCHBURG BOARD OF TRADE.—This is the older of the two mercantile organizations in the city, and was formed in May, 1874. In 1876 the Board of Trade moved into its present rooms in the Post-office building.

THE MERCHANTS' ASSOCIATION.—This is the younger and at this time the more active of our two trade or-

ganizations, and its membership includes about every merchant in town. It was organized March 24, 1886, and Daniel Cross, the senior merchant in business here, was its first president. Regular monthly meetings are held. John F. Bruce is now its president.

TELEPHONE EXCHANGE.—The Fitchburg Exchange of the New England Telephone and Telegraph Co. has been established nearly ten years. The use of the telephone was introduced here by Eliot L. Caldwell, who was manager of the Exchange, 1880–82. The central office is now at 162 Main Street, and F. E. Bowker is manager. This Exchange includes, besides Fitchburg, the towns of Leominster, Ashby, Lunenburg and Townsend, and there are some three hundred subscribers.

THE FITCHBURG MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.—This company was incorporated March 22, 1847, organized June 29th, and began business September 1st of the same year. Its first president was Hon. Nathaniel Wood, who held the position during the next twenty-six years, and was also its treasurer for twenty-four years.

For nearly twenty-five years the company's office was in the Torrey & Wood block; but soon after the completion of the Fitchburg Savings Bank block, the office was removed to the fine suite of rooms at present occupied by the company in that building. Hon. Amasa Norcross is now president, and Edward P. Downe, secretary.

THE MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL AID SOCIETY.—This is strictly a Fitchburg institution, as far as its officers and management are concerned, though its certificates are now spread over a wide extent. It was among the first mutual benefit societies started in this State, and was incorporated February 17, 1879; and its first certificate was issued March 26, 1879. It is a purely mutual association. It has an emergency fund of over $5,000, over 2,500 outstanding certificates in force, representing nearly $5,000,000 of insurance, and has paid about $200,000 on account of death claims. Its membership has grown steadily, and the society has a high standing in insurance circles. From the first, it has been managed by prominent business men in this city. Henry A. Willis, its first president, served five years. He was succeeded by Henry F. Coggshall, who served three years. Henry A. Goodrich succeeded him and still holds the office. Festus C. Currier has held the office of secretary since the society was incorporated, and his efficient work has contributed greatly to its prosperity.

THE UNITED STATES MASONIC ACCIDENT ASSOCIATION.—This association, incorporated September 1, 1887, insures only Masons between twenty-one and sixty years of age. Its membership, at the present time, is about five hundred. Hon. Eli Culley is president; General John W. Kimball, vice-president; Charles S. Perry, secretary, and Joel G. Tyler, treasurer.

HALL'S COMMERCIAL BUSINESS COLLEGE.—This was recently started in town by Mr. A. O. Hall, who secured rooms in Wixon's block for the purpose. The present regular college year began September 4, 1888, with a good attendance. Instruction is given by Mr. Hall and competent assistants in book-keeping, banking, commercial law, short-hand, type-writing, telegraphy, &c., and the college has already made a very prosperous start.

The foregoing comprise the most important financial and commercial institutions and organizations at present existing in the city, and are all that we have space to mention in this chapter.

We will now briefly take up the business houses in the most important lines of trade in Fitchburg. It is, of course, not expected that a complete directory of all who are engaged in the different branches of trade will be given in the succeeding pages, but only a brief account of the business houses that have, for a considerable length of time, been identified with the commercial interests of the town and city.

GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHINGS.—We will begin with this line of trade because one of its representatives, Daniel Cross, is, as has been before stated, the senior merchant in active business in Fitchburg. Mr. Cross was born in Swanzey, N. H., and came to Fitchburg in 1833, when about twenty years of age. He established his business as a merchant tailor, in a small building where the City Hall now stands. At that time the only merchants in business here were Kimball & Farwell, dry goods and groceries, in the lower story of the present *Sentinel* building; E. F. Bunnell, dry goods, on the corner of what are now Main and Central Streets; and Silas H. Goodnow, who had a jewelry store in the same building with Mr. Bunnell.

In 1834 Mr. Cross removed to rooms over the store of Kimball & Farwell, where he remained eight years. He then moved into Heywood & Comee's Block, across the street, and was in the store now occupied by John F. Bruce & Co. until about 1876, when he took possession of his present commodious store in the Stiles Block.

Mr. Cross bears his years remarkably well, and is still as active as ever. He was the first president of the Merchants' Association, and in January, 1888, the Association tendered him a complimentary dinner.

Henry A. Goodrich, senior member of the firm of H. A. Goodrich & Co., ranks next in this line. A sketch of Mr. Goodrich appears in another portion of this volume. Mr. W. L. Humes is now the junior partner.

Three merchants, now in the same line of business in Fitchburg, received their training as salesmen in Mr. Goodrich's store, viz.: E. H. Spencer, A. J. Litchfield and Elijah Stebbins, Jr.; and not a few of his former salesmen have made names for themselves in other cities, notably E. B. Sears, now in the fur business on Summer Street, Boston; Robert Brooks, head salesman with Max Stadler & Co., New York;

and J. R. Wood, now furnishing salesman in Chicago, Ill.

The other leading dealers in gentlemen's furnishings in town, in the order of their establishment, are E. H. Spencer, Farnsworth Brothers, Albee & Lyons, Edward Connor, Litchfield & Stebbins, U. E. Cleveland, the Globe Clothing Store, H. E. Goodere and H. F. Leonard.

DRY-GOODS.–James F. Stiles is now the senior merchant in active business in this branch. He was born in Cavendish, Vt., and came to Fitchburg in March, 1841. After spending three years in the employ of Thomas C. Caldwell, the grocer, he went into the dry-goods business for himself. For the first two years he occupied the store in the Torrey & Wood block, where R. R. Conn's jewelry-store now is; he then removed a little farther up street, to what is now Warren Upton's market, and soon afterward moved across the street to the store next to the *Sentinel* building and under the Calvinistic Congregational Church. Here he remained ten years, when he removed to Central block, where he had his store until January 1, 1876, when he moved into his present well-appointed and commodious store in the Stiles block, which he built the year previous.

Leander Sprague ranks next to Mr. Stiles. For a few years he was in partnership with Mr. Stiles, under the firm-name of J. F. Stiles & Co. About 1852 the firm of L. Sprague & Co. was formed, consisting of Mr. Sprague and Timothy S. Wilson. The firm occupied a store in the Heywood & Comee block, and their business has been carried on there since. Mr. Wilson retired from the firm some years later, and for the last twenty years and more the firm has consisted of Mr. Sprague and Mr. Francis H. Colburn. In addition to dry-goods, this firm has, from the beginning, dealt largely in carpets, crockery &c.

Andrew B. Sherman started in the dry-goods business here in 1855. A sketch of Mr. Sherman is given elsewhere, to which the reader is referred.

The "L. J. Brown Store," latterly the leading dry-goods house in Fitchburg, was established by Luther J. Brown. For an account of it under his management the reader is referred to a sketch of Mr. Brown in another portion of this volume.

Since October 1, 1884, it has been managed by Frank I. Nichols and William A. Frost, under the firm-name of Nichols & Frost. This firm now owns the whole establishment, and carries on a very large and prosperous business.

Among the leading dry-goods stores, which have been more recently established in town, may be mentioned those of L. U. Hammond, E. G. Stowe, Girard & Irish, E. J. Moore & Co., the Boston Dry-Goods Store (E. E. Staples), Chamberlain, Huntress & Co., the Northern Supply Company, and J. L. Clark, in the city proper, and H. J. Lacey, G. A. Whitney and M. A. Shea & Co., in West Fitchburg.

GROCERIES.—The oldest store in the city at this time is that occupying the first story of the *Sentinel* building, and, as far as the writer can learn, it has always been occupied as a grocery store. For some years previous to 1835, Kimball & Farwell had a grocery and dry-goods store there. In April, 1835, David F. McIntire and Thomas C. Caldwell took the business, and the latter continued there until October, 1884,—a half-century, lacking six months. He then sold out to Warren S. Harris, and removed to Dorchester, where he still resides, though his familiar face is frequently seen in Fitchburg. Mr. Harris kept the store until the spring of 1888, when he disposed of it, W. M. Gray, of Gardner, being the purchaser. The passer-by now sees on the building a brilliant sign, recently put up, bearing this inscription:

T. C. CALDWELL GROCERY.

W. M. GRAY, PROPRIETOR.

Two of the leading grocers in town now, M. N. Benjamin and E. M. Read, received their business training at the hands of Mr. Caldwell.

The grocery business now conducted by S. D. Baldwin, under the Calvinistic Church, has been long in existence, having been established, in 1837, by his father, Joseph Baldwin, one of the old-time grocers, who died a few years ago.

The store of H. J. Lacey (who deals in groceries as well as dry-goods) in West Fitchburg, known as the "Old Baldwin Store," has also been long established.

The oldest established groceryman still in active business here is Mr. Henry A. Hatch, who began business in 1844, in the old Rollstone block, occupying that portion which is now George H. Chapman's shoe-store. In 1870 he built Hatch's block, at the corner of Main and Prichard Streets, where his business has since been carried on. For some years past, Perley Holmes has been in partnership with Mr. Hatch, under the firm-name of H. A. Hatch & Co., but in the spring of 1888 the partnership was dissolved, though Mr. Holmes still remains in the store.

There are now thirty-seven grocers in business here. Beside those we have mentioned a few may be noted as having been established for a goodly number of years and having a large family trade, viz.: Josiah Spaulding, J. F. Bruce & Co., A. L. Williams, & Co., C. R. Conn, J. A. Joslin, G. H. & T. Cutler, W. P. Guy, C. A. Cross, (wholesale), Daniel Boyle and T. H. W. Rice & Co.

MEATS AND PROVISIONS.—There are at the present time thirty meat and provision markets in Fitchburg. William C. Emory is the senior in this line, having been in the business here upwards of thirty years. Lowe Brothers & Co., however, represent the oldest established business. This firm and the branch house of Armour & Co. are wholesale dealers. Among other provision dealers who have been established in business here for a considerable number of years may be mentioned H. W. Emery, G. H. Ran-

del, J. F. Jaseph, H. P. Blood, W. W. Lamb and Frank A. Wood.

HARDWARE. — The hardware firm of Wright, Kendall & Co. was formed about 1857, and consisted of Isaac C. Wright, L. J. Kendall and J. H. Fairbanks. Mr. Wright is still in the same business and at the head of the large hardware firm of I. C. Wright & Co., the other members of the firm being M. B. Damon and R. D. Gould.

George B. Knowlton was for some time in the hardware store of Waldo Wallace, but for upwards of twenty years has been in business for himself, and for some years past has carried on a large hardware business in one of the fine stores in the Fitchburg Savings Bank Block. The other important houses in this line in town are those of A. B. Lawrence & Co., and Baker Brothers & Co.

For some thirty-five years or more, Lyman Patch has manufactured tinware and dealt in stoves at his present store in the old Town & Piper Block.

The foregoing comprise some of the more important and most numerously represented commercial interests of Fitchburg, and we will close this chapter with a mere mention of a few of the longest established houses in some of the lines of business not yet alluded to.

E. W. Willis & Co. represent the oldest furniture house, the business having been founded in 1845 by Sidney D. Willis.

Martin Webber has been in this line since 1876, and the Fitchburg Furniture Company has had a retail store here since 1884.

J. F. D. Garfield is the senior in the coal business, having begun it in April, 1864. Two years later the firm of Garfield & Proctor was formed. Recently the Garfield & Proctor Coal Company was incorporated and continues to carry on business at the old stand. Of the other eight coal dealers now in town A. R. Ordway and G. E. Waite & Co. have been the longest established.

Of the four confectionery manufacturers Herbert N. Rugg is the senior, his business having been established in 1871.

Among the booksellers and stationers Baker Brothers represent the longest established business—that of Stephen & Charles Shepley, founded in 1845. J. E. Thompson is the leading one among the other seven dealers in stationery, etc.

J. C. Sanborn keeps a well-stocked and attractive art store and W. A. Dunn deals largely in pictures and picture-frames in addition to stationery.

Of the twelve druggists in town Colonel H. G. Greene and W. A. Macurda have been the longest established—both having begun business for themselves in 1868. The "Old City" drug store, of which Colonel Greene is proprietor, and the "J. B. Lane" drug store, of which W. D. Curtis is now proprietor, are the two oldest in town. H. F. Rockwell, A. H. Burgess and H. A. Estabrook may be mentioned as having been in this line for some years.

J. C. Moulton is the oldest established photographer in the city, having been in business here since 1848. Kimball Brothers have been in this line for some years, and E. E. Howard has been more recently located here.

Samuel P. Durant takes the lead among the house painters, having been in the business some thirty-five years.

R. R. Conn, watch-maker and jeweler, is the oldest in his line, having begun business here in 1855. James H. Fairbanks, Oran S. Rice and L. N. Wilbur have been the longest established of the other seven jewelers in town.

George H. Chapman is the senior in the boot and shoe trade in Fitchburg, and Horace Hayward, who is in his employ, has probably been connected with this line of business longer than any other person in town.

S. G. Frost is the veteran harness-maker and Peter B. Howard the veteran hair-dresser.

The following are also seniors in their respective lines of business: J. Cushing & Co., flour and grain; S. A. Childs, real estate; Charles Mason, insurance; George Reed, marble-work; F. A. Beckwith, lumber; George Robbins, plumbing; J. E. Grant, mason; Silas Whitney, jobber.

Doubtless some individuals and firms have been omitted in the foregoing who deserve mention; but it must be borne in mind that it is impossible, in the space allotted to this department, to speak of all. The writer has endeavored to use his best judgment in selecting and to be impartial, and to give to readers of this work, outside of Fitchburg, a fair representation of the commercial interests of the city.

CHAPTER XLV.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

HOTELS, PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND BUSINESS BLOCKS.

THERE are at present ten hotels in Fitchburg, and two of them—the Fitchburg Hotel and American House—occupy the sites of early taverns. Over a century ago, Cowdin's tavern stood where the American House now is. The Fitchburg Hotel site has not been so long occupied for this purpose, but there has been a public-house there since early in the present century.

The American House was built in 1845 by David Boutelle and the easterly wing was erected in 1856. The property has passed through the hands of several individuals since then. Geo. H. Cole & Son conduct the business at present.

The Fitchburg Hotel was built about 1850 by the Fitchburg Hotel Company, of which Colonel Ivers Phillips was president. Dana L. Fuller now owns the hotel property and F. W. Judkins is the proprietor.

The location of the present National House is a comparatively old tavern site. The base of one of the original granite pillars in front bears the date 1831, in which year the house was erected. In those days it was known as the "upper tavern," while the house where the Fitchburg Hotel now is was called the "lower tavern." For some years the "upper tavern" had the name of Washington Hotel, and Daniel Moulton was proprietor. After a time the name was changed to Rollstone House, and within a few years another change has been made, and it is now the National House. P. J. Kehoe is the present proprietor.

The remaining hotels are of much more recent origin and are as follows: Citizens' House, Derby House, Drury House, Emory House, Hotel Westmoreland, Manchester House and Old Colony House,

Of most of the public buildings in the city more or less mention has already been made in preceding portions of this sketch. Only a brief summary of them will therefore be given in this chapter.

The finest and in every sense the most valuable public edifice in the city is the Wallace Library and Art Building, Hon. Rodney Wallace's gift to Fitchburg. It has been fully described in the section on "Libraries." It is located on Main Street nearly opposite Monument Park—one of the best situations in town—and is easily accessible to citizens in all parts of the city.

Plainly visible from the front windows of the library is the County Court House, a granite building of noble proportions standing in the rear of Monument Park. It was built in 1871 at a cost of about one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars.

In the vicinity of these two fine buildings is the post-office, on Main Street, a neat brick edifice. The post-office and a small news-room occupy the lower floor, and in the upper portion of the building are the rooms of the Board of Trade and the Park Club, and also several offices.

A little farther up Main Street is the City Hall building, standing on the south side of the street. It is a large brick structure erected in 1852, the entire upper story of which is devoted to a hall—the largest in the city—while on the first floor are the various city offices. A police station occupies part of the basement.

On the north side of Main Street, near Prichard Street, is Whitney's Opera House building, which contains the only theatre in town. Andrew Whitney built and owns this block. The lower story is devoted to stores and the theatre occupies the upper portion. The auditorium has a seating capacity of about one thousand. This theatre was first opened to the public October 20, 1881, and has enjoyed a good patronage since.

Among other public buildings mention may be made of the fine Union Passenger Station, the High School building, on High Street, the County Jail, a handsome and substantial brick structure, in South Fitchburg, and the Almshouse, also in South Fitchburg, a pleasantly located and well-conducted public charitable institution maintained there since 1828.

Most of the business blocks have been spoken of in the early part of this sketch. By far the handsomest and most costly building in town is the Fitchburg Savings Bank block, which was built in 1870–71 by the Fitchburg Savings Bank. It is situated on Main Street, nearly opposite the City Hall building, and has a frontage on the street of one hundred and eight feet. The front is built of Fitzwilliam granite and is four stories high. The ground floor is divided into four stores, as commodious and well-appointed as any in Worcester County. On the second floor, which is reached by a wide entrance and stairway in the centre of the block, are the banking rooms of the Fitchburg National and Fitchburg Savings Banks, the office of the Fitchburg Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and several law-offices. The two upper stories are occupied by the Masonic organizations in town. Their lodge-room and apartments are among the finest in the State.

The cost of this magnificent block was nearly two hundred thousand dollars.

The Rollstone National Bank building is a fine brick and freestone structure, four stories high, on Main Street, near the railroad station. On the ground floor are the banking-rooms of the Rollstone National Bank, and the Worcester North Savings Institution, and the large dry-goods store of A. B. Sherman. In the upper portion, the Odd Fellows and Grand Army Post have commodious lodge-rooms and apartments.

This block was built in 1869 at a cost of sixty thousand dollars.

There are many other business blocks in town, among which may be mentioned Central, Goodrich, L. J. Brown, Belding's, Crocker, Hatch's, Wachusett Bank, Opera House, Stiles', Torrey & Wood, Wixon's, Union, Cushing's, Coggshall & Carpenter's and Dickinson's blocks.

The ground floor of the Fitchburg Hotel and of the American House wing is in each case used for mercantile purposes.

CHAPTER XLVI.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

CITY DEPARTMENTS.

In this chapter will be given a short account of the various departments maintained by the city for the benefit and protection of the citizens.

Fitchburg Water-Works.—The Water Department dates back to the year 1870, when the first Board of Water Commissioners was appointed. Previous to this time the people had obtained water from wells or springs, and the only public action of

the town had been to establish the town pump, sundry reservoirs for use at fires and to authorize the establishment of two public watering troughs, which, however, were not erected for some years.

During the six years preceding 1870, the subject of furnishing the town with an abundant supply of pure water was pretty thoroughly discussed. April 11, 1864, the town appointed Alvah Crocker, Lucius Aldrich, Alpheus P. Kimball, Charles Burleigh and James B. Lane a committee to ascertain "the best method of furnishing its more elevated streets with a proper supply of water in case of fires, and hydrants to conduct and distribute the same."

Nothing was heard from this committee until the annual town-meeting, April 9, 1866, when a report was made to the effect that they had secured an act of incorporation, and purchased land covering the necessary sites for dams, etc. This land comprised about one hundred and seventy-five acres in the vicinity of Scott, Shattuck and Falulah Brooks, and the price paid for it by the committee was $6612.70. The report also presented a plan providing for two reservoirs, having a storage capacity of about three hundred million gallons and estimates in regard to the cost of laying the necessary mains.

This report was accepted and ordered to be printed together with the act of incorporation. By this act the five members of the committee were made a corporation under the name of the Pearl Hill Water Company, to furnish the inhabitants of Fitchburg with pure water. No further action was taken by the town in regard to the report or the act of incorporation.

At this same meeting, April 9, 1866, a committee of twenty-five was raised to take the whole matter into consideration and report at an adjourned meeting. May 7, 1866, this committee reported, recommending that a committee of five be appointed, and authorized to employ an engineer to make a survey, and present to the town plans and estimates. The report was accepted, and Eugene T. Miles, Dr. Alfred Hitchcock, Louis D. Bartlett, Abel F. Adams and Rodney Wallace were appointed as the committee.

August 25, 1866, this committee made an elaborate report, in which provision was made for two reservoirs on Falulah Brook, and estimates of the cost of the necessary mains and two reservoirs were given, varying from $116,000 to $153,000, according to the height of the dams. This report was accepted, and the subject indefinitely postponed.

April 8, 1867, it was voted to print this report, at an expense not exceeding $100, and circulate it among the citizens.

May 6, 1867, the selectmen and fire engineers were authorized to purchase Durant Pond for fire purposes, but no action was ever taken in regard to it.

The selectmen in 1868 tried in vain to secure water supply for public watering troughs; but in 1869 the town purchased water rights of Daniel Messinger, and voted, August 30th, that the selectmen be authorized to purchase land for storage purposes. The land was bought and pipe provided, but not until it was too late in the season to begin work, and nothing further appears to have been done about it.

November 2, 1869, the subject of a general water supply was again brought before the town, and a committee, consisting of Hon. Alvah Crocker, Hon. Ebenezer Torrey and Moses G. Lyon, Esq., was appointed to obtain from the Legislature a charter for supplying the town with pure water.

March 19, 1870, an act was approved, by virtue of which the three above-named gentlemen were made a corporation, under the name of the Fitchburg Water Company, to provide the town with a water supply, and specifying that the town might at any time, within one year from the passage of the act, assume all the rights and privileges of the corporators, by a majority vote in town-meeting.

April 25, 1870, the town refused to accept this charter by a vote of 236 to 226. A week later a motion to reconsider this vote was lost, 334 to 309. The vote was very close, which encouraged the friends of the measure and forced its opponents to take active means to defeat it.

June 18, 1870, Messrs. Salmon W. Putnam, Walter Heywood, Joseph Cushing, Lyman Patch and Dr. Thomas Palmer were appointed a committee to examine "Meeting-House Pond," in Westminster, and authorized to make a survey if it seemed to them feasible to secure water rights there. On the 16th of the following July this committee reported that water rights could not be obtained there upon any terms that would justify making a survey.

August 6, 1870, the question again came before the town. A preliminary resolution "that this Town is in favor of the introduction of water from some source," was introduced and carried by a vote of one hundred and ninety-six to six. A ballot was then taken on the question whether the town would assume the provisions of the charter, which was carried in the affirmative by a vote of four hundred and nineteen to one hundred and twenty-six.

In accordance with the provisions of the act, the selectmen appointed the first Board of Water Commissions, consisting of Jabez Fisher, Joseph Cushing, Alpheus P. Kimball, Thomas Palmer and Lucius Aldrich, and this board was duly organized August 17, 1870.

April 5, 1871, a contract was signed with George H. Norman, of Newport, R. I., for the construction of the water-works. As soon thereafter as the weather would permit work was begun, and at the end of the season Overlook and Marshall reservoirs were completed, about nine and a half miles of cement-lined water-mains laid, and seventy-one gates and ninety-four hydrants set. Hydrant water was first used at a fire on Summer Street, January 5, 1872.

In the early part of 1872 a second contract was made with Mr. Norman for water-main extension. This contract was completed before winter, and on December 1, 1872, there were a little over fourteen miles of water-mains laid, and one hundred and thirty hydrants set.

Mr. Norman's work was well done, and the Water Commissioners were entirely satisfied with the manner in which both his contracts had been carried out.

The total cost of the Water-Works up to the time when Fitchburg assumed the city form of government is shown by the following summary:

Amount of George H. Norman's contract, 1871	$180,508 76
Amount of George H. Norman's contract, 1872	35,741 68
Discount on bonds	9,605 82
Maintenance, land, service-pipe, etc	61,566 12
Total cost to January 6, 1873	$287,422 38

A sufficient account has already been given, in the section on the history of the city, of the extension of the water supply during the past fifteen years. Statistics of this department, November 30, 1887, show the following: Fourteen miles of cement mains, twenty-one miles of iron-mains, twenty-seven miles of service-pipe, two hundred and fifty-six hydrants, five hundred and forty-five meters, two thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight families, stores, manufactories, etc., supplied with water, and a total cost of the works to date of $621,701.32.

Two more reservoirs have been constructed since 1873—Scott and Falulah—making four in all, with a total capacity of over 300,000,000 gallons. The height of these several reservoirs above the tracks of the Fitchburg Railroad at Water Street is: Scott, 450 feet; Overlook, 405 feet; Falulah, 236 feet; and Marshall, 216 feet.

The Board of Water Commissioners, as at present constituted, consists of three members. The term of service is three years, and one member is elected in January of each year by the City Council in joint convention. The members of the board for 1888 are Charles H. Brown, Thomas C. Lovell and Samuel D. Sheldon.

Thomas C. Lovell, the present superintendent of the water-works, has held the position since 1875, and has also been city engineer since 1880. Arthur W. F. Brown has held the position of water registrar since January, 1885. Both these officers are elected by the Board of Water Commissioners.

FITCHBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT.—Most of the facts in the following account of the Fire Department are taken from a very instructive pamphlet entitled, "The Fire Service of Fitchburg," which was published early in 1888 by the Fitchburg Firemen's Fund Association.

The first fire-engine, as was stated in a previous chapter on the early history of the town, was purchased by vote of the town in 1823, and was located on what is now Day Street. A few years later a second engine was purchased—probably the old "Fitchburg"—and was located in a house on what is now Academy Street. These two "tubs" appear to have answered the purpose of the town for several years.

About 1835 a new engine was purchased, and the "Fitchburg" given to the youth of the town, who formed a company and, by the aid of subscriptions from the citizens, ran it for some years. This was in the boyhood days of some of our present citizens who belonged to this company, and can relate pleasing reminiscences of the by-gone days when they attended "firemen's musters," or carried the "whiskey-pan," which was as much an essential to the proper working of the "Department" as were the buckets with which the old hand-machine was fed with water.

About 1845 two more engines were bought, which were built exactly alike and were the pride of their respective companies. One of them was called "Conqueror, No. 1," and was located on West Street, and the other, "Washingtonian, No. 2," replaced the old machine on Day Street.

In the spring of 1851 what was then considered a very extravagant purchase was made. A new and large engine was bought, costing $1500, of which amount the town paid $1000, and $500 was subscribed by the citizens. This was named "Mazeppa, No. 3," and a new engine-house was built for its accommodation in Factory Square. One of the old machines had been placed in West Fitchburg and another in Crockerville, so that at the time the act establishing a Fire Department in the town of Fitchburg was approved, in April, 1851, the fire apparatus of the town consisted of five hand-engines, named as follows: Conqueror, No. 1; Washingtonian, No. 2; Mazeppa, No. 3; Alert, No. 4, West Fitchburg; Veteran, No. 5, Crockerville.

In accordance with the provisions of the Act relating to Fire Departments, the selectmen of Fitchburg, on April 12, 1851, appointed the first Board of Engineers of the Fitchburg Fire Department. It consisted of twelve members, as follows: Kilburn Harwood, Ebenezer Torrey, Jonas A. Marshall, John H. Wheeler, Chedorlaomer Marshall, John Caldwell, John Clark, Alpheus Kimball, Ivers Phillips, Levi Sherwin, Salmon W. Wilder and Alvah Crocker. One week later this board was duly organized by the choice of the following officers: Kilburn Harwood, chief engineer; Ivers Phillips, first assistant engineer; Jonas A. Marshall, second assistant engineer; John Caldwell, third assistant engineer; Ebenezer Torrey, clerk of the board.

No special changes occurred in the apparatus for some years, except that the name of engine No. 2 was changed from Washingtonian to Fire King. In 1858 Alert, No. 4, was put out of service and a new engine, Undine, No. 4, was purchased at a cost of ten hundred and twelve dollars. In the same year a small hose-carriage, made by Charles Fessenden, was pur-

chased at a cost of two hundred and forty-three dollars. About this time also the first hook-and-ladder truck was bought.

In 1859 the first horses were bought for the use of the department.

In 1865 the first steam fire-engine, Wachusett, No. 1, was purchased at a cost of about four thousand dollars, and a year or two later a second steamer, Rollstone, No. 2, costing nearly five thousand dollars, was bought; and in 1869 steamer Wanoosnac, No. 3, costing four thousand dollars, was bought and placed in its new brick house in West Fitchburg. The hand-engines were gradually replaced by hose-carriages built by the Union Machine Company of this city.

In 1870 the Gamewell fire-alarm was introduced at an expense of eight thousand dollars. It was a two-circuit repeater, and strikers were placed on three bells in town,—the Unitarian, Baptist and Rollstone Church bells. In 1888 a new system was ordered, which was put up during the summer of 1888. It is a six-circuit repeater of the Gamewell pattern.

Firemen's musters have frequently been held in Fitchburg, and on October 10 and 11, 1871, one of the largest musters ever held in New England occurred here.

The apparatus in service at the present time consists of two steam fire-engines, one two-horse hose-reel, one two-horse hose-wagon, two one-horse hose-reels, two two-wheeled hose-tenders, two two-horse hook-and-ladder trucks, one exercise sleigh, and one large sled for Hook-and-Ladder No. 1, in active service; and one second-class steamer, one two-horse hose-reel and two two-wheeled hose-tenders in reserve.

The department has in service 7,960 feet of rubber-lined cotton hose, 1,550 feet of linen hose, and 150 feet of old leather hose.

The value of this department is, and has been, fully appreciated by our citizens, and ample provision is willingly made for all its needs. At the present time, the numerous hydrants in all parts of the city, the forty fire-alarm boxes, and the promptness and efficiency of the engineers and firemen, render it difficult for a fire to get much headway in Fitchburg. In the following table are given statistics in regard to the fires with which the department has had to contend during the last quarter century where the damage was $10,000 or over:

Date.	Property.	Loss.
Jan. 2, 1865	Paper-mill of Crocker, Burbank & Co	$20,000
Oct. 8, 1865	Vt. & Mass. R. R. repair-shop	13,000
June 13, 1869	Lorenzo Barker's lumber-yard	13,000
July 21, 1870,	Heywood Chair Co.'s chair-shop	90,000
	Alvah Crocker's buildings	19,000
	Smith, Page & Co., iron-foundry	12,000
March 7, 1871	Paper-mill of Crocker, Burbank & Co	18,000
March 6, 1872	American Rattan Co.'s stock house	14,000
Feb. 3, 1873	L. B. Farnsworth's clothing store	16,000
Sept. 15, 1873	Buckeye Mowing-Machine Co.'s shop	15,000
July 9, 1876	County Jail at South Fitchburg	40,000
Oct. 15, 1884	Crocker, Burbank & Co.'s "Snow Mill,"	35,000
Oct. 17, 1885	L. H. Goodnow (Rollstone Iron Foundry)	15,560
Oct. 26, 1885	L. A. Lowe & Co.'s pork-packing establ'mt	24,657
Jan. 29, 1886	"Buckeye Shops"	11,700
April 6, 1888	Walter Heywood Chair Mfg. Co. (1 bldg.)	25,000

The Board of Engineers consists, at the present time, of a chief, four assistants and the superintendent of the fire alarm, who are chosen annually by the City Council in convention in November. The members of the Board for 1888 are, David W. Tinsley, chief; Geo. H. Kendall, first assistant; Boardman Parkhurst, second assistant; James N. Whiting, third assistant; Geo. E. Wellington, fourth assistant; and John W. Rand, superintendent of the fire-alarm telegraph. There are upwards of sixty firemen attached to the several companies.

December 12, 1879, the Fitchburg Firemen's Fund Association was incorporated for the purpose of mutual aid and relief in cases of accident or injuries received by its members while discharging their duties as firemen. Every member of the department belongs to it, and the funds in the treasury now amount to about $1500. Frank C. Foster, foreman of Hose 1, is now its president.

The following is a list of those who have served as chief engineers since the department was organized: Kilburn Harwood, 1851; John H. Wheeler, 1852–54; James B. Lane, 1855; Alpheus P. Kimball, 1856–59; Lucius Aldrich, 1860–64; Francis Sheldon, 1865–66; Eugene T. Miles, 1867; Lucius Aldrich, 1868–73; Geo. H. Manchester, 1874–76; A. J. Green, 1876–77; Geo. Reed, 1877–84; David W. Tinsley, 1884 to the present time.

Police Department.—About 1839 there was organized in Fitchburg a "Society for the Detection of Thieves." Ebenezer Torrey was then president, Samuel Willis, treasurer, and Asa Partridge, secretary, of this society. There was a standing committee of twelve members and a "pursuing committee," also numbering twelve. This society lasted some time, and did good work in breaking up several bands of thieves.

Up to the year 1869 all police work in Fitchburg was done by a few constables and private enterprise; but on September 23, 1869, a Police Department was regularly organized, consisting of a chief and five police officers. Charles E. F. Hayward was the first chief of police.

During the first six months of the existence of this department one hundred and thirty-one arrests were made, and during the next year (ending March 31, 1871) three hundred and ninety-one arrests were made, showing conclusively the need of a police force.

Under the city form of government the chief of police and members of the department are appointed annually in January by the mayor and aldermen. For 1888 the police force consists of Sumner P. Lawrence, chief; Asahel Wheeler, captain; and fourteen patrolmen. This is by no means a large force considering the population of the city; but it is in an excellent state of discipline and has always proved amply sufficient to maintain public order.

Fitchburg has always been singularly free from crimes of a serious nature, and the number of arrests made annually is not much larger now than it was fifteen years ago, though, in the meantime, the city has nearly doubled in population.

During the past few years the temperance sentiment has predominated among our citizens, and the police officers have done good work in suppressing the sale of intoxicating liquor.

The following is a list of those who have served in the office of chief of police since the organization of the department: Charles E. F. Hayward, 1869–71; M. Edwin Day, 1872; Russell O. Houghton, 1873–74; Alpheus P. Kimball, 1875; Aaron F. Whitney, 1876–81 and 1883–85; William Gilchrist, 1882; Charles H. D. Stockbridge, 1886–87; Sumner P. Lawrence, from January, 1888, to the present time.

Highway Department.—Enough has been said in the chapters on the history of the town to show that from the very first the people of Fitchburg have had more than ordinary difficulties to contend with in keeping their streets, bridges, etc., in a tolerable state of repair. The selectmen had charge of all these affairs up to January, 1873; and since then five sub-committees, appointed annually from among the members of the Board of Aldermen and Common Council, have had the general charge of the various portions of the work of the Highway Department. A superintendent of streets is elected annually by the City Council, who has the immediate control and direction of all the work done in the Highway Department.

The following is a list of those who have held the position of superintendent of streets since Fitchburg became a city: George W. Holman, 1873–74; Joel Davis, 1875–77; F. W. Aldrich, 1878–82; Abram G. Lawrence, 1883–86; Thomas Larkin, Jr., from January, 1887, to the present time.

Poor Department.—The selectmen acted as overseers of the poor up to within a few years of our incorporation as a city. During the last few years of town government a Board of Overseers, consisting of three members, was chosen at the annual town-meeting. Under the city form of government, the Board consists of the mayor and president of Common Council, *ex officio*, and three members chosen in January by the City Council, in the same way as the water commissioners are chosen.

The Board for 1888 is as follows: Hon. Eli Culley, mayor; Henry F. Rockwell, president of the Common Council; Samuel S. Holton, Isaac C. Wright and Aaron F. Whitney.

The city farm is very pleasantly located in South Fitchburg, and has, for several years, been under the efficient supervision of Mr. Norman B. Stone, superintendent, and Mrs. E. T. Stone, matron. The value of the city farm and personal property thereat is now over thirty-three thousand dollars, and there are between fifty and sixty inmates.

CHAPTER XLVII.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

ORGANIZATIONS AND SOCIETIES.

In this section will be given short accounts of the most important of the many organizations and societies of various kinds at present existing in the city.

The organization in which the people of Fitchburg take the most pride is

The Fitchburg Military Band.—The origin of this band dates back to January 4, 1868, when eight gentlemen met in an unfinished room in the then new Belding & Dickinson's block, and organized "The Musical Club." Through the efforts of these gentleman was organized, on March 26, 1868, the Fitchburg Cornet Band, with thirty-three members, and Mr. George Rich, leader and director.

The first public appearance of this band was on May 27, 1868, with the Fitchburg Fusiliers. During the balance of that year thirty-one engagements were filled. The band prospered and improved until Mr. Rich left his position, January 16, 1871.

March 11, 1871, Ira W. Wales, of Abington, was elected leader of the band, but held the position only about a month, and on April 19th, owing to some trouble or other, it was voted to discharge the leader and disband the organization; but on the 3d of the following May nine of the members met and re-organized the band, and chose Mr. Rich leader. For some reason matters did not go on satisfactorily, and in the latter part of 1871 the band went to pieces and came near utter extinction. Five plucky members were resolved to have a band in Fitchburg if it were a possibility, and through their efforts Mr. Warren S. Russell, a gentleman of well-known musical ability, was secured as leader. The band was again re-organized January 11, 1872, and under the faithful and skilful management of Mr. Russell, attained almost the highest rank among the musical organizations in New England. In the course of a few years the name of the band was changed to the "Fitchburg Military Band."

For thirteen years this band filled engagements for the summer at Lake Pleasant, near Greenfield, Mass., and was one of the chief attractions of the place. During the two past seasons it has been engaged to furnish music for the Carnival Club at Cottage City, Martha's Vineyard, for the entire summer, and has won the highest praise of the many musical critics there assembled.

In March, 1884, the city, and especially the Fitchburg Military Band, suffered a very great loss in the death of Mr. Russell, who was then in the prime of life. His funeral occurred March 18, 1884, and was very largely attended. Business was generally suspended in town during the afternoon of that day, and

all united to pay honor to the dead musician. Mr. D. W. Reeves, always a warm friend of Mr. Russell, was present at the funeral, with his well-known American Band of Providence, R. I., whose members voluntarily tendered their services for the sad occasion gratuitously, and there were many beautiful floral tributes from musical organizations throughout New England.

After Mr. Russell's death the business management of the band was put into the hands of a committee of five, chosen annually by the active members, from both active and honorary members. In June, 1884, this committee, very fortunately, secured as leader and director Mr. G. A. Patz, formerly leader of the celebrated Gilmore's Band, of Boston, and under his leadership our band has maintained its former high standing, and become widely known and appreciated. The band has a very large and complete library, containing the works of all the noted composers.

In the spring of 1888 some changes were made in the band, and at the present time all the active members of the organization are residents of Fitchburg. Mr. J. L. Miller was chosen agent and treasurer, and the general management of the business of the band was placed in the hands of a committee of three. At the present time the band consists of G. A. Patz, leader, and twenty-three active members, each one of whom is a musician skilled in the use of his own special instrument. Connected with the band is an orchestra of high standing, and named, out of respect to the former director, the Russell Orchestra.

December 27, 1887, the band suffered a serious loss in the death of Charles A. Dadmun, who played the tuba and was the efficient agent and treasurer of the organization.

The Fitchburg Military Band is now one of the permanent institutions of the city, and is held in the highest esteem by our citizens, who, by their generosity, have enabled the organization to maintain its high reputation; and the fine open-air concerts which the band gives from the band-stands on the Upper and Lower Commons during the early summer and autumn evenings, as often as engagements permit, amply repay the citizens for all they have done to assist the band.

Edwin V. Sumner Post 19, Grand Army of the Republic.—This was organized as an encampment August 16, 1867. It was later called a post, and the name Edwin V. Sumner was adopted September 8, 1868.

Charles H. Foss was elected the first commander; since then thirteen members have held the position, the present commander being Charles H. Glazier.

The post has been active in all good works, and by means of the fund that has accumulated during the last twenty years has accomplished much for the relief and benefit of its members, the amount expended for relief and sick benefits, from its organization to the present time, being about ten thousand dollars. In order to maintain and increase its fund for this charitable work the post has held fairs, had lecture courses, etc., which have always been well patronized by our citizens.

At the time of the establishment of the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea, a few years ago, it gave more than any other post, in proportion to its numbers and means,—$1,083.18.

In 1883 the post moved into its present elegant and commodious rooms in the Rollstone National Bank building. At some future time the members hope to have a building of their own; and with this idea in view, the Edwin V. Sumner Building Association was incorporated a few years since for the purpose of holding real estate, and now owns a "cottage" in the city.

Upon the roster of Post 19 are about five hundred and thirty names, and the present membership is about two hundred and fifty.

This post has always been rated high at department headquarters, and has had its share of State and National honors. Two department commanders of Massachusetts have been taken from its ranks,—John W. Kimball and Charles D. Nash—and a commander of the Department of Ohio, Daniel C. Putnam, a native of Fitchburg.

In the latter part of 1877 the post appointed a committee to consider the matter of inviting the ladies to form a Relief Corps, and as a result the Edwin V. Sumner Relief Corps, No. 1, was organized in January, 1878, and has since then effectually aided the post on many occasions.

In July, 1883, Clark S. Simonds Camp, No. 28, Sons of Veterans, was organized, and one of its past captains, Colonel Nathan C. Upham, of this city, has already attained prominence in the State and National organizations.

There was, for a short time, in Fitchburg an organization which may fairly be regarded as the origin of the present widespread and powerful Grand Army of the Republic. Its name was

Taylor Union, No. 1, Army and Navy Veterans.—One evening in the latter part of May, 1865, five army veterans—Richard Tucker, Robert Elliott, W. A. Hardy, S. W. Harris and W. S. Hersey—met casually on Main Street, and in the course of conversation the subject of forming an association for taking care of sick or disabled comrades was broached. The result was that a few nights later a meeting was held in Washington Hall, and the "Army and Navy Veterans' Union" was organized. At a subsequent meeting it was voted to change the name to "Taylor Union, No. 1, Army and Navy Veterans," in remembrance of George C. Taylor, Company B, Fifteenth Regiment, who fell at Ball's Bluff, and was the first Fitchburg volunteer killed in battle.

This organization was chartered January 2, 1866, with twenty-one charter members.

During 1865–66 some eighteen unions were organized in towns in this vicinity—Leominster, Gardner, Templeton, etc.

A purchasing agent from Illinois was in Fitchburg during the latter part of 1865, and became much interested in Taylor Union. He carried a copy of its by-laws home with him, and soon after sent for five more copies; and in February, 1866, Dr. Stephenson, of Illinois, suggested the formation of the Grand Army of the Republic. Whether or not the idea was obtained from the copies of the by-laws sent there is not known, but it is, to say the least, a remarkable coincidence.

Taylor Union naturally gave way to this new and stronger association and became merged in the present Edwin V. Summer Post 19.

A "Dorcas Union" was also instituted in 1866, and was probably the origin of the present Relief Corps.

THE WORCESTER NORTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY was organized in 1852 and includes the city of Fitchburg and the towns of Leominster, Sterling, West Boylston, Princeton, Lunenburg, Ashburnham, Westminster, Gardner, Templeton and Royalston, in Worcester County, and the town of Ashby, in Middlesex County, though persons in any part of the State may become members.

This society formerly owned fair grounds on Summer Street comprising some thirty acres of land, and provided with a half-mile track, suitable exhibition buildings, sheds, etc. The annual fair is still held on these grounds the last Tuesday and Wednesday in September, though for the past year or two the property has been owned by

THE FITCHBURG PARK COMPANY, which was organized May 18, 1887, with a capital of eleven thousand dollars, for the purpose of purchasing these grounds and improving them for use as a park.

THE FITCHBURG AGASSIZ ASSOCIATION.—This is Chapter 48 of the National Association, and was formed in January, 1886, by the union of four chapters of the Agassiz Association and the Young American Industrial Society. It is doing a good work among the young people in the city, by training them to become careful observers of natural phenomena. Many valuable papers, on various scientific subjects, have been prepared by the members, and some have been published. In April, 1888, this Association began the publication of a monthly journal, *The Scientist.*

THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION was organized in October, 1886, and, December 27, 1886, took possession of their present convenient and pleasant rooms in Twitchell's block. The membership is upwards of three hundred, and the association is doing much good among the young men of the city. A monthly organ is published, *The Beacon Light.* Some twenty years ago there was a Young Men's Christian Association, which flourished for a time, but disbanded after a few years' existence.

THE FITCHBURG BENEVOLENT UNION was organized March 6, 1876, and incorporated February 10, 1886, and includes in its membership many of the benevolent and philanthropic citizens of Fitchburg. It is entirely unsectarian, and its object is to distribute charity wisely and to help the poor to help themselves.

THE FITCHBURG HOME FOR OLD LADIES sprang from the "Ladies' Union Aid Society," and was made a corporation in 1883. A house on the corner of Summer and Beacon Streets was purchased and furnished for a home and was opened for use in June, 1886. The bequest of Mrs. Elizabeth Boutelle Robinson, a life-member of the corporation, who died in August, 1885, rendered it possible to purchase this house. The president of the corporation, Dr. A. W. Sidney, has also done much to establish the home.

THE UNION AID HOSPITAL OF FITCHBURG was incorporated March 26, 1885. The need of a hospital in this city has been evident for some years, and the object of this corporation was to arouse public sentiment and accumulate enough money to start a hospital on a small scale. The late Gardner S. Burbank appreciated this need and left an ample sum, which, at some future time, will establish here a large hospital.

THE FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION has been spoken of in the chapter on city departments.

Of the many other organizations existing in Fitchburg for the public good or social intercourse we have space merely to mention the names of a few.

The Park Club and Windsor Club are both social organizations; the Chapin Club, a social and literary society connected with the First Universalist Church; the Arlington Club, social and beneficial; Fitchburg Congregational Club; French Literary Club; Fitchburg Harvard Club, composed of graduates of Harvard College residing in the city; Railroad Men's Relief Association; Railroad Men's Christian Association; Fitchburg Teachers' Association and the Fitchburg Woman's Suffrage League.

TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS. — *The Fitchburg Woman's Christian Temperance Union* began its existence in January, 1875, and has ever since kept up its practical temperance work, which, though quietly done, has proved very effective. Among the most important results achieved by the Union was the formation, in January, 1876, of

The Fitchburg Reform Club.—By invitation of the Union, Dr. Henry A. Reynolds visited Fitchburg and organized this club, its object being to reclaim men who were addicted to the use of liquor and make them respectable citizens. This work the club has faithfully performed during all the years of its existence, and with a fair degree of success.

The Fitchburg Young Woman's Christian Temperance Union was organized in November, 1885. It is composed of young ladies belonging to the various religious societies in the town and accomplishes much in aid of the temperance cause.

The other temperance societies and orders in Fitch-

burg are the Unity Temperance Society, connected with the First Parish; St. Bernard's Temperance Lyceum; St. Bernard's Total Abstinence and Mutual Aid Society; Monadnock Temple of Honor, No. 17; Aquarius Council, No. 10, Select Templars; Falulah Lodge, No. 11, I. O. of G. T.; Henry A. Reynolds Lodge, No. 81, I. O. of G. T.; Wendell Phillips Division, Sons of Temperance and Silver Spray Temple of Honor, No. 3.

SECRET SOCIETIES.—Five of the largest and most wide-spread strictly secret organizations have flourishing representative bodies in this city,—the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, American Mechanics and Red Men.

Masonry is represented by the following four bodies:

Aurora Lodge, F. and A. M., instituted June 9, 1801, at Leominster, and removed to Fitchburg March 17, 1845.

Charles W. Moore Lodge, F. and A. M., instituted October 9, 1856.

Thomas Royal Arch Chapter, instituted at Princeton December 21, 1821, and removed to Fitchburg November 13, 1847.

Jerusalem Commandery, K. T., instituted October 13, 1865.

The Odd Fellows also have four organizations in town.

Mount Rollstone Lodge, No. 98, I. O. O. F., instituted December 12, 1845.

Pearl Hill Degree Lodge, No. 47, Daughters of Rebekah, I. O. O. F., instituted October 14, 1885.

King David Encampment, No. 42, I. O. O. F., instituted October 18, 1870.

Grand Canton Hebron, No. 4, Patriarchs Militant, instituted March 4, 1886.

The Knights of Pythias have the two following organizations:

Alpine Lodge, No. 35, K. of P., instituted March 12, 1879.

Red Cross Division, No. 7, Uniform Rank, K. of P., instituted January 11, 1887.

The Order of United American Mechanics, a strictly American secret organization, is represented in town by Wachusett Council, No. 21, O. U. A. M., instituted February 21, 1883.

The Improved Order of Red Men is represented by Nashua Tribe, No. 37, I. O. R. M., instituted February 23, 1887.

The Masons have very fine lodge apartments in the Fitchburg Savings Bank Block; the Odd Fellows' lodge-rooms are in the Rollstone National Bank building; the Knights of Pythias hold their meetings in Pythian Hall, Crocker Block; and the American Mechanics and Red Men hire Pythian Hall of Alpine Lodge, K. of P., and use it as a council chamber and wigwam respectively.

An organization of the Ancient Order of Hibernians was incorporated in Fitchburg in June, 1869.

Fraternal Insurance and Mutual Benefit Orders.—Of these there are a great many in Fitchburg, and we have space only to mention their names, as follows:

Fitchburg Associates, No. 22, N. M. R. A.; Fitchburg Lodge, No. 797, K. of H.; Roumania Lodge, No. 312, K. and L. of H.; Overlook Council, No. 972, A. L. of H.; Fitchburg Council, No. 777, Royal Arcanum; Castle Fitchburg, No. 195, Knights and Ladies of the Golden Rule; Local Branch, No. 390 and Sisterhood Branch, No. 595, Order of the Iron Hall; Plymouth Colony, No. 97, United Order Pilgrim Fathers; Watatic Lodge, No. 31, New England Order of Protection; Union Assembly, No. 170, Royal Society of Good Fellows; Shakespeare Lodge, No. 121, Sons of St. George; Georg Loge, No. 538, German Order of Harugari; Society St. Jean Baptiste de Fitchburg; Wachusett Division, No. 191, Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; W. A. Foster Lodge, No. 216, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen; Fitchburg Lodge, No. 1, Brotherhood of Section Masters, and E. A. Smith Division, No. 146, Order of Railway Conductors.

No attempt has been made in this chapter to give a complete list of the multitudinous societies in town; but we have tried to speak of all the more important organizations, which is all there is room for in this history.

CHAPTER XLVIII.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

PROFESSIONAL.

THE pastors of the various religious societies in Fitchburg have already been spoken of in the ecclesiastical history and no further mention of them will be made in this chapter. There remain the dentists, lawyers and physicians to be spoken of and we shall give only a mere catalogue of those now in practice here, with perhaps a brief account of some of the more prominent lawyers and physicians of past time.

DENTISTS.—Dr. Thomas S. Blood is the senior dentist in town. He was born in Sterling, June 23, 1810; studied dentistry in Worcester with his brother, Dr. Oliver Blood, who was the first dentist settled in that town; at the same time took a course at the Harvard Medical School, where he graduated in 1838; practised dentistry for a short time at Nantucket and in New York City; came to Fitchburg in 1840, and since then has been in active practice here.

Dr. Blood has always been identified with temperance work in Fitchburg and has been, in years past, quite closely connected with our educational affairs.

Dr. Thomas Palmer began the practice of dentistry in Fitchburg in 1844. He soon afterward built the

brick "octagon house" on Main Street, where he has since lived and been engaged in the active practice of his profession. For the past sixteen years his son, Dr. Joseph W. Palmer, a graduate of Harvard College in the class of 1872, has been associated with him under the name of Palmer & Palmer.

The other dentists in town who have begun practice more recently are Drs. F. B. Joy, A. E. Horton, E. G. Dwyer, F. A. Damon and the firms of Parker & Ross and Stone Brothers.

LAWYERS.—Of the many legal practitioners who have lived and practised in Fitchburg in past time, we have space to speak of but four of the most prominent.

Hon. Nathaniel Wood was born in Holden, Mass., August 29, 1797; graduated at Harvard College in the class of 1821; studied law in Boston, and was admitted to the bar; came to Fitchburg, and in February, 1827, formed a partnership with Ebenezer Torrey, and for many years the firm of Torrey & Wood took high rank among the prominent legal firms of the Worcester County bar. Mr. Wood, however, attended to most of the legal business. In 1848 Goldsmith F. Bailey became a partner with Mr. Wood under the firm-name of N. Wood & Co.

Mr. Wood was for fifty years prominent in the town affairs and business interests of Fitchburg. He was often chosen moderator at town-meeting; was postmaster for sixteen years; president of the Fitchburg Mutual Fire Insurance Company twenty-six years, and its treasurer twenty-four years, besides holding other positions.

In politics Mr. Wood was a Democrat, and was elected to the lower branch of the Legislature in 1839, '47 and '50. He was once chosen Senator, and in 1841 was the candidate of his party for Congress.

Mr. Wood was a strong Unitarian, and took an active interest in the First Parish during his long life in Fitchburg. He died August 3, 1876, after an illness of nearly two years.

Hon. Ebenezer Torrey was born in Franklin, August 16, 1801; graduated at Harvard College in the class of 1822; came to Fitchburg and studied law with John Shepley, then a leading lawyer here, but who soon after removed to Maine. Mr. Torrey was admitted to the bar in 1825, and two years later entered into partnership with Nathaniel Wood. Mr. Wood conducted most of the firm's cases in court, while Mr. Torrey turned his attention more particularly to financial matters, and acquired a very high reputation as a safe and skilful financier. His connection with our banking interests has been already spoken of. For thirty successive years Mr. Torrey was town or city treasurer, declining further re-election in January, 1874.

In 1829 he was chosen a director of the Worcester Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which position he continued to hold during the rest of his life; and from 1879 was president of the same company.

Mr. Torrey, in politics, was opposed to his partner, Mr. Wood. He was a strong Whig, and later, as strong a Republican. He was in the lower branch of the Legislature in 1831 and 1847, and in 1849 was one of the five Senators elected at large from Worcester County. In 1853 and 1854 he was a member of the Governor's Council.

Mr. Torrey was a life-long Unitarian, and to the last a most constant attendant at the First Parish Church, in which he took great interest.

He died September 3, 1888, after a few days illness, leaving a widow, a daughter, the wife of Hon. Hiram A. Blood, of this city, and a son, George A. Torrey, of Boston, corporation counsel for the Fitchburg Railroad Company.

Hon. Charles H. B. Snow was a son of Dr. Peter S. Snow, and was born in Fitchburg, August 7, 1822; graduated at Harvard College in the class of 1844; studied law with Torrey & Wood, and was admitted to the bar in 1848; was for some years a law-partner with Hon. Amasa Norcross, but for the last eleven years of his life was with Judge Thornton K. Ware, under the firm-name of Ware & Snow.

Mr. Snow was elected to the Legislature, and was State Senator from this district at the time of his death. He was prominent in the educational interests of his native town, and her chosen centennial celebration orator. He was a very active and zealous member of Christ Church.

He died, September 18, 1875, after four months' illness, leaving his aged parents, a widow and two daughters.

Hon. Goldsmith F. Bailey was born in East Westmoreland, N. H., July 17, 1823, and his widowed mother removed with her family to Fitchburg three years later. In 1845 he began the study of law, completing his course with Torrey & Wood. In 1848 he was admitted to the bar, and became a partner in the firm of N. Wood & Company. He was Representative from Fitchburg in 1856, and State Senator in 1857 and 1859. In the fall of 1860 he was chosen by the Republicans of the Ninth Congressional District to represent them in Congress. But that terrible disease, consumption, had fastened itself upon him. He went to Florida, and on his return took his seat in Congress during the extra session. In December, 1861, he went back to Washington, but was soon obliged to return to Fitchburg, where he died, May 8, 1862. His widow, who was one of the well-known Billings family, of Woodstock, Vt., is now the wife of Hon. Rodney Wallace, of Fitchburg.

The senior lawyer at present living in Fitchburg, though not now in active practice, is Charles Mason, Esq.

Mr. Mason was born in Dublin, N. H., June 3, 1810; graduated at Harvard College in 1834, came to Fitchburg in September, 1842, and has since resided here; has practised law and latterly has been interested in insurance business; was secretary of the Fitchburg

Mutual Fire Insurance Company, 1864–69; representative to the Legislature in 1849 and 1851, and a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1853.

He has always been deeply interested in education, and was for some years chairman of the School Committee of the town. He was also active in starting and sustaining the Fitchburg Athenæum. He has preserved a very complete collection of town and city reports and documents, from which much of this present history has been compiled.

The firm of T. K. & C. E. Ware consists of Judge Thornton K. Ware and his son, Charles E. Ware.

Judge Ware is a native of Cambridge; graduated at Harvard in 1842; came to Fitchburg in 1846; has been in partnership with Hon. C. H. B. Snow and George A. Torrey; was representative in 1850 and 1854; postmaster, 1861–66; justice of the Police Court since it was established and a trustee of the Public Library since its establishment, with the exception of one year, and chairman of the trustees since 1875. He is president of the Fitchburg Savings Bank and a director of the Fitchburg National Bank.

Charles E. Ware is a native of Fitchburg; graduated at Harvard in 1876, and has been associated with his father since July, 1879.

The firm of Norcross, Hartwell & Baker consists of Hon. Amasa Norcross, a native of Rindge, N. H., the first mayor of Fitchburg; representative in 1858–59 and 1862; State Senator, 1874; representative to Congress, 1876–82. He has been prominent in financial and educational interests, and in many other public positions.

The second member of this firm, Hon. Harris C. Hartwell, is a native of Groton; graduated at Harvard in 1869; since 1874 a partner with Mr. Norcross; representative, 1883–85, and State Senator, 1887–88; city solicitor of Fitchburg from 1877 to 1886.

The third member, Charles F. Baker, Esq., is a native of Lunenburg; graduated at Harvard in 1872; in the office of Norcross & Hartwell since 1875, and became a member of the present firm January 1, 1887.

Hon. David H. Merriam is a native of Essex, N.Y., where he was born July 3, 1820; came to Fitchburg in July, 1829; in 1847 began the study of law with Torrey & Wood; representative in 1861; provost marshal of the Ninth District of Massachusetts 1863–65; special justice of the Fitchburg Police Court since 1868; city solicitor of Fitchburg 1874–6; mayor in 1877 and 1878.[1]

The other lawyers in town are Stillman Haynes, Esq., a native of Townsend, who has practised here since 1868, and served several years on the School Board; Charles S. Hayden, Esq., a native of Harvard, read law with Wood & Torrey, and has practised here since 1871, and has been special justice of the Fitchburg Police Court since 1879; Samuel L. Graves, Esq., a native of Groton, graduated at Amherst in 1870; read law with Wood & Torrey, and has been in practice here since 1873; Harrison Bailey, Esq., a native of Fitchburg, graduated at Amherst in 1872, and at Harvard Law School in 1874, read law with George A. Torrey, Esq., and has practised here since 1874; James H. McMahon, Esq., a native of Ireland, read law with E. B. O'Connor, of Boston, and James M. Woodbury, of Fitchburg, has practised here since September, 1877; Edward P. Pierce, Esq., a native of Templeton, graduated at Harvard Law School in 1877; has practised here since; in 1882 formed a partnership with James A. Stiles, Esq., under the firm-name of Pierce & Stiles, Mr. Stiles, having an office of the firm in Gardner. Mr. Pierce has been city solicitor of Fitchburg since January, 1887; Thomas F. Gallagher, Esq., a native of Lynn, graduated at University of Notre Dame, Indiana, in 1876, read law with Hon. William D. Northend in Salem; has been in practice here since December, 1881; Charles H. Blood, Esq., a native of Fitchburg, graduated at Harvard in 1879, read law with Attorney-General Marston and at Boston University Law School, in practice here since 1883, and since 1884 has been in partnership with David K. Stevens, Esq., under the firm-name of Blood & Stevens, Mr. Stevens maintaining an office of the firm in Boston; Charles A. Babbitt, Esq., began practice here in the spring of 1888.

PHYSICIANS.—A brief mention will be made of a few of the former physicians of the town, which will be followed by a summary of those now in practice here and an account of medical organizations in this vicinity.

Dr. Thaddeus McCarty was the first settled physician, and came here from Worcester prior to the Revolution. He was a skilful physician, but remained here only a few years, returning to Worcester in 1781.

Dr. Jonas Marshall settled here soon after the Revolution on the same farm now occupied by his grandson, Mr. Abel Marshall. He practised here many years.

Dr. Peter Snow succeeded Dr. McCarty, coming here in 1782. For over forty years he was a leading physician here, and also held important town offices.

Dr. Peter S. Snow, eldest son of the above, began practice in 1815, but retired in 1831 on account of poor health. For many years thereafter he was a valuable member of the School Committee. He died here November 25, 1884, aged ninety-two.

Dr. Jonas A. Marshall was for forty years a physician here, and served the town also for twenty-four successive years as town clerk. He died in Charlestown, February 25, 1887, aged nearly eighty-seven years.

Dr. Thomas R. Boutelle graduated at the Medical Department of Yale College in 1819, and soon began practice in New Braintree; removed to Leominster

[1] Mr. Merriam died October 11, 1888.

in 1824, and to Fitchburg in 1833, where he practised the rest of his life. He was a physician of high standing, and was honored with many offices in medical and other organizations. During the War of the Rebellion he was chairman of the Relief Committee of the town, and labored incessantly for the comfort of soldiers' families. He died, universally lamented, July 13, 1869, aged seventy-four years.

By far the most widely-known and remarkable member of the medical profession ever settled in Fitchburg was Dr. Alfred Hitchcock. He graduated at the Dartmouth Medical College, and later received a diploma from the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia. He settled in Ashby in 1837, but at the written request of many prominent citizens of Fitchburg, came here in April, 1850, and spent among us the balance of his useful life.

As a practitioner of medicine and surgery Dr. Hitchcock had no peer in this vicinity, and his medical brethren far and near sought his services in all doubtful and severe cases. Of what he did in the war period we have not space to tell; we can only say that during the whole course of the war nearly one-quarter of his time was given to the care of the sick and wounded Massachusetts soldiers in the field and at home.

Dr. Hitchcock was prominent also in public affairs, and held various offices of trust, which we have not space to enumerate. Perhaps the most important was his position in the Executive Council of the State, to which he was elected three times in succession,—in 1861–62–63. He was also on the Board of Overseers of Harvard College from 1857 to 1865.

In addition to his skill, knowledge and good judgment, Dr. Hitchcock possessed those finer qualities of mind and heart characteristic of the true gentleman. He was entirely free from dogmatism and pride of the schools, and his uniform gentleness and courtesy endeared him to the people of Fitchburg—rich and poor. His death occurred March 30, 1874, at the age of sixty years, five months and thirteen days. His funeral at the Rollstone Church, April 3d, was very largely attended.

Dr. Alfred Miller graduated at the Vermont Medical College, and began practice in Ashburnham in 1845. In 1863 he removed to Fitchburg to remain permanently.

He was a good physician and genial gentleman, and was prominent in school matters. He was also a Representative to the Legislature from this city at one time.

He died, universally regretted by the citizens of Fitchburg, November 15, 1877, aged sixty-two years.

All the above-named physicians were members of the Massachusetts Medical Society, with the exception of the very first, who practised before the society came into existence.

We will now give a brief summary of those physicians now in active practice here who are

Members of the Massachusetts Medical Society.—Dr. Levi Pillsbury is the senior practising physician in Fitchburg. He graduated at the Dartmouth Medical School in 1842, and settled here May 1, 1844; is at present a member of the United States Examining Board for Pensions.

Dr. George Jewett graduated at the Berkshire Medical College in 1847, and continued his studies for a time at the Harvard Medical School, being a pupil of Dr. Jacob Bigelow. He practised in Templeton and Gardner, and came to Fitchburg in 1858; was surgeon in the army, and from 1864 to 1886 was examining surgeon for pensions; is at present vice-president of the Massachusetts Medical Society. He is a trustee of the Public Library, beside holding other public offices.

Dr. George D. Colony graduated at Dartmouth College in 1843; studied medicine with Dr. Amos Twitchell, of Keene, N. H.; graduated from the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania in 1846, and immediately began practice at Athol; removed to Fitchburg in May, 1861, where he has since continued in active business.

Dr. Austin W. Sidney began practice as an eclectic physician in Sterling in 1860; came to Fitchburg in 1866; later took a course at the Dartmouth Medical School, graduated there, and joined the Massachusetts Medical Society. He is president of the Old Ladies' Home corporation.

Dr. Charles H. Rice graduated at the Harvard and Dartmouth Medical Schools; settled in Fitchburg in 1866; is surgeon of the Sixth Regiment, M. V. M., a member of the School Committee, and a trustee of the Public Library; was city physician 1873–75.

Dr. Frederick H. Thompson graduated at the Harvard Medical School in 1870; settled in Lancaster; removed to Fitchburg in May, 1874; was city physician in 1877, and has been on the School Committee and a trustee of the Public Library; was surgeon on General Kimball's staff in 1877–78.

Dr. Dwight S. Woodworth graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1876; has practised in Fitchburg since; was city physician 1879–81, and 1884–86; is prominent in various fraternal orders; has been medical director of the Massachusetts Mutual Aid Society for some years; and on the School Board, 1879–82.

Dr. Ernest P. Miller, son of Dr. Alfred Miller, graduated at Harvard College in 1872 and at the Harvard Medical School in 1876, and has practised in Fitchburg since; has been medical examiner since 1877 and was city physician in 1880 and 1883; is one of the United States Examining Board for Pensions.

Dr. Herbert H. Lyons graduated at Boston College in 1878 and at the Harvard Medical School in 1881; has practised in Fitchburg since September, 1881; is the third member of the United States Examining Board for Pensions in this city.

Dr. Atherton P. Mason, a native of Fitchburg, graduated at Harvard College in 1879 and at the Harvard Medical School in 1882; has been in practise in Fitchburg since March, 1884; is secretary of the Worcester North District Medical Society.

Dr. John D. Kielty, a native of Fitchburg, graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Boston, in 1883, and from the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, New York, in 1884, and in June, 1884, began practise in Fitchburg. He has been city physician since January, 1887.

Dr. Clarence W. Spring graduated at Dartmouth College in 1880 and at the Harvard Medical School in 1884. He began practise in Fitchburg in February, 1885.

Dr. Eustace L. Fiske graduated at the Harvard Medical School in 1886 and began practise in Fitchburg in September, 1888.

Dr. Emerson A. Ludden graduated at the Albany Medical College in March, 1888, and settled in Fitchburg the following September.

Dr. Henry W. Pierson, though not a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, is a regular physician and has been in practise in West Fitchburg since 1884.

Homœopathic Physicians.—Dr. Daniel B. Whittier studied at the Harvard Medical School and later at the New York Homœopathic College in 1863. He soon settled in Fitchburg, where he has since been in active business. He has been president of both the State and County Homœopathic Societies, and has served the city as a member of the School Committee.

Dr. Hollis K. Bennett graduated at the Pennsylvania Medical University. He practised in Hartford, New York, and in Whitehall, and came to Fitchburg in October, 1872, where he has since continued to practise. Dr. Bennett is a member of all the principal homœopathic societies.

Dr. Ellen L. Eastman graduated at the Boston University Medical School in 1880. She began practise in Fitchburg, but, in 1884, removed to Wollaston. In the autumn of 1887 she returned to this city and resumed practice here.

Dr. J. Everett Luscombe graduated at the Boston University Medical School in 1885, and settled here the same year; is a member of the Worcester County Homœopathic Medical Society.

Dr. Oliver L. Bradford formerly practised in Andover, but removed to Fitchburg some years ago.

Dr. Hubbard H. Brigham is an eclectic physician, a graduate, in 1855, of the Worcester Eclectic Medical College. He has practised in Fitchburg since 1845.

There are also three French physicians in town.

MEDICAL SOCIETIES.—The Worcester North District Medical Society was chartered by the president and councillors of the Massachusetts Medical Society May 28, 1858, and organized on the 5th of the following June. Dr. William Parkhurst, of Petersham, was elected its first president.

Its membership comprises all Fellows of the Massachusetts Medical Society practising in Fitchburg and towns in the northern part of Worcester County and in the towns of Ashby, Shirley and Townsend, in Middlesex County.

Meetings are held at Fitchburg on the fourth Tuesday of January, April, July and October, the annual meeting being in April. The society now has over forty members.

The Fitchburg Society for Medical Improvement was organized in July, 1874, and includes in its membership Fellows of the Massachusetts Medical Society residing in Fitchburg and towns adjoining.

This society holds meetings the third Tuesday of each month at the houses of the members. It is the hope and intention of the society, in conjunction with the district society, to obtain rooms, in the near future, and fit them up for the purpose of holding both local and district meetings therein, and also for accommodating the library of the district society.

The Worcester North Eclectic Medical Society was organized in July, 1861. Meetings are held at Fitchburg on the last Tuesday of each month, the annual meeting being held in July.

CHAPTER XLIX.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

LITERARY AND ARTISTIC.

AMONG the residents or natives of Fitchburg who in the past have had a name for literary work, we shall mention in this chapter only two.

Rev. Asa Thurston was born in Fitchburg in 1787. He took a course of study at Yale College and the Andover Theological Seminary, and in 1819 sailed for the Sandwich Islands as a missionary. He remained there till his death, March 11, 1868, and the value of his life-work for humanity can never be estimated. He compiled a valuable dictionary and grammar of the Hawaiian language.

Hon. Rufus Campbell Torrey was a younger brother of Hon. Ebenezer Torrey. He was for some years a resident of Fitchburg, editing a newspaper and teaching in the Fitchburg Academy. In 1836 he wrote the "History of Fitchburg." He afterward removed to Alabama, and became prominent as a lawyer. He died in Claiborne, Alabama, September 13, 1882.

Several natives and residents of Fitchburg, now living elsewhere, deserve at least a passing notice in this chapter.

Mary Caroline (Underwood) Dickinson, now of New York, was born in Fitchburg. She was a teacher in the schools here, later in Boston and New

York. Her literary work is well known, but cannot properly be given in detail in this sketch.

James Ripley William Hitchcock is a native of this town and a son of Dr. Alfred Hitchcock. He graduated at Harvard in 1877. He is now the art critic of the *New York Tribune* and resides in New York City. His journalistic work is widely and favorably known.

Ray Greene Huling, principal of the Fitchburg High School, 1875–86, wrote and published a valuable pamphlet entitled "The Teachers and Graduates of the Fitchburg High School, 1849–1883, preceded by some Mention of Teachers in the Fitchburg Academy, 1830 to 1848." Mr. Huling is now principal of the New Bedford High School.

There are a few writers of prose and verse now living in Fitchburg still to be mentioned.

Caroline Atherton Mason is a native of Marblehead, the youngest daughter of Dr. Calvin and Rebecca (Monroe) Briggs, of that historic old town.

Her poetical talent began to develop before she reached the age of twenty. She contributed regularly to the *Salem Register* under the signature of "Caro;" and in that paper and under that signature appeared the verses of hers which since have been known throughout all English-speaking countries—the words of the song "Do They Miss Me at Home?" These words were appropriated and set to music by parties who thereby realized a handsome sum.

She also early contributed to other papers, and in 1852 published, through Phillips, Sampson & Co., Boston, a volume of her poems, to which much favor was accorded.

Soon after the death of her father, in 1852, she, with the rest of the family, removed to Fitchburg, and in 1853 she was married to Charles Mason, Esq. Since 1857 Mr. and Mrs. Mason have lived in their present residence, "Laurel Hill," one of the sightliest and best located situations in town. They have one son, a practising physician of this city and the writer of this "History of Fitchburg."

Mrs. Mason has been a welcome contributor to most of the leading magazines and many religious and secular papers. Her poems have been widely copied and two of them were, not long ago, set to music in England.

Though her work has been chiefly in verse, she has written to some extent in prose. An anonymous Sunday-school story, "Rose Hamilton," published in 1859; a serial, "Letty's Pathway; or, Following On," which appeared in the *Boston Recorder* in 1866, and occasional short stories or sketches in various periodicals, comprise her work in prose.

For many years she has promptly and willingly responded to the numerous calls made upon her to furnish poems for occasions, both public and private, in Fitchburg; and the poems she has written relating to Fitchburg and its citizens would almost make a volume.

Mrs. Mason has published none of her poems in book-form since 1852, though often urged to do so.

Martha Downe Tolman is a native of Fitchburg and a daughter of Deacon Nathan and Mary (Downe) Tolman.

Miss Tolman's first published verses appeared in the *Well Spring*, a Sunday-school paper published in Boston. Since that time she has written verses and articles in prose for various papers and magazines.

Miss Tolman is also the author of two books. The first, entitled "Fabrics," was published in 1871 by A. D. F. Randolph & Co., of New York. She was very unfortunate in the printing of this book, which, owing to the inability of the publishers to personally attend to the proof-reading of it at that time, appeared with a generous sprinkling of typographical and other errors.

D. Lothrop & Co., of Boston, afterwards published other editions of "Fabrics," and the book was reprinted in London by Messrs. Ward, Lock & Tyler.

In 1873 Miss Tolman's second book, "Finished or Not," was published by D. Lothrop & Co. Each of these books inculcates, in the form of a pleasing story, some of the great truths of life and our duties toward humanity.

Her style is pure and racy, and at the same time instructive. She appeals to the higher nature of the reader, and teaches the lesson of living for others.

Beside her literary work, Miss Tolman is interested in local philanthropic work. She is a member of the Fitchburg Benevolent Union, and secretary of the corporation of the Old Ladies' Home.

Charles Mason, Esq., has written considerable on educational topics from time to time, and his book on the "National and State Governments" has been used as a text-book in schools and academies.

In 1852 Mr. Mason was invited to deliver the address at the centennial celebration of his native town, Dublin, N. H. He prepared and delivered the address, which was printed in the "History of Dublin, N. H."

Henry A. Willis, Esq., who was born in Fitchburg November 26, 1830, is the author of "Fitchburg in the War of the Rebellion," published in 1866, and has also contributed various articles to the papers on matters of local historical interest.

William A. Emerson, a native of Douglas, has written two local histories,—the "History of Douglas," published in 1879, and "Fitchburg, Past and Present," published in 1887. To the latter the writer of this present history is indebted for many facts. Mr. Emerson is an artist and wood-engraver, and each of his well-written books is embellished by his art.

Eben Bailey, a native of Fitchburg, wrote the sketch of Fitchburg in the Worcester County History, published in 1879 by C. F. Jewett & Co. He has also written various interesting and valuable local historical articles for papers and magazines.

ARTISTIC.—Miss Eleanor A. Norcross, a native of

Fitchburg, is a daughter of Hon. Amasa Norcross. She graduated at Wheaton Seminary; taught drawing one year in the public schools of Fitchburg; went abroad and studied painting two years in Paris with Alfred Stevens, and exhibited a portrait in the Salon in 1886. In the summer of 1888 she again went abroad to pursue further her studies in painting.

To Miss Norcross was entrusted the selection of a collection of photographs for the Fitchburg Public Library. She has done good work in painting, and owns a fine collection of works of art, a portion of which is, during her absence abroad, loaned to the Public Library, and may be seen in the Art Gallery.

Mr. Eugene H. Rogers was born in Holden in 1853; was educated in the public schools of his native town and of Worcester. He early began to cultivate his natural artistic talent, studying by himself and receiving instruction from his father, also an artist.

In 1878 Mr. Rogers came to Fitchburg, where he has since had his studio. His work has been chiefly in crayon and oils, and he has acquired considerable reputation, especially in the former class of work. The appreciation of his skill is by no means limited to Fitchburg. His pictures may be seen in the art stores of Boston and other cities, and readily find purchasers.

Mrs. S. Augusta Fairbanks is a native of Fitchburg and a daughter of C. P. Dean; educated at Kimball Union Academy, Meriden, N. H., and Worcester Academy; for several years a teacher in the public schools here; later she received private instruction in painting and drawing from J. J. Enneking and F. Childe Hassam, and in 1883–84 attended the Julian School in Paris. She has of late given private instruction in drawing and painting at her studio in Fitchburg.

Mr. S. Herbert Adams, son of Samuel M. and Nancy A. Adams, was born in West Concord, Vt., in 1858, and came with his parents to Fitchburg in 1863. He manifested a strong desire "to make pictures" at a very early age, and a drawing teacher was provided for him. In 1883 he graduated with high honors at the Massachusetts Normal Art School. After teaching two years he went to Paris in 1885 to carry out his long-cherished idea of devoting all his attention to sculpture. He is still in Paris, under the instruction of the eminent sculptor, M. Antonin Mercié. He has already made a reputation for himself and had several portrait busts accepted at the Salon. Competent critics affirm that his work would be a credit to older artists.

Miss Martha M. Adams, sister of the above, is also a native of West Concord, Vt. She was educated in the public schools of Fitchburg, and studied art at the Normal Art School, Boston; has also been a pupil of Vonnoh, T. O. Longerfelt and Juglaris.

Miss Adams has taught art in several institutions, and in September, 1886, began her duties as teacher of drawing in the Girls' High School, Boston.

We have already spoken of William A. Emerson, artist and wood engraver. C. Herbert Herrick is also engaged in the same artistic pursuits.

The other artists and teachers of drawing and painting in town are Miss Adelaide R. Sawyer, Miss Addie M. Farrar, Mrs. H. T. Barden, Mrs. J. W. Green and Miss Susie E. Stewart.

Mr. William Briggs has, for some years, been the teacher of drawing in the public schools of Fitchburg.

CHAPTER L.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

JOURNALISM IN FITCHBURG.

A LARGE number of newspapers have been published in Fitchburg within the past sixty years, and in this chapter it is proposed to give an account of the most important.

James F. D. Garfield, Esq., wrote for "Fitchburg, Past and Present," a very full and accurate chapter on this subject, and the writer of this present history takes this opportunity to render his acknowledgments to Mr. Garfield for permission to make use of the information therein contained, in the preparation of this essential portion of our history.

The first newspaper published in town was the *Fitchburg Gazette*, the first number of which appeared on or about October 19, 1830. It was started by two young men, Jonathan E. Whitcomb and John Page. Their printing-office was in a small wooden building, just below the entrance to the old Fitchburg Hotel. The *Gazette* was printed on paper made by Alvah Crocker, was about twenty-two by twenty-eight inches in size and the subscription price was one dollar and a half per year.

This paper lived about three and a half years, during which time there were several changes in its proprietorship.

In May, 1834, there appeared from the same printing-house a new paper, the *Worcester County Courier*, printed by George D. Farwell and edited by William and Rufus C. Torrey. At the same time there were two more papers in town, printed in Mark Miller's printing-office, nearly opposite the old Fitchburg Hotel. The names of these papers were the *Christian Messenger*, a religious weekly, edited by Mr. William Cushing, and the *Massachusetts Republican*, edited by Mr. Miller. The first of these two was started in April, 1834, and lived three months, and the second was started May 16, 1834, and came to an untimely end at Mr. Miller's departure from town in the fall of the same year.

The *Courier* was thus left the sole survivor and continued to be published till June 28, 1836, when its suspension was announced.

Mr. John Garfield immediately purchased the

former *Courier* office, and the next week a slightly smaller paper was issued, called the *Fitchburg Worcester County Courier*. Mr. William S. Wilder was engaged as editor, and the paper flourished until the winter of 1838, when, during Mr. Garfield's absence from town, the editor converted the paper from a neutral to a Democratic sheet. This appears to have been disastrous, for the publication of the *Courier* ended March 9, 1838. Mr. Garfield continued to occupy the office for job-printing and for a few months issued a small weekly paper called the *Times*.

During the four or five months preceding December, 1838, there was no paper published in town; but on the 20th of December, 1838, a new and prosperous era was begun in the journalism of this town by the starting of

THE FITCHBURG SENTINEL.—On the date abovementioned the first number of this newspaper appeared. John Garfield printed it, and Ezra W. Reed was the editor. In politics it was neutral.

About this time there were in town several writers who contributed to the columns of the *Sentinel* enlivening and spicy articles. Prominent among them was a lad of sixteen, who afterward became well-known as an author and poet. This was Augustine Joseph Hickey, an apprentice in the *Sentinel* office. He was born in 1823, and, owing to a separation between his parents and the death of his mother soon after, was placed in an orphan asylum in Boston at an early age. In 1839 John Garfield, of Fitchburg, then proprietor of the *Sentinel*, took him from this asylum, and he went to work in the printing-office. He soon developed an extraordinary love for books, and began to write anonymously for the *Sentinel*. He soon wrote a poem, entitled "Slander," which was duly printed in the paper. This poem had a Latin quotation prefixed, and was signed "Julian."

"About this time one Patterson, an employé of the woolen-mill, under the signature of 'Syphax,' criticised 'Conrad,' another local literary light, for misquoting Byron, whereupon 'Julian' took a hand in the discussion, creating an unusual interest for several weeks."

Hickey wrote the communications signed "Julian," and his intimate friend, Goldsmith F. Bailey, copied them and dropped them into the post-office; so the identity of "Julian" was wholly unknown even to the proprietor of the *Sentinel*. These communications showed a considerable amount of genius and learning, and were generally ascribed to some of the professional, educated men in town at that time.

When about twenty-one years of age Mr. Hickey left Fitchburg and went to Boston, and not long after removed to New York City, where he remained the rest of his life.

His mother, who was the daughter and heiress of a wealthy French family, but was disowned after her clandestine marriage to Mr. Hickey, left her son a dying request that he should assume her maiden name, and in accordance with this request his name was changed, by act of the New York Legislature, to Augustine J. H. Duganne.

He soon became a prominent writer both of prose and poetry, and a mere list of his productions would fill considerable space.

He was very active during the war and raised several regiments. He was colonel of the One Hundred and Seventy-sixth New York Regiment, went to the front, was captured, and for some time held prisoner by the rebels.

Colonel Duganne died at his home in New York, October 20, 1884.

Let us now return to the *Sentinel*. It continued to prosper and was published by Mr. Garfield until March, 1841, when William J. Merriam purchased the office and paper. During his proprietorship the *Sentinel* was twice enlarged, and in February, 1849, the office was removed to its present location, in what is now known as the *Sentinel* building and was then owned by Crocker & Caldwell.

In December, 1850, Elisha and John Garfield bought out Mr. Merriam. In September, 1852, Mr. James F. D. Garfield bought John Garfield's interest and, with his brother, Elisha, published the paper until October, 1860; and for the following three and a half years Elisha Garfield conducted the business alone. In April, 1864, John Garfield again purchased half the interest, and in September, 1864, became sole owner of the paper. Six months later Mr. James M. Blanchard became his partner and continued so until March, 1867, when Mr. Charles C. Stratton, who has ever since been connected with the paper, succeeded him as partner.

In January, 1870, Mr. Bourne Spooner bought one-third of the interest, and in January, 1871, Mr. Garfield sold his interest to Messrs. Stratton & Spooner. In March, 1873, the Sentinel Printing Company was formed, and Mr. John E. Kellogg admitted as partner in the new firm. In July, 1873, Mr. Thomas Hale, formerly editor of the Keene *Sentinel*, purchased Mr. Spooner's interest and continued a member of the firm for about two years. Since 1875 Messrs. C. C. Stratton and J. E. Kellogg have constituted the Sentinel Printing Company, and have conducted both the weekly and daily *Sentinel*.

During all these years the paper prospered and was enlarged as occasion required; and early in 1873 the proprietors resolved to make a venture, which proved to be entirely successful, by starting the *Fitchburg Daily Sentinel*. This has always been an evening paper, and the first number was issued May 6, 1873, and its size was twenty-one by thirty inches. Since then it has been enlarged three times, and is now twenty-seven by forty-four inches, the same size as the weekly edition. The *Daily Sentinel* has made a prominent place for itself, and has a large circulation in town and many subscribers outside of Fitchburg.

We will now speak of a few of the many papers that have been started since the publication of the *Sentinel* was begun.

In January, 1845, the *Wachusett Independant* was started. The first issue was dated January 18, 1845, and was printed by E. R. Wilkins in Mark Miller's old printing-office. William S. Wilder, formerly of the *Courier*, was the editor. The office was soon removed to the building now called the Citizens' House, and was the first printing-office established in that part of the town. The *Independant* lived only six months.

January 21, 1852, appeared the first issue of the *Fitchburg News*, Dr. Charles Robinson, editor and publisher. It was printed in an office in the old Rollstone block, formerly occupied by the *Fitchburg Tribune*, a paper published by Mr. George A. White for a few months in 1847.

Under Dr. Robinson's management the *News* prospered, but in January, 1853, he sold the paper to the firm of Rollins & Knowlton, of Winchendon, and its publication was suspended during the following June. Dr. Robinson soon removed to Lawrence, Kansas, and later became Governor of Kansas.

March 31, 1852, appeared the first number of the *Fitchburg Reveille*, a semi-weekly paper, printed in an office in the upper story of Central Block. Mr. John J. Piper was editor and publisher, and for nearly seventeen years he conducted the *Reveille* with signal success and made it well-known as a stanch Republican newspaper. It was three times enlarged, and in April, 1869, was a thirty-two column paper, twenty-seven by forty-one inches. Up to October, 1861, it was a semi-weekly, but after that was issued weekly.

John J. Piper died February 3, 1869, and the publication of the *Reveille* was continued by his two brothers, Joseph L. and Henry F. Piper, who soon after removed the office to the new Rollstone National Bank building. In May, 1874, J. L. Piper retired and the paper was conducted by H. F. Piper alone till May, 1875, when Frank L. Boutelle became a partner. The firm of Piper & Boutelle was dissolved in August, 1876, and the *Reveille* was for a few months longer published in the old Rollstone Block Printing Office by Col. Ezra S. Stearns, who at that time published the *Daily Chronicle* there. February 15, 1877, the publication of both papers was suspended. The existence of the *Reveille* covered a period of almost a quarter of a century, and during the major portion of this time it was a prominent paper not alone in Fitchburg, but also in Worcester County, and its decline and suspension were much regretted.

In March, 1857, appeared the first issue of a small monthly advertising sheet called *The Inkstand*. It was published at the furniture store of Sidney D. Willis and was continued only a few months. Mention is made of it because it was the pioneer of the large number of advertising papers that have been printed here since.

In January, 1881, the *Fitchburg Tribune* was started by William M. Sargent. It was a weekly paper of good appearance and was printed in an office in Goodrich Block. A daily edition was begun in the following March, which will be noticed further on. The *Tribune* was continued under several different proprietors until February, 1885, when Albert G. Morse, then the publisher, changed the name to *Fitchburg News*. In May, 1885, Mr. Joseph H. White became the publisher of the *News* and continued it until February, 1886, when he changed it to a monthly paper with the name *Monthly Visitor*. Mr. White has continued its publication, but the name of the paper now is the *Ladies' Home Visitor*.

In December, 1880, Thomas C. Blood started an advertising paper, called the *Fitchburg Enterprise*. Since then it has been published about once in three months. It is well patronized by advertisers, and contains some interesting reading matter in each issue. The paper is printed at the *Sentinel* office, and about three thousand copies are struck off each time.

In June, 1885, Hubert C. Bartlett began the publication of a monthly paper, devoted to temperance, health and the home, and having the name *United States Monthly*. This paper has continued to be published since, and has done good work for the temperance cause. It is a well printed and ably conducted sixteen-page paper, and since February, 1887, its price has been twenty-five cents per year.

Since September, 1887, the Young Men's Christian Association have issued a small monthly paper, devoted to the work of the association. Its name is *The Beacon Light*.

The Parish Helper is a little monthly published in the interests of the parish of Christ's Church, and was started in October, 1887.

Good Luck is the name of a sixteen-page monthly paper, started in the autumn of 1887. It is chiefly devoted to advertising.

The Scientist is the title of an eight-page monthly, issued by Chapter 48, Agassiz Association of Fitchburg. The first number appeared in April, 1888. E. Adams Hartwell, A.M., and Mr. William G. Farrar are the editors.

The five last-named publications were the only ones, beside the weekly and daily *Sentinel*, published in Fitchburg until recently, when the *Evening Mail* was started.

Daily Papers in Fitchburg.—The first attempt to start a daily paper here was made in October, 1854. *The Fitchburg Daily* was the name given it by the publishers, Messrs. Plaisted & Baxter. It was printed in the office in Rollstone Block, was eighteen by twenty-four inches in size, and had an existence of just three days.

The next venture in this line was the *Fitchburg Daily Sentinel*, which has previously been sufficiently noticed.

November 24, 1875, appeared the first number of

the *Fitchburg Daily Press*. This was an evening paper published by Piper & Boutelle, in connection with the *Reveille*. Its size was twenty-one by thirty-one inches. It lived less than a year, the last issue being early in August, 1876.

The *Fitchburg Evening Chronicle* took the place of the *Press*, being issued from the *Reveille* office under the editorship of Colonel Ezra S. Stearns, who continued to conduct both this paper and the *Reveille* until February 15, 1877, when both papers were suspended, as has been previously stated.

In March, 1881, Mr. W. M. Sargent, publisher of the *Fitchburg Tribune*, began the publication of a daily paper, the *Daily Evening Tribune*. It was eighteen by twenty-five inches in size, and in the following summer was enlarged to twenty-two by thirty inches.

Mr. Sargent sold his interest in the paper to J. W. Ellam, of Clinton, in July, 1882, who continued both daily and weekly. He was succeeded by Mr. E. A. Norris, in April, 1883, who published both editions until September, 1884, when Albert G. Morse became the publisher. Mr. Morse discontinued the *Daily Tribune* in February, 1885.

The first issue of *The Evening Mail*, the new daily paper, appeared October 3, 1888. It is a well-printed and very readable sheet, a trifle smaller than the *Sentinel*.

It is published by the *Evening Mail* Company, of which Mr. H. L. Inman, formerly of the *Keene Observer*, is president; Dr. G. D. Colony, treasurer; and M. F. Jones, secretary.

The company has purchased the plant of J. H. White, on Day Street, added new presses, type, etc., and hopes to make the new daily a permanent and prosperous enterprise.

Politically, *The Evening Mail* will be independent

CHAPTER LI.

FITCHBURG—(*Continued.*)

CEMETERIES.

It seems fitting to close this sketch with a chapter on the cemeteries of Fitchburg,—the "resting-places" where have been laid the mortal remains of those men and women whose energy and good works have contributed so largely to the growth and prosperity of the town.

It is a matter of regret that sufficient attention is not devoted to caring for and beautifying our cemeteries. At least two of them are finely located and capable of being made much more attractive.

Let us once more return to the past and note briefly the provisions made by the early settlers of Fitchburg in regard to the interring of the dead.

During the first three years of its corporate existence there was no burying-ground within the limits of Fitchburg, the dead being carried to the graveyard in Lunenburg, nearly seven miles distant. December 12, 1764, however, the town took steps towards securing a burying-ground of its own by choosing Amos Kimball, Ephraim Kimball and Thomas Dutton a committee "to provide a Bueering-yard." This committee did not report until November 21, 1765, when the report was accepted. March 3, 1766, this vote was reconsidered, and the town voted "to accept one acre of land of Amos Kimball for a Buering-yard." This spot is now known as the South Street Cemetery, and has not been used as a burial-place for many years. For over a quarter of a century it was the only cemetery in town, and in it are the tombstones erected over the graves of many of the early citizens of prominence in the town.

Although the town voted to accept Deacon Kimball's gift in 1766, the deed of the land does not appear to have been passed over until the latter part of 1769. In the mean time the town voted, May 11, 1767, to purchase an acre of land belonging to Thomas Cowdin "lyeing on the north side of the Meeting-house for a buering-yard." On December 16, 1767, it was voted "to give back the deed of the acre of land deeded to the town by Thos. Cowdin for a burying-yard." The few bodies there buried were exhumed and reinterred in the spot given the town by Deacon Kimball.

In 1775 Solomon Steward was chosen to dig graves. May 13, 1800, the town voted to purchase of Jacob Upton an acre of land for a burying-ground. This was used as a cemetery by the people in the westerly part of the town for many years. It is located not far from the present Dean Hill School-house, and is now pretty well overgrown with trees.

In the latter part of 1800 a committee was chosen to select a place for a new burying-ground in the middle of the town. In accordance with the recommendation of this committee, the town purchased, within a year or two, the plot of ground which now forms the easterly end of Mount Laurel Cemetery. Additional land has been appropriated to burial purposes from time to time, and this cemetery now covers nearly the whole hill, forming a veritable city of the dead overlooking the city of the living. More care and a larger outlay of money would make this naturally picturesque situation still more beautiful and attractive.

In 1806 the town voted to purchase a two-wheeled hearse, and in 1808 voted to build a hearse-house.

In 1856 the town purchased of Charles Gerry, Silas Hosmer and Levi Downe about fifty acres of land situated on Mt. Elam Road, in the southerly part of the town, at a cost of a little over two thousand dollars. Work was soon begun upon clearing and laying out the grounds, and at the present time Forest Hill Cemetery, as it is named, is an attractive and well-kept burial-place.

St. Bernard's Cemetery, on St. Bernard Street, in the easterly part of the town, is owned by St. Bernard's Parish, and has been in use for some years.

There are several small burying-grounds in various parts of the township, which have not been used for burial purposes for many years.

In concluding this sketch, the writer desires to express his thanks to all who have, in any way, assisted him in its preparation. To the librarian of the Fitchburg Public Library, Mr. Prescott C. Rice, and his assistants, the writer feels especially indebted for their uniform courtesy and efforts to aid him in collecting material from the manifold resources of the library.

The sketch is necessarily condensed and incomplete. Doubtless some facts of importance and deserving of mention have been inadvertently omitted; for, to condense the history of a place like Fitchburg, for a period of a century and a quarter, into the space allowed in this volume, without making some omissions, would be almost an impossibility.

It is to be hoped that the writer's intention of giving, in the foregoing, a fair account of the history of Fitchburg, from its incorporation to the autumn of 1888, has been accomplished, and that the future historian of the city may obtain from it numerous facts never before published, which are well worth elaborating in the more ample space that will be given to the "History of Fitchburg" which, sooner or later, must be forthcoming.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

ALVAH CROCKER.

Alvah Crocker, of Fitchburg, Mass., was born at Leominster October 14, 1801. His father, Samuel Crocker, was born March 22, 1774, and his mother (*née* Comfort Jones) on the 23d of August, 1777. Mrs. Crocker was a descendant of the celebrated Adams family, and inherited all its self-reliance and independence of character. Nobly struggling under adverse circumstances, and unwilling to receive assistance not absolutely necessary, she aided to nurture the children in habits of honest industry, and to accustom them to exertion, not only from necessity, but also from choice. Such an education as they received proved to be a greater instrument of temporal success than large fortunes in the hands of numberless children of luxury and ease.

From this sensible and energetic mother young Alvah derived his most prominent characteristics.

In his father the spiritual element was more pronounced than the secular, and revealed itself in a remarkably unselfish, devoted and consistent life. An earnest Christian, of the Baptist denomination, he rarely entered into conversation without introducing the subject of religion.

With such a nature, developed under such influences, worldly success was simply a question of time to the aspiring boy. Its beginnings, like those of most American monarchs of industry, were sufficiently humble.

His father's occupation was that of a vatman, in the employ of Nichols & Kendall. He himself was sent to work in the mills at the early age of eight years. Being of studious turn, and eager to avail himself of every opportunity of acquiring useful knowledge, he gladly utilized the privilege of access to Mr. Nichols' library, and stored up in his memory, for future use, many facts and principles; thus laying, broad and deep, the foundation for a coming superstructure of imposing grandeur and usefulness.

Having once tasted "the Pierian spring," Alvah Crocker's thirst became insatiable. All his energies were taxed, that he might earn and accumulate enough money to defray the expenses of a coveted collegiate education: a plan in which he received no encouragement from his father. At the age of sixteen he had saved the sum of fifty dollars, with which he entered Groton Academy. There he remained for several months until necessity obliged him to resume labor for the acquisition of further funds. He did not, however, relinquish his studies, but prosecuted them in the evening as diligently as he attended to business during the day, and triumphantly kept pace with his class in the academy.

In 1820 the persistent youth went to work in a paper-mill at Franklin, N. H., and three years afterward removed to Fitchburg, Mass., where he entered the employ of General Leonard Burbank, who was the pioneer of the paper manufacture in that section of the State. The mill was situated where the works of the Rollstone Machine Company are now located, and in the midst of surroundings marvelously different from those which encircle the latter establishment.

Conscious of his own powers and laudably ambitious to create, direct and acquire on his own account, he next determined to embark in independent enterprises. In 1826, aided by borrowed capital, he erected a paper-mill in a birch swamp in that part of West Fitchburg subsequently known for many years as Crockerville.

Hopeful, prudent and pertinacious, he never lost courage, but toiled with unflagging energy and zeal until he had accomplished his purposes. From this epoch until 1830 life was a continuous struggle to meet his many obligations. The times were hard; he was in debt; a freshet injured his mill; the mode of paper manufacture changed from manual to mechanical; machinery was required for successful competition with his rivals, and the necessitated outlay demanded increased capital. Difficulties gathered

Printing & Engraving Co Boston.

Charles Walker.

thick and fast; but courage and force carried him safely through all.

Keen to perceive in what measures his own interests lay, and prompt to act upon clear convictions, Mr. Crocker soon abandoned the practice of consigning his products to commission merchants for sale, and took the whole of affairs into his own hands. Sending his paper by his own teams into Boston, he also sold it directly to customers. In truth, his financial situation was such as to demand the clearest foresight and the shrewdest economy. He was still owing twelve thousand dollars of the sum borrowed for the original investment, and also four thousand dollars to his commission merchants; ten thousand dollars more must be obtained for the purchase of machinery to put him on equal terms with his competitors. The great majority of men would have despaired under such circumstances; but his strength was equal to the burden, and the possibility of failure was not allowed to number in the factors of his calculations. The capital desired was secured, business prospered, debts were paid, the shoals and rocks were passed, and his bark rode gallantly on the deep waters.

Continuous prosperity and enlarging business induced Mr. Crocker to build additional paper-mills, and also to increase and diversify his activities by entering into the construction of railroads. In 1850 the firm of Crocker, Burbank & Co. was organized. This firm—of which the son of Mr. Crocker is a prominent member—owns, at the present time, seven paper-mills, and produces about fifteen tons of paper daily. The Snow, or Upper Mill, was built in 1839, and, after passing through several hands, came into possession of Crocker, Burbank & Co. in 1862. The Cascade Mill was erected in 1847, and was purchased by the firm in 1863. The Upton Mill was built in 1851, and was purchased in 1859. The other mills belonging to the firm were built in the following order,—the Whitney Mill in 1847, the Hanna Mill in 1852, the Lyon Mill in 1853 and the Stone Mill in 1854, and were purchased, respectively, in 1868, 1860, 1869 and 1871.

Of brilliant practical endowments, public-spirited, and prone to large undertakings, Mr. Crocker clearly identified his private interests with the welfare of his adopted town. He thoroughly understood that whatever would increase the population, the wealth, or the resources of Fitchburg, would directly or indirectly be of service to each of its citizens, and would amply repay the expenditure of time and money in cordial, intelligent co-operation. The town had entered upon a career of substantial prosperity about the year 1833, and was proud of its mills, its academy, its newspapers, its three churches, and prouder still of a goodly number of wise and enterprising men. The immense advantages of railroad transportation were more or less appreciated, and by none more truly than by Mr. Crocker, who bent all his disciplined energies to the construction of a railroad from Fitchburg to Boston. This was in 1834, at which time he prepared the way for himself, and for many others, to distinction and fortune. Being employed by the town of Fitchburg to build a road farther up the Nashua Valley, he found the land-owners on the proposed extension opposed to it, and demanding exorbitant prices for the ground required; but, nothing daunted, he bought the whole Nashua Valley as far as the Westminster line at the prices asked, gave the necessary land for the new road, and reaped for himself and the public the benefits afforded by new and improved means of communication.

Such services as these very properly commend him who renders them to the good graces of his fellow-citizens, and distinguish him as a fitting repository of public trusts. The sharp-sighted electors of Fitchburg, with these convictions, elected Mr. Crocker to the lower house of the Massachusetts Legislature in 1835. His beneficent action in that body justified the sagacity of his constituents. In 1836 he voted for the subscription by the State of one million dollars to the completion of the Western Railroad. But for his zealous advocacy, it is more than probable that the subscription would not have been made—certainly not at that time. Returning home, he began to arouse the people of Fitchburg and the contiguous towns to the incalcuable importance of direct railroad communication with Boston, and did not cease to agitate the subject until his wishes were realized in the finished structure. His abiding conviction was that Northern Massachusetts must have communication by rail with the tide-water, or pale into utter insignificance. At first he aimed simply to secure a branch road from either Worcester or Lowell; but wider knowledge impelled him in 1842 to boldly advocate an independent route from Fitchburg to Boston. His pecuniary resources were laid under liberal contribution for necessary surveys, and both the routes he then selected have since been followed by railroads.

In 1842 Mr. Crocker was again elected to the popular branch of the Legislature, and again toiled with wonted zeal and efficiency for the accomplishment of his favorite project. A charter was finally obtained, in the presence of much ridicule and opposition, and work on the Fitchburg Road was speedily begun. While the new enterprise was in progress of construction, he went to England to buy iron and other materials, and in different ways to foster its interests. His interest in the progress of the work, from the hour that the first pick was struck into the earth until its completion, was unfailing, and on the 5th of March, 1845, he enjoyed the pleasure of riding into Fitchburg on the first locomotive that ever passed over the road. That was one of his proudest and happiest journeys. His election as first president of the railroad company fittingly followed. In June the same year he resigned his office to enter upon the

presidency of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad Company, which he continued to hold until the completion of the road to Brattleboro', Vermont.

Mr. Crocker's financial condition at this time was one of soundness and healthful growth.

The fortitude, the heroism, the generalship of former years had brought him rich substantial reward. The construction of the Fitchburg Railroad, in particular, greatly benefited both himself and the town. The massive stone depot, built on the completion of the road, was placed on land owned by him in what was known as Old City. This was contrary to the expectation of a large number of people, who had supposed that it would be located on higher ground, and that, because of the heavy grade, the road could not be extended farther to the West. The citizens of the upper part of the town had also desired to have the depot in their neighborhood, and were by no means pleased with its location in the Old City.

"Crocker, you can never get your road out of Fitchburg," his friends were wont to remark. But little was said in reply. He quietly continued to labor, and in less than three years work was commenced on the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad from Fitchburg to Greenfield. The latter artery of social and commercial life was duly perfected; and, as we have seen, he had the honor of being its first president, and held that office two years.

Mr. Crocker was afterward largely engaged in railroad operations in different parts of the State, and was especially interested in the Troy and Greenfield Railroad and in completion of the Hoosac Tunnel. In their behalf he delivered several hundred lectures in the years 1847 and 1848, and probably did as much or more than any other man in Massachusetts to make the piercing of the Hoosac Mountain an engineering and transportational success. When the latter work fell into the hands of the State he was one of the commissioners charged with its administration. Nothing likely to conduce to the public good seems to have escaped his notice. He was prominent in bringing before the citizens of Fitchburg the importance of a complete system of water-works, and contributed in no small degree to the embodiment of his own recommendations. He also raised buildings for the manufactures diverse from his own specialty, and thus established new branches of industrial art in the town, thereby adding to its population, wealth and resources.

The leading ambition of Mr. Crocker's life, so far as corporate growth is concerned, was, however, less in Fitchburg than in Turner's Falls. The prosperity of the latter town was what he desired more than that of any other. Without loving the first less, he loved the latter more. He wished to see it rival Lowell, Holyoke and other manufacturing cities in size and commercial importance, and even to excel them; and to that end he spared nothing in his wonderful genius and manifold resources. While searching for a more direct route between Miller's Falls and Greenfield than the one pursued by the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad, he had been called to observe the magnificent water-power possessed by the Connecticut River at Turner's Falls. Charmed by its natural advantages, and perceiving the possibilities of a great manufacturing city around the spot, he conceived the project of converting possibility into actuality, and, with the characteristic promptitude and decision, threw himself into its execution. Thenceforward this gigantic scheme took almost exclusive possession of his mind. In company with other capitalists, whom he invited to join him, he organized the Turner's Falls Company in 1866. The new corporation purchased the rights and franchises of an old organization, known as "The Proprietors of the Upper Locks and Canals on the Connecticut River, in the County of Hampshire," and proceeded to carry out their plans. They also purchased largely of the lands in Montague, lying on the river front, near the falls. A dam having a fall of thirty feet and a capacity of thirty thousand horse-power, was next constructed, and the water-power thus rendered available for use.

From 1866 until the time of his death the daring projector worked hard for the prosperity of the new town, spending large sums of money in the promotion of its interests, and enlisting the aid of others in the great undertaking.

What Mr. Crocker would have achieved in the wise and energetic prosecution of his plans at Turner's Falls, had his life been spared, is matter of probable conjecture. Reasoning from the great results he had effected in the few years devoted to the task, he would doubtless have left it a splendid monument of his genius and creative power. But in the midst of his hopes and ambitions, and while contriving and striving to compass his end, he was suddenly cut down, and the realization of his schemes devolved upon his associates. The plan of a public library and of similar beneficent institutions had taken definite shape in his mind, and was prevented from passing into concrete form by his lamented death. There are two banks in Turner's Falls,—the Crocker National Bank and the Crocker Institution for Savings,—both of which he was instrumental in organizing. In the Crocker National Bank, his son, Charles T. Crocker, is a director, and of the Savings Institution he is a trustee.

Mr. Crocker was also one of the originators of the Rollstone Bank at Fitchburg, in 1849, and held the office of director from that time to the day of his death. In 1870 Mr. Crocker was elected president of the bank. Throughout the whole of these terms of valuable service he labored incessantly for the adoption of measures intended to develop the resources of Northwestern Massachusetts. His conspicuity in this particular suggested the propriety of his being chosen to fill the unexpired term in Congress of the Hon. William B. Washburn, who had been elected Governor of

P. Toney

Eugene T. Miles.

the State. Mr. Crocker—a Republican in politics—was accordingly elected to the vacant post, and took his seat in the National House of Representatives on the 2d of January, 1872. He was re-elected to the Forty-third Congress,—receiving 14,919 against 4,588 cast for his Democratic competitor,—and served from January 14, 1872, until December 26, 1874, on which day he died, very unexpectedly, at the age of seventy-three years, two months and twelve days. The ordinary bound of human life had been passed, and yet there were strong probabilities of fruitful years to come. But on the 19th of December—a week preceding his decease—he was seized by a peculiar kind of cold, epidemic at Washington, and left the capital for the home in which he was so soon to die. The funeral services were celebrated at Christ Church, in which an appropriate sermon was delivered by a former pastor, the Rev. Henry L. Jones, of Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Mr. Crocker was married three times. His first wife, *née* Abigail Fox, and he were united on August 14, 1829. She died August 21, 1847, leaving five children. Miss Lucy A. Fay became his second wife on the 9th of April, 1851, and died on the 29th of January, 1872. On the 20th of November of the same year he was again married, to Miss Minerva Cushing. Of his four daughters and one son, children of his first wife, only one daughter and the son are now living.

EBENEZER TORREY.

Ebenezer Torrey was born at Franklin, Mass., August 16, 1801, and died at Fitchburg September 3, 1888. He was the son of John and Sally (Richardson) Torrey. He fitted for college at the academies at Leicester and Lancaster, Mass., and entered Harvard University at the age of seventeen years, graduating in 1822. He then went to Fitchburg and studied law with John Shepley, a leading member of the Worcester County bar, and was admitted to the bar in 1825. In 1827 he formed a partnership with the late Nathaniel Wood, which continued for nearly fifty years, and was one of the leading firms of lawyers in the county. In 1832, upon the incorporation of the Fitchburg Bank, Mr. Torrey was chosen cashier, and, although he still continued his connection with the firm of Torrey & Wood, he devoted the greater part of his time to the business of the bank. In 1859 he was elected president of the bank, which office he retained during the remainder of his life.

The Fitchburg Savings Bank commenced business in 1846. Mr. Torrey was its first treasurer, and afterwards became its president. In 1831 he was chosen a director of the Worcester Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and served in that position during the remainder of his life, having been elected president of the company in 1879. He was treasurer of the town and city of Fitchburg continuously from 1840 to 1874, inclusive, when he declined a re-election, and was the first treasurer of the Cushing Academy of Ashburnham. In 1831 and 1847 he represented the town of Fitchburg in the Legislature, and in 1849 was one of the five Senators from Worcester County. In 1852 he was chosen a Presidential elector, and voted for Gen. Winfield Scott. In 1853 he served in the Executive Council with Governor Clifford, and during the succeeding year with Governor Emory Washburn. In 1825 he married Frances Houghton, of Fitchburg, who died in 1831, leaving two daughters, the elder of whom was the wife of George A. Cunningham, of Boston, and the younger is the wife of Hiram A. Blood, of Fitchburg. In 1832 he married Sarah Arnold, of Uxbridge, who, with their only son, George A. Torrey, of Boston, survives him.

In the words of Rev. Mr. Pierson, who preached his funeral discourse, "The key-note of Mr. Torrey's character was personal honor and uprightness. He was a man to be depended upon. You could trust him in all relations and emergencies. His life and action moved on like clock-work—the regulation and routine of good habits. From early manhood to old age he scarcely took an extended vacation. More than many men he seemed to have the capacity for continuous work. His was a busy, active, industrious life.

"Another secret of Mr. Torrey's sanity of mind and body was his commingled intelligence and humor. He had at once wisdom and wit. This humor was not occasional with him. It was habitual. It was ingrained in his temperament. He saw the ludicrous as well as the sublime side of things. He chose the sunny, rather than the shady paths of life."

EUGENE T. MILES.

Hon. Eugene Temple Miles, second mayor of the city of Fitchburg, familiarly known in Fitchburg as Captain Miles, was born in Framingham, Mass., August 26, 1826. He was the son of Jonas M. and Anstis (Kendall) Miles.

His father, Dea. Miles, was a resident of Shrewsbury for many years, but the family were temporarily residing in Framingham at the above-named date. The name of Miles, or Myles, as it frequently appears upon the ancient records, belongs to a family of honorable mention in the annals of the Commonwealth. John Miles, the emigrant ancestor, was a resident of Concord as early as 1637, and in that town, or immediate vicinity, he was succeeded by his son Samuel, while his grandson Samuel removed in 1729 to Shrewsbury, from whom the deceased was the fifth generation in descent, and the seventh generation since the emigration to New England.

In early manhood Mr. Miles was several years in the hardware trade in Worcester, as clerk, and for a short time the junior partner of Poole & Miles. In January, 1856, he removed to Fitchburg, where he continued to reside until his death. During the first few months of his residence here he was associated in business with A. G. Page at West Fitchburg, but in

July of the same year (1856) Mr. Page sold his interest to Augustus Whitman, and the firm of Whitman & Miles entered upon a long and highly successful career. The business, as is well known to all our resident readers, was the manufacture of cutting-knives, including a variety of edge tools and kindred wares. Under skillful management the business constantly increased until an annual business of from $100,000 to $250,000 has been done, and in a few instances the larger sum has been exceeded.

In 1869 extensive branch works were established in Akron, Ohio, and in 1864 the firm was succeeded by a stock company, but the name was little changed, and the name of the deceased has been honorably and prominently connected with the business for twenty years, being president of the company from the date of its incorporation until his death.

He was connected with a number of other manufacturing companies in Fitchburg, and also at Akron, Ohio.

Large and intimate as have been his business connections with Fitchburg, Mr. Miles has been intimately associated with the civil and monetary affairs of the town for many years, and has frequently been chosen to positions of responsibility and trust.

He was a member of the Board of Selectmen in 1864, '65, '66 and '72, and mayor of the city in 1875. He was one of the directors of the Fitchburg National Bank, and one of the trustees of the Fitchburg Savings Bank.

He was also president of the Worcester North Agricultural Society, and a member of the State Board of Agriculture, and one of the vice-presidents of the Fitchburg Board of Trade since its organization.

In all these positions of trust he evinced rare good judgment and executive ability. It has been remarked by a gentleman who knew him intimately, that whatever he did, he did well.

In habits of thought he was rapid but exact, and much of his influence and ability to put into successful operation what would be mere day-dreams in the minds of others were the result of a faculty of swiftly weighing and passing judgment upon questions of moment that claimed his attention. His impulses were generous and lofty, his manners urbane, and his treatment of his associates kind and considerate.

Captain Miles was an earnest supporter of the Union Army during the late war; ever ready to aid the soldiers and their families.

He enlisted early in the war, but the health of his partner failed, which left the sole management of a very extensive business entirely to his care, compelling him to resign his commission as captain of Company A, Fifty-third Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers, before the regiment left its quarters in New York for active service in the field. At the close of the war he was captain of the Fusileers one year.

His labor in connection with the soldiers' monument and the beautiful square in which it stands, and the admirable report which in behalf of the committee he made at the time it was formally presented to the city, are subjects of record, and will long remain an enduring inscription to his memory, announcing at once his patriotic interest in the work, and his ability to give efficient shape to lofty impulses.

In the very meridian of his manhood and in the midst of usefulness he was called from the scenes of this life. He died very suddenly at his residence on Blossom Street, June 26, 1876. Better known to all the citizens of Fitchburg, both rich and poor, than almost any other man, and bound up as he was with so many of the mercantile interests of the city, his loss was severely felt.

His characteristics were a devotion to the welfare of his adopted city, honesty of official life as well as integrity in business affairs of every description, and the exercise of those estimable qualities that go to make up the companion and friend; and it may be truly said of him that in his death the poor man, the soldier and the soldier's family lost a sincere friend.

GARDNER S. BURBANK.

The subject of this sketch was born in Montpelier, Vt., July 22, 1809. He was a son of Silas and Bathsheba (Egery) Burbank, and the youngest of a family of eleven children.

Mr. Burbank was educated in the schools of his native town, but at a comparatively early age entered upon an occupation that seems to have been hereditary in the family—that of paper-making.

His grandfather, Abijah Burbank, lived in Millbury, Mass., and erected and operated in that town the first paper-mill in Worcester County, and one of the first built in this State. Almost all of Abijah Burbank's children and grandchildren were paper manufacturers. General Leonard Burbank, who operated the first paper-mill in Fitchburg, was his grandson and a cousin of Gardner S. Burbank.

Gardner S. Burbank began paper-making in Montpelier, Vt., but in 1827 went to Millbury, Mass., where, for seven years, he was associated with his uncle, General Caleb Burbank, in the paper business. He then went to Worcester, where, for eleven years, he operated a paper-mill, formerly owned by another uncle, Elijah Burbank.

In 1846 he moved to Russell, and formed a partnership with Cyrus W. Field and Marshall Fales. The firm erected a large paper-mill and ran it for about five years, at the end of which time Mr. Burbank, being in poor health, withdrew from the firm, and in October, 1851, came to Fitchburg. He then formed a partnership with the late Hon. Alvah Crocker, at whose earnest solicitation he came to this town, under the name of Crocker & Burbank. C. T. Crocker was admitted to the firm in 1855, and G. F. Fay and S.

L. L. Burbank
Fitchburg

John Putnam

E. Crocker in 1863, and the paper manufacturing firm of Crocker, Burbank & Co. developed into the leading one in Fitchburg during Mr. Burbank's fifteen years' connection with it.

In 1866 he disposed of his interest in the firm and retired from active business; but his sterling integrity and sound judgment made him the recipient of many offices of trust. In addition to many important private trusts, he was a director of the Fitchburg National Bank from 1871 till his death; a director of the Fitchburg Mutual Fire Insurance Company since July, 1875; a trustee of the Fitchburg Savings Bank since June, 1875; and a member of the board of investment of that institution from 1875 to 1885.

Mr. Burbank married, at Auburn, May 23, 1837, Mary Sibley, who died at Worcester December 4, 1839. On May 27, 1841, he married Sarah W. Grout, who survives him. Their three children are all deceased. Edwin H. died August 18, 1855, at the age of thirteen; Mary J. died August 26, 1861, aged sixteen years; and Sarah F., wife of Dr. F. B. Joy, died February 10, 1879, at the age of twenty-nine years.

His modesty led him to decline public positions during his many years of residence in Fitchburg, and the only times that he has consented to be a candidate for public office have been when his name would add strength to the weaker, and what he considered the better, cause. While residing in Russell he represented the town in the Legislature in 1849 and 1850.

Mr. Burbank was always deeply interested in whatever tended to increase the prosperity of Fitchburg, and his wish and decree as to the ultimate disposal of his large property show not only his great regard for the city of his adoption, but also his warm, generous heart and his love for humanity. During his life also he was constantly aiding the poor, the unfortunate and the struggling; but the amount of good he thus accomplished can never be known, as he carefully avoided publicity and sought methods of assisting others which would not meet the public eye.

Many a timely loan has he made to young men who were striving to establish themselves in business, or acquire an education; and oftentimes the only security that could be given was the honor of the recipient.

Mr. Burbank's excellent habits and strong will undoubtedly prolonged his life many years. From early childhood his health was not good, and since middle life has been seriously impaired. He closed his long and useful life on the 7th of February, 1888.

His bequest, so generous and ample, to the city of Fitchburg, which will cause his memory to be blessed for generations to come, cannot be better spoken of than by quoting the following extracts from his will.

After providing for certain bequests, the residue of the property is placed in the hands of trustees, and, after paying some annuities, the income is given to Mrs. Burbank for life. At her decease the following clauses become operative:

"And the remainder of said principal not hereinbefore disposed of under the preceding provisions of this will, I direct my trustees to pay over to the city of Fitchburg, as far as, and as fast as, it is released from the charges and annuities hereinbefore created, for the founding and maintaining of a hospital for the care of the sick. And while I do not wish to embarrass this gift with provisions and restrictions, but desire that the city shall carefully and considerately carry my plan into execution, believing that founders of benevolent institutions like the one I contemplate often create great difficulties by endeavoring to settle in advance the details of the work they have projected, still I wish to indicate, in general terms, two purposes which I desire to have executed.

"First, I desire that a substantial and commodious hospital building shall be erected, and as I trust that my charity may survive and do good to the poor and sick for many generations, and also believe that the City of Fitchburg will in time be a large and prosperous city, I would suggest that the sum of at least $100,000 be devoted to the purchase of the necessary land and the erection of the structure. And I also request and direct that while those who are able to pay for the services rendered them in the hospital may be subjected to such moderate and reasonable charge as is usual in such cases in similar charitable institutions, those, on the other hand, who are in poverty and sickness shall ever be received and cared for kindly and tenderly, 'without money and without price,' and without regard to color or nationality.

"It is by the request of my wife, whose good judgment has so greatly aided me in all the affairs and purposes of my life, that I was led to make the foregoing provision for the foundation of a hospital."

This bequest will be ample to insure to Fitchburg, at some future time, an excellent hospital, which will be at once a lasting memorial to the munificent founder and a great blessing to the community.

JOHN PUTNAM.

John Putnam, the founder of the Putnam Machine Company, and the pioneer of the machine business in Fitchburg, was born in Peterboro', N. H., October 14, 1810.

He was a descendent, in the seventh generation, of John Putnam, who, with his wife, Priscilla, came from Abbot-Aston, near Aylesbury, England, in 1634, and settled in Salem, Mass. John's eldest son, Thomas, first settled in Lynn, but soon removed to Salem Village (now Danvers.) The next in line was Edward, whose son, Elisha, removed in 1725 to Sutton, Mass.

—incorporated ten years before—where he purchased a large tract of land for a farm. Elisha's son, John, spent his life in Sutton, and was a scythe-maker. His son, John, the father of John—the subject of this sketch—was also a scythe-maker.

Mr. Putnam was closely connected in descent with General Israel Putnam, and also with General Rufus Putnam, who was commissioned lieutenant-colonel at the beginning of the Revolutionary War, and superintended the construction of fortifications at Brookline, Roxbury and Dorchester Heights. In August, 1776, he was appointed chief engineer of the Continental Army, with the rank of brigadier-general, and superintended the construction of fortifications at West Point, the most important one—Fort Putnam—being named for him. He enjoyed the confidence and esteem of General Washington.

General Rufus Putnam was one of the earliest settlers of Ohio, and in 1788 founded the city of Marietta, the first permanent settlement made in that State.

John Putnam, during early life, assisted his father at scythe-making. When fourteen years old he became an apprentice at the shop of Loammi Chamberlain, a machinist at Mason Village (now Greenville), N. H., where he served five years, working fourteen hours per day. He had the privilege of four weeks' schooling each year, working before and after school-hours.

After completing his apprenticeship with Mr. Chamberlain he continued in his employ, receiving one dollar per day as wages, and in 1835 he hired a part of his employer's shop and tools and began the manufacture of cotton-machinery. At this time his younger brother, Salmon W. Putnam, then nineteen years old, began working for him as an apprentice.

In 1836 he went to Trenton, N. J., and made arrangements to start a machine-shop there, and on his return to Mason Village he set about making the machinery and necessary tools for his future business. His plan of going to Trenton was, however, destroyed by the panic of 1837, the parties who had agreed to erect a building for him there deciding it was inexpedient to do so.

Mr. Putnam, after storing the machines and tools he had made, sought employment elsewhere and soon obtained a situation as repairer of machinery at Deacon Smith's cotton-factory at East Wilton, N. H. Shortly thereafter the mill was burned and Mr. Putnam obtained another situation in Samuel Wood's cotton-factory in Ashburnham, Mass. After working there some months he hired a room in Mr. Wood's factory, and moving his tools, etc., from their place of storage in Mason Village, set them up there. He then took his younger brother, who was without capital or experience in the business, as an equal partner, and began business under the style of J. & S. W. Putnam.

The tools with which the firm started in 1837 consisted of one 24-inch swing lathe, two small screw-cutting lathes, one chucking and one polishing lathe, an upright drill and gear-cutter, two die-stocks, taps, dies, reamers and mandrels.

After having remained in Ashburnham nearly a year and not being satisfied with their prospects in that place, the brothers removed to the neighboring town of Fitchburg, which then had a population of a little over two thousand inhabitants.

The history of the firm and of its great successor, the Putnam Machine Company, is fully given in the section on Iron Industries in the sketch of Fitchburg.

John Putnam was extremely ingenious and a very skilful workman. Much of the new kinds of machinery made by the firm was devised by him; and from the first and for many years he made all the patterns and forgings used in their business. Gear-cutting machines, new machinery for paper-making, gauge lathes for making bobbins, etc., may be mentioned among his many inventions.

In the early years of the business Mr. Putnam, being the only one competent to superintend the mechanical part of the enterprise, devoted his entire energies to make it a success, denying himself and his family, in a great measure, that he might put every dollar derived from the business back into it. He became so engrossed in its management, never allowing a moment of recreation to himself, that he gave slight heed to the outside and pecuniary part of the business, which he entrusted to his younger brother, Salmon W. Putnam. He did more hard work and furnished more capital toward building up the enterprise than any one else; and the business of the Putnam Machine Company of to-day represents the growth of an enterprise established mainly by his skill and untiring energy through long years of unremitting toil and self-denial.

Soon after the decease of S. W. Putnam, February 23, 1872, the presidency of the Putnam Machine Company was offered to John Putnam; but, having been confined to the mechanical part of the business all his life, and not wishing, at that late day, to assume the responsibilities involved, he declined the position and used his influence to place Charles F. Putnam in the president's chair.

Up to the time of his death Mr. Putnam was a heavy stockholder, and for many years a director in the Putnam Machine Company; and until he retired from business, in 1886, he energetically kept at work with unimpaired skill, and was daily found in his apartment.

Mr. Putnam married, in 1834, Miss Sophronia Chapman, of Cambridge, Mass. She died February 14, 1866, leaving three sons,—John L., H. Marshall and Charles W.,—all of whom follow the business of their father, and two daughters, now Mrs. C. C. Stratton and Mrs. Edward Newitt.

In 1879 he married Mrs. Helen Domett, of Hyde Park, Mass., who survives him.

Mr. Putnam was one of the first members of the

L. H. Brown

Methodist Episcopal Society in Fitchburg. He was always deeply interested in the welfare of the church and contributed generously toward its support. He was trustee from 1858 till his death, July 31, 1888, and one of the largest donors to the building fund for the handsome and substantial Methodist Church recently erected in this city; and his pledge of two thousand dollars was at once the incentive and nucleus around which gathered the means that insured its erection; and he afterwards made liberal contributions to the same worthy object.

Mr. Putnam was one of our oldest citizens, and much respected for his great mechanical skill, his strict integrity and his pleasant, unostentatious manners. At the time of his death he was nearly seventy-eight years old; he had been a resident of Fitchburg for just half a century, and lived to see the machine business of this place increase from the accommodations of the twenty by thirty room that he and his brother hired in 1838, in the "Burbank Paper-Mill," to its present enormous proportions.

LUTHER JULIUS BROWN.

Luther J. Brown was born in the town of Eden, Vermont, on December 31, 1827, and was the oldest of a family of four children. His parents were Luther H. and Bersheba (Shattuck) Brown.

His early education was acquired in the district schools of his native town and at the academy in Johnson, Vt.; and later he was a student at Appleton Academy, New Ipswich, N. H. He was fond of study and fitted for college, but financial reverses obliged him to give up his intention of obtaining a collegiate education.

His father kept a dry-goods and grocery store in Eden, and for a time the young man was engaged in this store, where he gained his first experience in mercantile business.

In May, 1843, his mother died, and in June, 1845, the family removed to Manchester, N. H. During the greater part of this interval of two years young Brown was in Hyde Park, in the employ of Noyes Brothers, who kept a large country store. In Manchester he worked in one of the mills and was also employed part of the time in a hardware store.

In 1850, when twenty-three years of age, Mr. Brown went to Boston and became a clerk in the large wholesale and retail dry-goods house of Brett, Ellis & Co., located on Federal Street. He remained in their employ several years and acquired a thorough and valuable knowledge of the business. For a year he had charge of a branch store of the firm in Natick.

In August, 1855, Mr. Brown came to Fitchburg to locate permanently, as it proved. He very soon formed a copartnership with A. B. Sherman in the dry-goods business, and the firm, whose store was in the building next below the present Rollstone Bank block, enjoyed a flourishing trade. The partnership lasted about three years. During this period he married, January 13, 1856, Miss Sarah P. Harding, of East Medway, who, by her tact, courtesy and ability, contributed essentially to the marked success which ere long crowned her husband's mercantile life in Fitchburg.

In 1860 Mr. Brown formed a partnership with Charles Kimball, of Haverhill. The firm of Kimball & Brown occupied a store located on the spot where now stands the handsome structure known far and near as the "L. J. Brown Block."

It was about this time that Mr. Brown performed a feat that attracted widespread attention. In the fall of 1860 there was a sharp and spirited contest over the Representative to Congress from this district, which resulted in the election of Hon. Goldsmith F. Bailey, of Fitchburg, over Hon. Eli Thayer, of Worcester. Mr. Brown favored Mr. Thayer and entered into an agreement with Mr. Silas Ruggles, a druggist here, who favored Mr. Bailey, that the one favoring the defeated candidate "should wheel in a barrow from his place of business in Fitchburg to the hotel in Leominster a well-known gentleman of the 'colored persuasion,' named Ben. Franklin." Mr. Brown's candidate being defeated, in accordance with the agreement, he began his arduous task at one o'clock Thursday afternoon, November 8, 1860. Over a thousand people were present to see him start and the Leominster Band furnished music. Mr. Brown accomplished the journey of five miles in two hours and a quarter, with but seven rests, which was doing pretty well, as the negro weighed one hundred and sixty-five pounds. About a thousand people welcomed Mr. Brown on his arrival at Leominster. In the evening Mr. Brown gave a supper to some twenty-five of his friends. The fulfilment of this novel bet created quite a sensation at the time.

In 1862 Mr. Brown bought Mr. Kimball's interest in the firm, and in April of that year commenced business on his own account, having his wife and a boy to assist him. He soon built up a large trade, purchased the building and enlarged it at five different times. In 1882 he built the present handsome brownstone front.

Mr. Brown began with dry-goods and cloak-making, but dress-making was soon added. The carpet department was established in 1882 and the millinery parlor the year following. At the time of his death over fifty people were employed in the store.

Mr. Brown's death, September 29, 1884, was keenly felt by the citizens and was a severe loss to the city. The sincere grief of the community was evinced by the profusion of mourning emblems visible on every side.

Private funeral services were held at the family residence on Blossom Street early in the afternoon of October 1st. Later in the day public services were held in Christ Church (Episcopal), under the direction of Jerusalem Commandery, K. T., and King

David Encampment, I. O. O. F. Thousands of people passed through the church to look for the last time on the face of the dead merchant. The floral offerings of friends, employés and organizations were profuse and elegant.

All the places of business throughout the city were closed for the day at noon out of respect for the deceased.

Mr. Brown was a thorough business man. In addition to his large establishment here he had, for three years, a branch store at Shelburne Falls. His prominence was, however, by no means confined to his special line of trade. He held many positions of trust and honor. He was a director in the Wachusett National Bank from its organization in 1875; vice-president of the Worcester North Savings Institution, and trustee since its incorporation; president of the Wachusett Electric Light Company from its organization, and the first president of the Old Ladies' Home. He represented Fitchburg in the Legislature in 1878–79. He was a prominent Mason and Odd Fellow, and a vestryman of Christ Church.

Mr. Brown's social qualities gained him many warm personal friends; he was of a benevolent disposition, and always ready to aid any worthy object. The hall in his block was freely opened for all meetings—political, religious or temperance—and for several years he furnished the hall, warmed and lighted, for meetings of the Railroad Men's Christian Association.

He was active in whatever tended to promote the growth and prosperity of Fitchburg, and it is safe to say that the death of no other citizen could have produced a profounder sensation or more sincere sorrow than did that of Mr. Brown.

CHARLES BURLEIGH.

Mr. Burleigh was born in Waterville, Me., August 30, 1824, and was one of a large family.

He attended the schools of his native town, and early showed a natural aptitude for mechanical pursuits. When a boy, he entered the shop of Mr. William Brown, a blacksmith of the town, where he was employed in ironing carriages and doing similar work, displaying great aptness and ingenuity.

He worked here until he was eighteen years old, when, from a youthful love of adventure, and desire to look abroad, he left home for a whaling voyage of three years, during which time he visited all quarters of the globe.

Soon after his return from the voyage he went to East Boston, where, for several years, he was in the employ of Otis Tufts.

In 1850 he married, and in October of the same year came to Fitchburg, where he continued to reside until his death, which occurred May 28, 1883.

Immediately after arriving in Fitchburg he entered the employ of J. & S. W. Putnam & Co., and soon became a member of the firm; and when the Putnam Machine Company was organized, four years later, he became one of the stockholders, and continued to be largely interested in the company during the rest of his life. For more than twenty years he was a director in the company.

For several years prior to 1869 he was one of the superintendents of the Putnam Machine Company, but his other important business interests outside the works obliged him to give up the position.

About 1865 Mr. Burleigh, appreciating the difficulties that were being encountered in the effort to complete the Hoosaic Tunnel by the use of hand-drills, applied himself to the arduous task of perfecting a power-drill, former efforts in this direction having proved wholly unsuccessful. The result was the Burleigh Rock-drill and Air-compressor, and to these two machines the successful completion of this great work may unquestionably be ascribed.

In 1867 Mr. Burleigh founded the Burleigh Rock-drill Company, with a capital of $150,000, to manufacture these machines and place them on the market; since then they have found a ready sale in nearly all portions of the world, and have made a most important addition to the machinery interests of Fitchburg. These machines have since been used for the successful completion of various difficult engineering feats, and their advent marked a new era in the history of the development of mines. In connection with these two important inventions Mr. Burleigh's name has become widely known.

Mr. Burleigh made many valuable inventions, and various improvements in other departments of mechanics, and secured a large number of patents.

Later in life he became interested in railroads, and was a director of the Boston, Clinton, Fitchburg and New Bedford Railroad for several years previous to its consolidation with the Old Colony Railroad, and after the disasters of 1877 he rendered signal service in saving the common stock from wreck, and in placing the preferred stock on a basis which secured to the creditors who accepted it more than the full amount of their claims.

He was also one of the promoters of the New York and Boston Inland Railroad.

His large business interests caused him to be intimately connected with banking organizations in town, and he was a director of the Wachusett National Bank from its organization.

Charles Burleigh was, in the true sense of the word, a self-made man. He possessed an acute, well-furnished mind, and had acquired a large fund of information on a wide range of subjects, especially those connected with mechanical and mining industries. The position he achieved in the various spheres of usefulness was not the result of accident or chance, but the legitimate fruit of a life of hard work, patient industry and untiring perseverance.

It may justly be said of him that he did not trifle

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Charles Burleigh.

Rodney Wallace

with the work he had in hand, but entered upon his every-day life thoroughly equipped for the struggle, and he fought hard and long for success, always using unimpeachable methods to attain the desired end.

RODNEY WALLACE.

Rodney Wallace was born in New Ipswich, N. H., December 21, 1823, the son of David and Roxanna Wallace. At the age of twelve he left his home to work for a farmer for the sum of forty dollars for the first year, with the privilege of attending school eight weeks in the winter. At the age of eighteen he was driving freight teams from various places in New Hampshire and Vermont to Boston, and in 1843, at the age of twenty, he entered the employ of Dr. Stephen Jewett, of Rindge, N. H., and traveled through five of the New England States selling Jewett's medicines, then well-known and celebrated. He remained here until 1853, when he came to Fitchburg and formed a copartnership with Stephen Shepley, known as Shepley & Wallace. The firm were wholesale dealers in books, stationery, paper and cotton waste, and continued under that name and the name of R. Wallace & Co. until July 1, 1865. On this day the firm was dissolved and the business divided, Mr. Wallace taking the cotton waste department, which he still carries on.

The business has grown, and now he handles about one-quarter of a million dollars' worth of waste a year.

December 31, 1864, Stephen Shepley, Benjamin Snow and Rodney Wallace bought the Lyon Paper-Mill and Kimball Scythe-Shops, at West Fitchburg, and began the manufacture of paper under the name of the West Fitchburg Paper Company, which name has been retained to the present time. Mr. Wallace purchased the interest of his partners, and in January, 1869, became sole proprietor of the property. Since becoming sole owner he has added largely to the original plant, erected many dwellings, a depot and two new mills, complete with all the most modern improvements, and now produces thirty thousand pounds of paper every twenty-four hours.

Since 1864 he has been president and director of the Fitchburg Gas Company; a director of the Putnam Machine Company since the same year; a director of the Fitchburg National Bank since 1866; a partner in the Fitchburg Woolen-Mill Company since 1877; and a trustee of Smith College, Northampton, since 1878. He is a director of the Fitchburg Mutual Fire Insurance Company; a trustee of the Fitchburg Savings Bank; a director of the Fitchburg Railroad Company; a director of the Springfield Trust Company; and a large stockholder in the Parkhill Manufacturing Company. Besides these he has had the settlement of several large and important estates.

For politics Mr. Wallace has had but little ambition. He was selectman of the town during the years 1864, '65 and '67.

He was representative to the General Court in 1873, and was unanimously renominated the next year, but declined a re-election on account of ill health. He served as councilor throughout the entire administration of Governor Long, during the years 1880, '81 and '82, and in 1888 was elected to represent the Eleventh District in Congress.

July 1, 1885, was dedicated the Wallace Library and Art Building. This building was erected by Mr. Wallace, at an expense of eighty-four thousand dollars, and presented by him to the city of Fitchburg free from all conditions except that "it should be under the care and management of the Board of Trustees of the Public Library for the time being, and to be used for a Free Public Library, Reading-Rooms and Art Gallery, and for no other purpose." The building is admirably adapted to the use for which it was intended, and is a continuous source of profit and pleasure to all classes of citizens.

Mr. Wallace married, December 1, 1853, Sophia Ingalls, daughter of Thomas Ingalls, of Rindge, N. H. She died June 20, 1871, leaving two sons—Herbert I. and George R. Wallace. They are associated with their father in the management of his business. December 28, 1876, Mr. Wallace married Mrs. Sophia F. Bailey, of Woodstock, Vt.

GEORGE JEWETT, M.D.

George Jewett, M.D., of Fitchburg, Mass., was born in Rindge, N. H., April 28, 1825. The ancestors of the Jewett family, the brothers Maximilian and Joseph Jewett, came to this country in 1638 from Bradford, Yorkshire, England, with about sixty other families, who settled the town of Rowley, Mass. The descendants of these brothers, under various forms of the name, are found in nearly every State and Territory in the Union. The Rindge branch of the family has been identified with the history of the town from its settlement. Many of the family throughout New England, including several near relatives of the subject of this sketch, have chosen the medical profession. His father, Thomas Jewett, M.D., was for many years a highly-esteemed practitioner in Rindge.

George Jewett received his early education in the schools of his native town, at the Appleton Academy, New Ipswich, and at the academy at Hancock, N. H. Being led both by natural preference and paternal example to select the medical profession as his future field of usefulness, he matriculated at the Vermont Medical College in Woodstock, Vt., in 1845. There he attended two courses of lectures. Thence he repaired to the Berkshire Medical School, from which he graduated in 1847. Subsequently he attended another course at Harvard Medical College, in which he had the privileges of hospital practice, under the

tuition of the late eminent Dr. Jacob Bigelow, of Boston.

Dr. Jewett entered upon the practice of his profession in the latter part of the year 1847, at Baldwinsville, Mass., where he resided till the summer of 1853, when he removed to Gardner and practiced successfully in that town for about five years.

In 1858 he sought and found a wider field for energy and skill in Fitchburg, where he now resides. During the war for the preservation of the Union he entered the service of the United States in January, 1862, as assistant surgeon of the Tenth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. He was in General McClellan's army through the disastrous campaign of the Peninsula. During the summer, on the banks of the Chickahominy, sickness prevailed to such an extent, that at one time he was the only commissioned medical officer on duty in his brigade. At the battle of Yorktown he received an order to take charge of a hundred wagons, to collect and carry to Yorktown all the sick and wounded left behind on the advance of the army. In this trying and arduous service he removed the sick from the camp to the wagons, sometimes only with the help of a female nurse, being obliged to carry them on his back. On the arrival of the hospital train at Yorktown he was detailed for hospital duty. Soon after he was ordered in charge of hospital steamer "Arrowsmith." In this position his duty brought him much into the company of medical officers of the Navy. He carried the wounded and sick from various camps on the Pamunky and James Rivers to Annapolis, Baltimore and other sanitaria. He was ordered to join his regiment at the commencement of the "seven days' fight" in front of Richmond, and at the battle of Malvern Hill volunteered, with two other medical officers, to remain behind as prisoners of war in care of the wounded. On this occasion Dr. Jewett was selected to surrender the medical stores and supplies which were left by our retreating army, and also the wounded soldiers and medical officers in charge, to General A. P. Hill, of the Confederate Army, by whom they were paroled.

After a great variety of service in the Army of the Potomac he was promoted by Governor Andrew, and commissioned surgeon and major of the Fifty-first Massachusettts Volunteers, General A. B. R. Sprague, of Worcester, commanding, and ordered to the Department of North Carolina. After some months of service in camp he was ordered to duty as post-surgeon at Morehead City, on the coast. After a short service at this point he joined his regiment, which was ordered to Harper's Ferry, there to unite with the army of General Meade, after the battle of Gettysburg. At this period matters began to assume a threatening attitude in New York City, where his regiment was ordered for service, camping at Castle Garden. He was honorably discharged with the regiment at the expiration of the term of enlistment, July 27, 1863, having been in constant active service, in places of danger from disease or battle, during the whole period.

On his return from military service he resumed practice at Fitchburg, and continued therein until the latter part of 1867. He then made an extensive tour, covering portions of Europe, Egypt, Palestine, Turkey, etc., spending considerable time in European hospitals, and returned home in 1868, with enlarged professional knowledge, powers strengthened and disciplined by unwonted contact with men and things, and complete adaptation to the needs of suffering humanity.

Dr. Jewett ranks with the leaders of the medical fraternity in Worcester County, and has acquired an enviable surgical reputation. Zealous and diligent in all that pertains to the science and art of medicine and surgery, he has frequently contributed to the enrichment of medical literature.

Among his writings are a paper on "Surgical Injuries of the Head," that was read before the Massachusetts Medical Society, at its annual meeting in 1877; and also an article on "The Use of the Aspirator in the Bladder," describing an original mode of treatment adopted in the first operation of the kind known in that section of the State. It was published in the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal.*

Dr. Jewett is a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and also of Worcester North District Medical Society, and has been honored in many ways by his associates in the medical profession; he was elected president of the latter society, and, during the years of 1877 and 1878, discharged the duties of this office honorably and well. For many years he has been councilor of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and, in May, 1888, became vice-president of the same.

He was called to the management of the Hospital Cottages at Templeton in June, 1886, and, as the president of this institution, has been untiring in his efforts, and under his able administration of its affairs, the prosperity and usefulness of this institution has been nearly doubled.

At the close of the war he was appointed United States examining surgeon for pensions, which office he still holds. He held for three years a commission as surgeon and major of the Tenth Massachusetts Infantry, resigning in 1872. He has also been much interested in agriculture, especially in the department of horticulture, and was president of the Worcester North Agricultural Society during the years 1878 and 1879. In September, 1874, he was appointed physician of the county jail at Fitchburg, which position he now fills.

Dr. Jewett has also taken much interest in the cause of education. From 1869 to 1876 he was a member of the Board of School Committee, and was mainly instrumental in the establishment of the Scientific Department of the High School.

George Jewett

C. H. Brown

In 1848, November 15th, he was married to Mary E. Sanders, of New Ipswich, N. H. She died in June, 1867, and December 17, 1868, he was married to Mary Brooks, of Roxbury, Mass. Four children of the first marriage, having died in early childhood, sleep with their mother on Laurel Hill. One son, Walter Kendall, born October 12, 1869, is now in the sophomore class at Brown University.

CHARLES H. BROWN.[1]

The leading industries of Fitchburg have had their origin in modest and unpretentious beginnings. The pioneers builded better than they knew. In all instances the foundations were laid in toil, and sustained by self-accumulated capital. The unequal growth of the structures has been measured by the genius and the courage of a generation of whom few remain. The founders were men of enterprise, who displayed a sagacity that met the present and anticipated the future. They have builded a city and given an individuality to its business interests. Others of the present and of the future may follow in the beaten track, reaping the fruit of their industry and sagacity; but few can wear the laurels of the pioneer or share the honors of the founders of our prosperous city. Younger than many, yet associated with some of the earlier and prominent business men of the city, is the subject of this sketch, who has founded an important industry, and whose enterprise has contributed to the material interests of the city.

Charles H. Brown, son of Charles and Nancy (Hall) Brown, was born in Mendon, March 9, 1820. The south part of Mendon, including his native village, now constitutes the thrifty town of Blackstone, in the extreme southeast part of Worcester County. During his childhood and youth his parents resided in Mendon, in Leyden, Lewis County, N. Y., and in Burrillville, R. I. The circumstances of his youth did not permit him to pursue an advanced course of study; yet he enjoyed and fully improved the ordinary school privileges common to the youth of his time. If he was denied many opportunities his early ambition craved, he was trained in habits of industry, and was taught the rigorous lessons of self-reliance. At sixteen years of age he sought and obtained employment in a machine shop near Greenville, R. I. Subsequently he was employed in the manufacture of a variety of machinery in Blackstone, Providence, R. I., Newton, Whitinsville and in Northford and Waterbury, Conn. In this initial work of his life he acquired skill and developed a native ability which have given him a foremost rank among the practical machinists of his time.

In 1846 Mr. Brown removed to Boston and after a brief connection with Otis Tufts he removed to Fitchburg in 1849. Here the mission of his life invited him to renewed effort and enlarged opportunities. The discipline and preparation of early toil were quickly rewarded by the early achievements of a successful career.

At this time he purchased of John and Salmon W. Putnam one-third interest of an established business in repairing and manufacturing machinery. For several years the firm was known as J. & S. W. Putnam & Co., and was highly successful. Having acquired a practical knowledge of the steam-engine while in the employ of Mr. Tufts, a celebrated builder at that time, Mr. Brown early directed his attention to this line of manufacture. In 1850 the first steam-engine built in Fitchburg was constructed after his designs and under his supervision. In 1856 a working model, with substantial improvements, was made and patented by Mr. Brown and Mr. Charles Burleigh. The patent was assigned to the firm and it has been long and favorably known as the "Putnam Engine." Mr. Brown continued in the management of this department of the business of the firm until failing health compelled him to retire, for a season, from active pursuits.

In 1859 he sold his interest in the Putnam Machine Company, which had been incorporated the previous year, and four years later he commenced business in Newton Lane. In 1866 he sought enlarged facilities in the block on Main Street, now occupied by the Fitchburg Machine Works. In 1871 Mr. Brown perfected and invented "The Brown Automatic Cut-Off Engine." This invention has won success. To this time its reputation has been increased and its demand has been enlarged. The secret of Mr. Brown's successful business career is discovered in the unremitted care bestowed upon the minutest detail of the manufacture. In all his work everything conforms to his exacting taste for a finely-finished surface and a comely outline of form and proportion. In 1873 enlarged facilities were again demanded and a spacious building lot on the opposite side of Main and corner of Willow Street was purchased, and the present substantial block was erected and fully occupied in 1876.

Two sons have been admitted to an interest in the business, and the present firm of C. H. Brown & Co. includes Charles H. Brown, Sr., Charles H. Brown, Jr., and Frank E. Brown.

Mr. Brown is a man of positive traits of character. He is zealous and independent. His perception is quick and accurate, his judgment is sound and his intelligence is clear and comprehensive. His opinions are well-matured, and are always expressed with conciseness and precision. Mr. Brown has no ambition for political preferment, yet he has manifested a commendable interest in public and in municipal affairs. He was a member of the Common Council two years immediately succeeding the incorporation of the city, and for many years he has been the efficient chairman

[1] By Ezra S. Stearns.

of the Board of Water Commissioners. He is a director of the Rollstone National Bank.

Mr. Brown married, May 24, 1847, Miss Emeline J. Hubbard, daughter of Harvey Hubbard, of Berlin, Conn. They have four sons, two of whom are in business, as stated; John F. is a graduate of Harvard Law School and has recently been admitted to the bar; and William A. is now a student in Yale College.

JABEZ FISHER, M.D.

Jabez Fisher, M.D., was born in Cambridgeport, Mass., April 30, 1824, where he received only the education afforded by the common schools of the time. Engaging in his youth in mechanical pursuits, he found his development limited thereby, and at the age of twenty-three commenced the study of medicine. In 1850 he received the degree of M.D. from Harvard College, and began practice in his native town. In May, 1851, he removed to Fitchburg, and continued practice there until the autumn of 1855. In the mean time his early love of horticulture and especially the charms of fruit-growing so urged him forward that he bought the farm on which his life since 1856 has been spent. His fellow-citizens, appreciating his abilities, designated him as a candidate of the new American movement, and he was chosen in the election of 1854 as one of the five Senators from Worcester County. At the election of the following year he was again returned, this time by the Republican party. The demands upon his time by legislative service, together with his increasing interest in rural pursuits, determined him to give up the practice of his profession, and he removed to his farm in the autumn of 1856.

Giving his whole time and energies at once to his business, he soon became noted, and an authority in his specialty. After serving two years as secretary he was twice chosen as president of the Worcester North Agricultural Society, and as a delegate of the society to the Massachusetts Board of Agriculture he served two terms of three years each. While a member of that board, and afterward, he was often called upon as a lecturer before farmers' clubs and people interested in fruit-growing. In 1869 he gave a course of lectures on market gardening before the students of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, and again in 1870.

He was one of the first to appreciate the merits of the Concord grape, and, by his successful management, demonstrated its value, and was largely instrumental in extending its cultivation in his region. He was never satisfied with any short of the best results; hence his products were always in demand at the highest prices, and were, in consequence, widely known. He has often said that if there were any profit in his or any other business—especially that which dealt in the luxuries of life—it must be found in furnishing the best. Any one could produce mediocrity, but only skill and care could approach perfection. He had no secrets in his operations. Anything that he had discovered or become possessed of was at the disposal of any one who chose to inquire. He gave an address on grape culture before the Board of Agriculture at its country meeting at Fitchburg in 1874, also one on injurious insects at Hingham in 1878. He was an early investigator and an advocate of what is now denominated commercial fertilization. Reading with avidity the first publications of the great Baron Liebig and others upon this subject, and through his knowledge of chemistry, to which he devoted much attention in connection with the study of medicine, he was able to keep fully abreast of the developments of the time.

His home, which he calls "Pomoland," or Pomona's Land, is beautifully situated on an elevation at the base of Pearl Hill, surrounded by higher land, except a picturesque valley reaching out southeasterly, and lying about a mile and a half north from Fitchburg Centre. The whole place is a type of the man who made it what it is, and will well repay any one the trouble of a visit.

Notwithstanding Dr. Fisher's devotion to his home and pursuits, he has found time to serve his townsmen in various capacities in addition to his legislative experience. He has been upon the School Committee, was one of the first board of trustees of the Public Library, was several times a selectman and once chairman of the board. He was chairman of the Board of Water Commissioners while the original works were being constructed, and served for several years afterward. He has been president of the Fitchburg Co-operative Bank from its organization in 1877, giving to it much thought, and no small portion of its success is to be attributed to his oversight.

In politics he was originally a Liberty party man, then a Free-Soiler, next an American, then a Republican, and when the Republicans halted on the temperance question, a Prohibitionist. He says that he has been a Woman Suffragist since his acquaintance with his mother. He hates shams under any and all circumstances, and his sympathies are ever with the weak and oppressed.

Music has been quite a source of recreation, he having played the organ in church some thirty years. He trained the Fitchburg contingent in preparation for the great Boston Peace Jubilee of 1872 to very good acceptance, and also directed the same chorus for a number of concerts at home.

He has always been much interested in meteorology, and has kept a continuous record since January, 1857, which possesses much value, and is often consulted.

Jabez Fisher married Roxanna Betton October 8, 1845, from which union two children survive, viz.: Mary L., born November 14, 1846, who married James A. Morton January 1, 1874; and Jabez F., born August 30, 1850, who married Clara A. Ber-

Jabez Fisher.

nard August 20, 1879. A second marriage was consummated, February 12, 1860, with Lucy B. Hosmer.

In religious belief he is a Universalist. His years set easily, and he serenely awaits the time when his opportunities will be enlarged and his comprehension clearer.

ELI CULLEY.[1]

Eli Culley, a son of Edward C. and Eliza (Mayall) Culley, was born near Bath, England, February 4, 1840. At the age of fifteen years he came to this country, and found employment in a file manufactory in the city of Lowell. Subsequently he removed to Boston, and while residing there he enlisted in the Forty-third Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, a nine months' regiment, and a military organization of good repute. He was mustered out with the regiment at the expiration of the term of service, in the autumn of 1863.

Recovering from the debilitating effect of a malarial fever, which was contracted in the service, Mr. Culley removed to Weymouth, and there manufactured files on his own account. In 1868 he removed the business to Fitchburg, and from that time he has been an honored resident of this city. His industry and close application to business have been rewarded, and among his fellow-men he is held in high esteem.

The partiality of his fellow-citizens has found frequent and repeated expression in his election to positions of honor and responsibility. In 1875 he was a member of the Common Council, and was president of the body. In 1877 and '78 he was a member of the Board of Aldermen, and each year he was assigned to important positions on the standing committees.

At the city election in December, 1879, after an animated contest, Mr. Culley was elected mayor, and was re-elected the following year. Succeeding these years of service, his friends did not suffer him to long remain among the retired executive officers of the city.

Again he was elected mayor for the year 1888, and has been chosen for the fourth time and for the year 1889. No other citizen of Fitchburg has been called to the executive chair an equal number of times, and no other has filled all the positions here named. In 1880 Mr. Culley was a member of the House of Representatives.

If briefly narrated, the public service of Mr. Culley has been efficient and honorable. The elements of his successful career are found in his sincerity, the unequivocal expression of his convictions and in his direct methods of speech and conduct. In public affairs and in business he has been industrious, and a life of toil and honest effort has been rewarded with the confidence and esteem of his fellow-men. His success has been earned. Alone in the world at fifteen years of age, his only capital was courage and a willingness to work. Among a nation of strangers he found in our American institutions and our New England customs a welcome denied to the foreigner in every other land. Young Culley appreciated the conditions, and from that hour, in every thought, aspiration and purpose, he was as thoroughly an American as any native born. Mr. Culley is pre-eminently one of the products of a benign and liberal government and the type of a successful career, the counterpart of which is not found elsewhere. The poor boy, unaided by friends and the supporting influences of wealth, seldom succeeds in any other country, and only in America does the invitation to industry, morality and good citizenship extend to the ambitious youth of every land.

In characteristics Mr. Culley is free from ostentation and is frank and direct in his methods. His impulses are quick and generous, his sympathies are universal, and his affections are tender and loyal. While tolerant of the opinion and liberal in his estimate of other men, he adheres closely to his own conclusions, and in his administration of public affairs he has been conservative and safe. Unconsciously these outlines present many traits and elements of a model citizen, and in his success is found an incentive to an honest purpose, to loyalty to friends and to country, and to faithfulness in the discharge of public trusts.

In his domestic relations Mr. Culley has been fortunate and happy. He married, October 5, 1862, Martha A. Redman. They have six children—three sons and three daughters—aged from twelve to twenty-four years.

Mr. Culley became connected with the Masons in 1866, and with the Odd Fellows in 1862, and has been a prominent member of both fraternities. In both organizations he has been honored with the post of District Deputy Grand Master.

[1]By Ezra S. Stearns.

SYLVANUS SAWYER.

Sylvanus Sawyer, an eminent inventor and mechanical engineer, was born in Templeton, Massachusetts, April 15, 1822. The family is of Saxon ancestry, who came to England with William the Conqueror. The name, it is claimed, is derived from the invention and introduction of mills to saw by power, and in America the name of Sawyer has been associated with mills and a variety of manufactures in every generation. The emigrant ancestor, Thomas Sawyer, settled in Charlestown (now Somerville) and removed to Lancaster about 1650. He married Mary Prescott and died 1706. His son, Thomas Sawyer, Jr., born 1648, lived in Lancaster, where he died 1736. In 1705 Thomas Sawyer, Jr., and his son Elias were captured by the Indians and taken to Canada. The mechanical genius of the family secured the freedom of the captives. Here the elder Sawyer observed, on the river where

they were confined, fine seats for mills, and proposed to the French Governor that he would build a mill on condition the captives were released. This arrangement was consummated and the Sawyers returned to Lancaster. Elias Sawyer, a descendant of the generations named, removed to Templeton, where, following the proclivities of his family for mechanical pursuits, he built one of the early mills of the town. His son, John Sawyer, the father of Sylvanus, was a farmer and a lumber dealer, but also owned and conducted a mill. He was a natural mechanic, doing his own carpentering, coopering and stone work, and later he supplemented his facilities for miscellaneous work with a lathe and a forge. In the midst of such influences and surroundings Sylvanus at an early age manifested a predilection for mechanics and invention. With equal aptnesss he designed and made many articles of utility and the playthings and trinkets of youth. One of the results of his earlier studies was a water-wheel which has since been made and sold under another name. This was followed by designs for a reed organ, a screw propeller, a hand car operated by foot-power, a steam-engine and many minor inventions. Having neither means nor experience to utilize the fruits of his early thought, the most of them still slumber in his mind.

In youth his health was feeble, and in search of some light employment he went to Augusta, Me., at the age of seventeen and began work in a gun-smith shop. Ill health compelled him to return home, but he brought with him some knowledge of a trade which found exercise in the manufacture of guns and pistols and some of original design. With such employments and assisting as health permitted in the work on his father's farm, he reached his majority. His early educational advantages were limited, but with habits of study and research and by working out his own problems, aided by a judicious selection of books, he is well equipped for the duties of life and easily excels in his favorite lines of research. In his early experience, in the denial of privileges in his youth and in the many embarrassments in his way, Mr. Sawyer has found an apprenticeship which has given him discipline and courage that has led the way to the substantial achievements of his life.

In 1844, or soon after he had reached his majority, he sought employment in Boston and was employed for a short time in a copper-smith shop. Subsequently he remained a year with Jones & Hobbs, manufacturers of locks and house trimmings. Here he devised improvements in several processes of the manufacture, and to him was entrusted the manufacture of the tools peculiar to the work, and which formerly had been made by specialists at considerable expense. Returning to his home in Templeton, his attention was first called to the cane or rattan business in the winter of 1845–46. Mr. William Wood, a cane-worker of Phillipston, seeking the services of an expert in the manufacture of some tools peculiar to the processes then employed in working the cane, came to Mr. Sawyer for advice and assistance. Comprehending the matter at once, Mr. Sawyer informed his visitor the process then employed was faulty, that all the operations could be performed at once, and with a machine operated by power. To this broad assertion Mr. Wood replied that it could not be done, that the ingenuity of many skilled mechanics had been exhausted, and thousands of dollars had been expended in useless and unproductive experiments. The faith of Mr. Sawyer remained unimpaired. In his mind the problem had been solved already. With a clear conception of the working principles of the future invention, Mr. Sawyer visited the shop of Mr. Wood and witnessed the different operations employed in reducing a stick of cane to the finished product. Beside scouring, straightening, and the slow whittling at the joints, there were eighteen manipulations. While witnessing these slow and laborious operations, to his former conception he added a device for scraping the joints in the strand, instead of whittling them off in the stick, and combining it with the process of gauging. This last device was immediately expressed in a machine which was a success, and which saved annually one hundred dollars on a man's labor. While he was maturing plans and making application of his conception of the more important machine for splitting cane, of which the scraper was to be a sectional part, he made and sold several of these machines for scraping the strand. Having matured the designs, and realizing the need of greater skill and experience as a machinist, before putting them into practical form, Mr. Sawyer sought and obtained employment in the then celebrated steam-engine manufactory of Otis Tufts, in Boston. Here he secured the confidence of his employers and the esteem of his associates, and soon was placed in charge of the most important work, with men under him many years his senior in experience. In this service his ingenuity and his ability to abridge processes found frequent exercise. At the completion of the stipulated term of service, he returned to Templeton to prosecute his invention. At this time, the winter of 1848–49, his elder brother, Joseph B. Sawyer, who was then employed in a mill and machine-shop at Palmer, Mass., for an interest in the patents, proposed to furnish needed funds and to assist in the construction of models and experimental machines. The proposition was accepted. In the autumn of 1849 he returned to Templeton, bringing with him a set of cutting-machines and models of the same, and an experimental scraper. The patent was issued November 13, 1849, and a half-interest was assigned to his brother. The machines were set up for exhibition in the shop of his father. For motive-power, a man was employed to turn a crank.

The scraper made at Palmer proved defective. Undaunted, Mr. Sawyer immediately made new drawings, and at Athol constructed another machine after his

Sylvanus Sawyer

original design. The machines with this scraper were successfully operated until they were worn out beyond repair, and success crowned the issue. The prophecy of Mr. Wood and other cane-workers that this end could not be reached had come to naught. The early experimenters had vainly attempted to cut down and through the hard, siliceous enameled surface of the cane with saws, spurs, loups and dies. The result was that the cutting points, in the passage at fair speed of a stick of cane, became hot, and soon cut off and the saws worn smooth. The invention of Mr. Sawyer, assisted by many mechanical devices, themselves inventions, is founded upon the device of cutting under the enamel and outward, raising the strand so that when the receding edge of the spur or lip, that divides the surface into strands, reaches the surface, the enamel already has been parted without injury to the cutting points. Here is found the key to the situation. This idea dominates all chair cane-cutting machines, including the tubular spurred cutter, as firmly as the Howe method of putting the eye in the point of the needle dominates all cloth-sewing machines of the past and the present. In the spring of 1850 Mr. Sawyer invented another machine for cutting cane, which he judged might have some advantages over his first method. Having constructed an apparatus to test his invention, he put it aside for future consideration. In the mean time many interested parties had been accorded the privilege of examining the new invention, and among these were Levi Heywood, of Gardner, and an uncle, Joseph Sawyer, of Royalston, who subsequently applied for a patent.

Mr. Sawyer immediately proved a priority of invention, and to him a patent was issued June 24, 1851, while the application of his uncle was rejected. As an item of history in connection with these patents it is necessary to add that, upon a modified claim, a patent was issued to the uncle in 1854, which failed to meet the purpose of its design. With his attention continually directed to this business, Mr. Sawyer devised a machine for scouring cane in large quantity by power, which superseded the former process of scouring small quantities with broom, soap and sand. In the autumn of 1850 the brothers, Sylvanus and Joseph B. Sawyer, rented a shop with power in East Templeton, and, with their new machinery, began the manufacture of cane for the use of chair-makers. In 1851 Sylvanus invented a new machine for shaving the strands and trimming the edges with great rapidity. It was subsequently modified and adapted to the tubular spurred cutter mentioned hereafter, and patented December 12, 1854. The enterprise at East Templeton established the merit of the machines, and from a business standpoint they were successful and remunerative. A stock company was organized in April, 1852, known as the American Rattan Company, and the business was removed to Fitchburg. The Sawyer patents were assigned to the corporation, and an extensive business was continued under the superintendence of Mr. Sawyer, who also was one of the directors. About this time a rival company was organized by Levi Heywood and others, and began business, with the Uncle Joseph patents, in Boston. By a vote of a majority of the American Rattan Company the two companies were consolidated. This action was strenuously opposed by Mr. Sawyer and others, and in the end their judgment was sustained by the facts. The machines of the Boston company were of little value, the manufactured cane was comparatively worthless, and an inheritance of debt was the prominent item of the assets which the Boston company brought to the treasury of the American Rattan Company. By this arrangement the stock of the old company was doubled and no material benefits were secured. March 7, 1854, a patent on a tubular spurred cutter was issued to Addison M. Sawyer, the youngest brother of Sylvanus. He had been employed by his elder brothers at Templeton, and subsequently by the American Rattan Company, at Fitchburg.

It appears that each of the three brothers had been conducting experiments in this direction, but Addison claimed and probably was entitled to priority, and to him the patent was issued. A third interest was immediately assigned to the brothers named. In connection with the machines owned by the American Rattan Company, this patent would be valuable, and doubly so, if a shave could be adapted to complete the work; but of little value to the brothers without the company's scraper and such a shave. Mr. Sawyer at once went to the shop in Athol, where he had solved many problems, and there remodeled the shave to meet the new demand. As previously stated, the remodeled shave was patented in 1854. The improvements he introduced at this time included another knife, which reduced the strand for the shaving-knife, and a scraper with a spring weighted block, which pressed the strand upon the cutter. At this time he devised a feeding apparatus for the cutter and a new guide to present the stick of cane centrally to the cutter and other improvements for handling the strands parted by the cutter.

With these improved equipments the three brothers —Sylvanus, Joseph B. and Addison M. Sawyer—resumed business at East Templeton, but they soon sold the business and assigned the new patents to the American Rattan Company. Mr. Sawyer again removed to Fitchburg, and assumed the oversight of the setting up of the new machines and the training of the help in the new processes. In June, 1855, he received a patent on an invention for splitting the rod of cane into sectional strips, removing the strand from each strip and rounding for reeds the triangular part remaining. Having realized his most sanguine expectations, Mr. Sawyer retifed from the active management of the business and directed his attention mainly to other fields of study and investigation. As early as 1853 he had invented improvements in rifled

cannon projectiles, which were patented in 1855, and subsequently were patented in England and in France.

These embrace the placing a coating of lead, or some softer metal than that of which the iron body is composed, on the rear or frusto-conical end of the shell, and the same extended, or not, over the sides of the same, which is expanded laterally by the discharge, and preventing "windage" on the passage of the gas by the projectile, also filling the grooves of the rifling and obviating the necessity of helical projections; and the arrangement in the point of a percussion cap or fuse so as to insure the explosion of the shell on impact and the soldering of the soft metal to the shot.

In 1857 and 1858 Mr. Sawyer, with his brother Addison (to whom an interest in the patents had been conveyed), conducted experiments on his inventions at their own expense, in order to demonstrate the practicability of rifled cannon and projectiles to the United States Ordnance Bureau, the Chief of Ordnance refusing to be at any expense, saying that they had already spent mints of money on these visionary schemes, that the subject was exhausted, and that rifle cannon was impracticable; but after learning of their previous tests, and that they had their own guns and ammunition, he readily ordered a trial and an investigation of Mr. Sawyer's invention, which, after thorough test, proved eminently successful, the Secretary of War (who witnessed two trials) declaring that the practicability of rifle cannon and projectiles had at last been demonstrated. This trial resulted in the ordering of another trial, with heavy ordnance, at Fortress Monroe, before a board of government officers, and a report was submitted recommending in view of the superiority of the Sawyer projectile in accuracy over all others of which official information had been received, and of its simplicity and the certainty of the fuse bursting the shell after penetration, that four field-guns be issued to one or more batteries for practice with the Sawyer projectiles for one year; but before this order was carried into effect the Civil War was upon us, and these experimental guns were turned upon the enemy with great effect. The forty-two-pounders (rifle) columbiads were mounted at Newport News and upon the Rip Raps (Fort Wool), the latter being the only guns there that could reach Sewell's Point Battery, a distance of three and one-half miles, which they did with great accuracy, and made fearful havoc with the railroad iron-clad batteries at the capturing of Sewell's Point, Norfolk, Gosport, etc., and an eighteen-pounder Sawyer rifle did great execution on board the steamer "Fanny."

Notwithstanding the great range and accuracy of the Sawyer guns and projectiles, and the certainty of the operation of their fuse, the ordnance officers did not seem to manifest that enthusiasm that was exhibited by the old artillery officers, and they seemed to rather stand aloof, and look askance upon Mr. Sawyer's invention.

This state of affairs was soon explained by an ordnance officer, who was later on appointed chief of the Ordnance Bureau at Washington, coming forward to compete before the Sawyer board with a projectile that directly infringed the Sawyer patent. They evidently did not mean to have their old ordnance theories overthrown and be left out in the cold. Hence the Chief of Ordnance, of both the army and navy, soon commenced to make, or have made, large quantities of projectiles (principally shells) for the army and navy, the former having his made by a Mr. Knapp, of Pennsylvania, and the latter at the Navy Yard at Washington, and both of them infringing Mr. Sawyer's patents, or, as Government Solicitor Whiting said, "It is an adoption of the Sawyer patent." This action of the chiefs of the Ordnance Bureaus was very unfortunate for Mr. Sawyer, who was accorded little or no credit for his inventions, or for his "practical demonstrations," which were made at a heavy cost to himself of both time and money, and almost practically barred him out from government patronage, except orders from department commanders who insisted upon having the Sawyer guns and ammunition, for whom he made quite a number of batteries of cast-steel guns, with shot and shell, besides longer guns. He appealed to the Assistant Secretary of War, Mr. Watson, and to the Government Solicitor, Mr. Whiting (both former patent lawyers). They admitted that they were using his patents, and stated that under martial law the government had a right to take and use what they pleased by recompensing the owner; "*but this did not apply to officers as individuals,*" and advised him to wait till the war was over and then seek redress, his claim being good for six years thereafter; but Chief Dahlgren, of the navy, died during, or soon after, the war; Chief Dyer died a little later, and Mr. Knapp, who made the "Dyer projectiles" *for him*, followed soon after, so that there was no one left whom he could prosecute for these infringements, or compel the yielding of the credit that belonged to him. In 1861 Mr. Sawyer invented a Fuse Hood for centrating fire upon a time fuse, also a Loading Mandrel for filling case shot, both of which were patented December 24th the same year, and in August, 1862, he and his brother, Addison M., took out a patent jointly for a Combination Fuse, and on December 17, 1862, he bought his brother's interest in his patents.

In 1864–65 Mr. Sawyer built a large brick shop which he designed mainly for the manufacture of ordnance, and was negotiating with Mexico, Brazil and Chili, as well as our own country, for ordnance supplies; but all four of the wars ended about the same time and the shop is now occupied by the Fitchburg Machine Works.

In 1867 he took out a patent on Dividers and Calipers, and March 3, 1868, a Steam Generator; May 26th, same year, an improved Rattan Machine, and July 7, 1868, he took another for Calipers and

Yours truly

W. T. Sherman

Dividers. In 1876 Sawyer & Esty patented a Sole Sewing Machine. About this time Mr. Sawyer commenced to start a watch factory in Fitchburg and had got considerable of the stock taken in the enterprise and the tools substantially done when the "hard times" set in, which compelled many to withdraw their subscription; hence he concluded to give up the enterprise and turned his attention to the manufacture of watch tools, in which business he continued till he moved the business to New York and formed a stock company, in 1881, and subsequently sold out his interest. On July 10, 1882, a patent was issued to him for a Centring Watchmaker's Lathe, which he manufactured in connection with other tools.

Resting from his labors, Mr. Sawyer has practically retired from active business, renting his shops. He has manifested a love for horticultural pursuits and a deep interest in progressive farming. His labor has been onerous and his achievements substantial. Through many years of constant use his inventions in cane machinery have permitted no improvements and still remain substantially as they left his hand. They have revolutionized an important industry and transferred it from the pestilential climate of Southern India and from Japan and Holland to this country, offering ample dividends to capital employed and affording employment to many people. And we may add that his inventions in rifle cannon and projectiles has been perhaps equally revolutionary.

ANDREW B. SHERMAN.

The subject of this sketch was born in Plympton, Mass., April 10, 1829. His father, Capt. Zacchæus Sherman, followed the sea fourteen years, and commanded a vessel about twelve years.

Capt. Sherman was twice married. His first wife was Jane Bradford, by whom he had two sons and two daughters; the second wife was Nancy Bartlett, of Plymouth, by whom he had two sons, Andrew B. and Algernon Sidney.

Andrew B. Sherman was educated in the district and private schools of his native town, and, after reaching the age of eight years, worked diligently during vacations—in summer on the farm and in winter in the saw-mills, and helping team lumber, &c., in which his father then dealt extensively.

With the exception of one winter, during which he worked in the store of his uncle, the late Zacchæus Parker, he passed his time thus until the age of twenty, acquiring the habits of industry which have so strongly characterized his whole business career.

In 1849 he left home and entered the country store of J. M. Harrub, of North Plympton, where for two years and ten months he worked from fourteen to sixteen hours per day, attending carefully to all parts of the business. He rendered valuable assistance in keeping the books and also in attending to finishing and shipping goods in the shoe manufactory which Mr. Harrub operated.

Though the original engagement with Mr. Harrub was but for a few months, Mr. Sherman's interest in the business was so great and his services so valuable, that his employer induced him to remain with him for the period above mentioned, at the expiration of which time Mr. Sherman, having determined to make the dry goods trade his business, went to Boston to endeavor to secure a position where, with much better opportunities to learn the whole business, he might fit himself to enter upon it on his own account, if he so desired.

Upon his arrival in Boston he called on Mr. William F. Brett, who introduced him to his recent partner, Mr. Samuel Ellis, of Samuel Ellis & Co., 131 and 133 Federal Street, and Mr. Sherman at once entered the employ of this firm. Here he formed the acquaintance of Mr. Luther J. Brown, who later came to Fitchburg, but who was then in the employ of Samuel Ellis & Co.

About this time the firm began to close out the stocks of several out-of-town stores owned by them, and also to dispose of superfluous stock. Mr. Sherman was soon sent to Medford with a stock. Here he remained six months, applying himself early and late, sleeping in the store most of the nights.

From Medford he went to Duxbury, where he stayed about the same length of time, meeting with good success in both places, selling a large amount of goods and making money, while one of his employers, Mr. Moore, with an assistant, sold a less amount and lost money at a store in South Abington.

Mr. Sherman then took charge of the East Abington store for the next two years, as general salesman in dry goods, carpets, clothing, millinery, furniture, crockery, etc.

At the expiration of this time, the firm being financially embarrassed, Mr. Sherman went to Dover, N. H., with a large stock of dry goods. Here he stayed six months, sending to the firm one-third more money per week than had been calculated upon.

In Dover Mr. Sherman, by close attention to business and unostentatious manners, gained the respect and formed the acquaintance of nearly all in the front ranks of business and society in the place. As an expression of regard at the time he left Dover, he was tendered a reception and presented with a handsome gold seal-ring, upon which was inscribed the names of some of the prominent young men of the place; and since then this pleasant friendship has been kept up by both parties.

Mr. Sherman then engaged as general salesman at the East Abington store for about a year, and in February, 1855, came to Fitchburg to dispose of a stock of dry goods. Here, although located in the "Old City," a half-mile from the other three dry-goods stores in town, he was fairly successful, and enjoyed a liberal share of the trade from all parts of the town.

At the end of six months, believing that Fitchburg would in time be a prosperous city, Mr. Sherman purchased the stock of goods of his employers, and, with what money he had saved during his clerkship, commenced on his own account.

One of his salesmen was Mr. L. J. Brown, with whom he soon formed a partnership, which lasted about three years. In the meantime Mr. Brown married, and it was thought best to dissolve the partnership; and for the past thirty years Mr. Sherman has carried on his prosperous business alone.

He paid close attention to his business, and the opportunities made possible by the condition of the markets during the Civil War made it quite profitable, —buying largely when goods were offered at less than it was then possible to make them, storing them and selling on a high market. As profits accumulated, he invested them in securities, which, in most cases, appreciated as well as paid interest.

At several different times, as more room was needed, the store was enlarged, until 1870, when he moved into his present commodious store, in the then new Rollstone Bank building. At that time he added a stock of carpets, to which he gave much study and attention.

In November, 1867, he established a dry-goods store in Winchendon, which was profitably operated until November, 1885, when it was sold to W. A. Sanford & Son, of Brockton, being then located in the I. M. Murdock block.

Mr. Sherman has, at times, invested the earnings of his business in shipping, having been part owner in eight different three-masted schooners engaged in the coasting trade, one of them bearing his name.

He has always manifested kind feelings towards his competitors and neighboring merchants, and has at various times, aided them without extra remuneration.

In 1878 Mr. Sherman married Miss Clara Belle, daughter of Mr. Jonathan Moody, of Claremont, N. H., and has three fine boys.

He has, for many years, been a trustee of the Worcester North Savings Institution, and a director of the Wachusett National Bank since its incorporation, and one of its largest stockholders.

Mr. Sherman served one year in the Common Council, and two years in the Board of Aldermen. He has, during his long residence in Fitchburg, gained the respect and esteem of the community, which he well deserves.

H. A. BLOOD.

Hiram Albro Blood was born in Townsend, Mass., February 3, 1833, and was the son of Ezra and Lydia Ann (Jefts) Blood; received an academical education in the town of his birth, and lived there until the age of eighteen, at which age he went to Worcester in search of employment.

At the age of twenty he entered the commission-house of Bliss, Sutton & Co., in Worcester, Mass., as a clerk, and became a member of the firm in 1854, at which time he opened a branch house in Fitchburg, and went there to live and has resided there ever since.

In 1857 he dissolved his connection with Bliss, Sutton & Co., and entered into a copartnership with William O. Brown, of Fitchburg, under the name of Blood & Brown, which existed until 1860, when Mr. Brown withdrew to enter the United States army, becoming a major of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, and a new firm was formed under the name of H. A. Blood & Co., which continued to carry on the business.

In 1865 Mr. Blood withdrew from all mercantile pursuits and became entirely interested in railroads, to the construction and operation of which he has ever since given his time and attention.

In 1865 he became connected with the Fitchburg and Worcester Railroad as a director and as its superintendent and general manager.

He afterwards built, or was largely instrumental in building, the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg, the Framingham and Lowell, the Mansfield and Framingham, and the Fall River Railroads, of which he successively became superintendent and general manager, and afterwards united and consolidated them, together with the New Bedford and Taunton, and the Taunton Branch Railroads, into one system, under the name of the Boston, Clinton, Fitchburg and New Bedford Railroad Company, reaching from Fitchburg and Lowell in the north, to Mansfield, Taunton, New Bedford and Fall River in the southern part of the State.

This system of railroads was for a time operated by Mr. Blood as general manager, and was afterwards united and consolidated with the Old Colony Railroad Company, of which it now forms an important part.

In the construction of these railroads, and in their subsequent operation and consolidation, Mr. Blood was the moving and directing spirit.

In 1875 he procured the charter for the Wachusett National Bank, of Fitchburg, obtaining all the subscriptions to its capital stock, established the bank and became its first vice-president.

He was the third mayor of Fitchburg, and was first elected by the Board of Aldermen and Common Council November 2, 1875, to fill out the unexpired term of Eugene T. Miles, and, at the subsequent annual election in December, he was elected by the people, and was inaugurated January, 1876, and filled the office of mayor for one year and two months.

He is now chiefly interested in railroads in the State of Ohio, being the president of the Cleveland and Canton Railroad Company in that State, which position he has held since May, 1884, but he still retains his residence in Fitchburg, where he has an office as well as an office in Boston, Mass.

Henry A. Goodrich

It can truly be said of Mr. Blood, that he is one of Worcester County's representative men.

HENRY A. GOODRICH.

The name of Goodridge, or, as it is now commonly spelled, Goodrich, has been very closely identified with the history of Fitchburg ever since the incorporation of the town.

David Goodridge, one of the original settlers of the town, was deacon of the First Church in Fitchburg and a member of the First Provincial Congress. Like most of his fellow-townsmen, he was possessed of but limited means, but his sterling worth and integrity and his belief in the dignity and efficacy of honest toil made him an influential citizen and caused him to be often called to fill positions of trust and honor in the little colonial town of Fitchburg. Succeeding generations have kept the family name in the same good repute, and two of Deacon Goodridge's great-grandsons—Alonzo P. and John Goodrich—have spent their long and honorable lives of usefulness in our midst. The former is still with us in the enjoyment of a hale and hearty old age, but John Goodrich, the father of the subject of this sketch, died in this city in April, 1888, at the age of nearly eighty years.

Henry A. Goodrich, the eldest son of John and Mary A. (Blake) Goodrich, was born in Fitchburg, November 22, 1830. His early education was obtained in the district schools of the town, and later he attended the Fitchburg Academy and the Fitchburg High School.

He was one of the eight boys who attended during the first term of the High School, and the only one of the eight who remained permanently in Fitchburg. In 1849 he took a position as overseer in a woolen-mill, and in the course of the next four years saved money enough to start in business for himself.

In January, 1855, he entered upon his successful mercantile life by buying out a hat and furnishing store under the Fitchburg Hotel. Here he remained until 1869, when he removed to his branch store, established some years previously, in Belding & Dickinson's Block. He had also, in the mean time, started another branch store in Brattleboro', Vt. In January, 1885, he moved into his present elegant and commodious quarters in E. M. Dickinson's new brick block, where, as senior partner, we now find him at the head of one of the finest and best regulated clothing and furnishing establishments in New England.

Mr. Goodrich married, in December, 1856, Miss Harriet Stebbins, daughter of John Stebbins, Esq., of Vernon, Vt. He has one son, William Henry, and one daughter, Mrs. W. L. Humes.

In addition to his mercantile pursuits, Mr. Goodrich has been largely interested in real estate operations in Fitchburg. He was, at one time, half owner of the "L. J. Brown Block," and sold his interest to Mr. Brown. In 1868 he bought the American House property, and later erected two large blocks on Day Street, one of which bears the name of "Goodrich Block." He sold the American House in 1874, and became a stockholder and director in the Haskins Machine Company, which proved to be a disastrous venture.

Like many other active and ambitious men, he has encountered reverses, but, by energy, perseverance and industry, has quickly overcome them, and started anew with a fresh determination to win success.

During the War of the Rebellion Mr. Goodrich was the treasurer of the Fitchburg "Bounty Fund," and collected and disbursed over $20,000, the greater portion of which was afterward refunded by the town. After the terrible battles of the Wilderness in 1864 he was sent by the town, with Dr. Alfred Hitchcock and E. B. Hayward, to look after the sick and wounded Fitchburg soldiers in the hospitals at Fredericksburg and Washington. A reference to the files of the *Fitchburg Sentinel* about that time will show how thoroughly and conscientiously he performed his full share of the sad duty.

Mr. Goodrich has also been for many years a frequent contributor to the press on current topics. During the great "Silver Discussion," in 1878, he wrote a series of communications, which appeared in the *Fitchburg Sentinel* over the signature of "Inquirer," favoring the passage of the Bland Silver Bill. These communications were written in a clear and forcible style, and showed a thoroughly business-like familiarity with, as well as careful study of, the subject in hand. A correspondent of the *Boston Herald* said of these articles at the time,—"Our bankers and business men are considerably exercised at the appearance of a series of letters in the *Sentinel*, the past week or two, favoring the passage of the Bland Silver Bill. The *Sentinel* opposes the sentiments of these communications editorially, but it is beginning to be evident that the unknown writer is more than a match for the newspaper men, at least in vigorous style, mastery of the arts of logic and power of special pleading."

In politics Mr. Goodrich has never been, in any sense, an extreme partisan. In early life he was a stanch believer in, and advocate of, anti-slavery principles. He served on the first "Free-Soil Town Committee" with Moses Wood, Charles Mason and Henry A. Willis. His first vote was for John P. Hale for President. He has been a Republican since the party was organized; but, being naturally independent, has not always fully acquiesced in every political measure advocated or adopted by that party. As a rule he has supported Republican candidates.

In 1869 and 1870 Mr. Goodrich represented his native town in the Legislature, being elected thereto as the Republican candidate, and served two years on the Hoosac Tunnel committee during the most important epoch in the history of the great tunnel enterprise.

At the organization of the city government he served on the Board of Assessors, and for several years was one of the trustees of the Public Library. In 1885 he was the Citizens' candidate for mayor, though practically a temperance man, but shared the fate of the entire Citizens' ticket, which was that year swept away by a tidal wave of radical prohibition.

He was active in organizing the Fitchburg Board of Trade, and was one of its first vice-presidents. He has been one of the managers of the Massachusetts Mutual Aid Society from its organization, and in 1887 was elected its president. In 1887 he was also president of the Merchants' Association and of the American Pruning Company.

He is one of the trustees of the Worcester North Savings Institution, and a director of the Fitchburg Park Association.

Mr. Goodrich has always led a busy, active life, and has ever been ready to aid in the forwarding of all projects tending to increase and strengthen the prosperity of his native town; and his high mercantile and social standing is the result of integrity, energy and perseverance.

CHAPTER LII.

BARRE.

BY MATTHEW WALKER.

BARRE is situated in the westerly part of Worcester County, about twenty-one miles northwesterly of Worcester, and is fifty-six miles from Boston by an old turnpike road, or by the Central Massachusetts Railroad sixty-one miles. It is in forty-two degrees and twenty-six minutes north latitude, and the elevation of its Common in the centre of the town is nine hundred and ten feet above the mean level of the sea. The township is nearly diamond-shaped, its sides being very regular, two of them being about six and one-half miles long each, the other two about six and one-fourth miles each, containing an area of about forty-one square miles. This very regular plot seems to have been educed from the similar shape of the original grant of land of which it forms a part.

The early records inform us that the proprietors of Rutland voted, in 1715, to survey and set off into lots the contents of six miles square, to be granted to settlers in order to secure the performance of the conditions in the original confirmation of the title.

The surface is hilly, its soil a subsoil of clay with a loamy overlaying, thus forming a compact stratum of the nature of hardpan; it is very fertile, making it desirable, productive and valuable. In population, according to the census of 1885, it ranks thirty-second in the county, while in the relative proportion of its farm products it is third in rank, Worcester and Fitchburg surpassing it. It is essentially an agricultural town, the formation of the soil being such as admirably fits it for tillage, mowing and pasturage, the hay crop amounting in value to about seventy-five thousand dollars per annum, and its dairy products to an equal sum, or, for the year 1885, to seventy-five thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven dollars. The valuation of the town, as returned by the assessors for 1888, is one million three hundred and eighty-five thousand and seventy-five dollars.

Its undulating surface affords picturesque views, and the highways, hard and well cared for, furnish fine drives, showing the well-preserved farm-houses and other buildings, as well as the beautiful structures of the centre village and the more thickly-settled portions of the town, buildings kept neatly painted, and, with a background of living green, presenting an attractive appearance.

The town is well wooded and watered, the principal streams being the Ware River, which runs through the east and southerly portions, furnishing a water-power of considerable capacity; the Cannestow and Burnshirt Rivers in the east part, the latter having several mill powers; Pleasant Brook, a romantic and beautiful stream, partially concealed by forests, then leaping forth and glittering in the sunlight, and with its rugged bed and stony or mossy banks, attracting the gaze of the saunterer and inviting him to follow its windings; Prince River, which has its source in the north part, small streams flowing into and forming an artificial reservoir, covering about sixty acres, running almost directly south, having a number of water-powers which are used for various purposes; Dick's Brook, near the centre, flowing southerly and easterly, presenting a wild and romantic view as it turns with its swift current and considerable fall, leaping onward to Prince River; Hill Brook, Silver Brook and other small streams, from their rugged and picturesque surroundings, serving to attract the attention of the mere stroller or the disciple of the piscatorial art; Moose Brook, in the westerly part, rising to the north and flowing southerly through a number of fertile and highly cultivated farms, presenting to the lover of nature opportunities for a stroll upon its banks that will repay him for his time and exertion. All these streams find their way into the Ware River.

In 1853, to increase the water-power of Prince River, a reservoir was constructed in the north part of the town; in 1868 the dam gave way, the most commonly accepted opinion being that it resulted from the effects of lightning, the heavy body of water sweeping away in its course most of the manufactories on the banks of the stream, only a part of which have been rebuilt. A loss of about two hundred thousand dollars was entailed upon the town in the destruction of roads and bridges and upon individuals by the carrying away of their property.

The geology of the town is not different from that

of the surrounding country, the rocks belonging to the Eozoic system. Bowlders abound here and there, and gneiss, granite and granitic gneiss form a large part of our natural scenery. In the north and westerly portions of the town runs a vein of stratified rock, which is utilized in foundations for buildings and for constructing walks. In the eastern and southern portions the division of the hills, forming a course for the Ware River, presents an interesting view to the trained or untrained eye. The wild and romantic scenery of the east part is worth more than a passing visit, and the water, dashing along its channel many feet below the roadway, with the surrounding wooded tracts and the green herbage, leads the thinking mind to a contemplation of grand and noble subjects.

While our geological formation is leading us to an analysis of its construction, we may find, in separate forms, some of the minerals that constitute our granite. We have mica, feldspar, iron pyrites, beryl and garnets, and of the latter some beautiful specimens have been obtained. Fine specimens of rutile were formerly obtained in the north and west parts, but of late years the diligent searches of the amateur mineralogist have gone unrewarded, so far as this interesting mineral is concerned.

In the northerly part of the town is an extensive deposit of plastic clay, of a rich variety, tending somewhat to marl. Bricks were made of this quite extensively some sixty and more years ago, but as no sand of the proper quality with which to temper the clay could be obtained, except by trucking it a distance of several miles, the cost of manufacture was so great that, in the competition of trade in other towns, the business here became unprofitable, and was abandoned. In the south part of the town a bed of clay was worked to great advantage fifty to sixty years ago, the sand required for its manufacture into bricks being found a short distance easterly; but this bed ceased to yield a proper amount of clay, and was finally abandoned as "worked out." A short distance from this old bed it is shrewdly surmised that another deposit exists, and, at a favoring time, trials will be made of the quality of the material.

Under the head of topography we must refer to the forests of the town. The somewhat broken surface of the land, the natural quality of the soil, including its rocks, and the general inclination and the number of its water-courses, lead us to adopt the theory that this was not, in its primitive days, an unbroken wilderness; that the land in a large proportion of the present township was well wooded is indisputable, and the early settler here found his way hither, and by marking trees could retrace his path with much less difficulty. In subsequent years the forests became one of the sources of a livelihood in the way of clearing the timber, not only for obtaining improved land, but for the manufacture of pot and pearl-ashes, and these were made in considerable quantities, the towns to the south of us furnishing excellent markets for these products.

The elevation of the town from its southern to its northern extremity is quite marked, the difference in height between the Plains and the "Common" at the centre being, as furnished from the minutes of railroad surveyors, about three hundred feet, or an average of about one hundred feet to the mile, and from the "Common" to the northerly limits of the town, the ascent, though less marked, is about two hundred feet additional, thus making a difference in our elevation between the extreme northern and southern boundaries of about five hundred feet. While there is so great a difference in the elevation from north to south, the difference from the extreme eastern to the western corner is but slight; hills abound from east to west, but the elevation finally assumed is nearly the same. In the north part of the town is Hawes' Hill, which, next to Mt. Wachusett, is the highest point of land in the State east of the Connecticut River.

With the town of to-day so well laid out, with its good and numerous highways, its well-constructed and beautiful houses, its fertile fields and farms, and with a people, social, thrifty and hospitable, engaged in farming and business ventures of various kinds, the contrast now with the wooded and unsettled territory of two hundred years ago exhibits wonderful changes. The first time any white man traversed this section was in 1635, when an expedition was sent westerly from the Plymouth colony and penetrated as far as the Connecticut River. It is very probable that the report of this expedition referred to the meadow lands and to the natural fertility of the soil, and, in after-years, as the settlers in the east increased in numbers, they continued to move farther westerly, and settled various townships in what is now Worcester County, the first settlement being at Lancaster, in 1743. Brookfield was settled in 1673–74, and, in 1681, the General Court appointed a committee, who purchased a portion of the southern part of the present Worcester County; December 22, 1686, old style, or January 2, 1687, of the present style of reckoning dates, the territory which now embraces Rutland, Oakham, Barre, Hubbardston and portions of Paxton and Princeton, was purchased of five Indians "dwelling in His Majesty's territory in America," by Henry Willard, Joseph Rowlandson, Joseph Foster, Benjamin Willard and Cyprian Stevens, "in consideration of twenty three pounds in hand paid, and for themselves and all of their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, freely, fully and absolutely give, grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoffe, make over and confirm unto the above-named Willard and others, a certain tract of land, meadows, swamps, timbers, intervales, containing twelve miles square," the bounds being carefully described in the deed, and these Indians covenanted that they were the lawful owners of all the lands, "or any other matter, be it mine or mines,

or any ore falling within this tract according to the butts and bounds mentioned." This was a deed of warranty, and was written in strong and comprehensive terms, and was acknowledged by the parties to the contract March 15, 1687.[1]

This purchase from the Indians was undoubtedly made to quiet and pacify them, the war of King Philip, and the massacre at Brookfield but a few years previously, having evidently taught the white people that measures of this kind were matters of policy. The settlers were aware that the Indians could have no legal title to the land, and so little value, otherwise than as a measure of peace and policy, was placed upon the deed at that time, that it was not recorded for more than twenty-five years subsequently, or not until April 15, 1714, and then not until application had been made to the General Court for a confirmation of the title, which act of confirmation was obtained February 23, 1713, but on condition that within seven years sixty families should be settled in the territory, a quantity of land to be set apart for the location and support of the church and schools, and that this grant should not encroach on any former grants. It will be noticed that this was not an act of incorporation, but merely one of confirmation of the title.

Now our predecessors were in full and legal possession of their purchase, subject to the prescribed conditions; and to fulfill the requirements of the act so far as to induce the settlement of sixty families within the limits of the grant within the time specified, the purchasers formed an association, or Proprietry, as it afterwards became to be called, by joining with themselves others who were persons of energy and influence. The association was divided into thirty-three shares, each proprietor having one, except Joseph Foster, who had two; the names of the original proprietors in this association were Joseph Foster, Mrs. Cyprian Stevens, Mary Willard's heirs, Joseph Rowlandson's heirs, Simeon Willard, John Willard, Benjamin Willard, Joseph Willard, Josiah Willard's heirs, Rev. Samuel Willard's heirs, Henry Willard's heirs, Daniel Willard's heirs, Jonathan Willard's heirs, Thomas Brintnall, Nathaniel Howard's heirs, Robert Blood's heirs, Joshua Edmund's heirs, William Tyler, Penn Townsend, Paul Dudley, Addington Davenport, Adam Winthrop, Thomas Hutchinson, Thomas Fitch, Thomas How, John Chandler, William Dudley, John White, John Farnsworth, Peter Buckley's heirs, Moses Parker and Jacob Stevens. In December, 1715, these proprietors voted to survey and set off into lots sections of six miles square, these plats to be granted to settlers, in order to secure the performance of the conditions in the original act of the confirmation of the title; the first part set off contained what is now Rutland and a portion of Paxton, being one-fourth of the twelve miles square, and which had been surveyed the previous October by William Ward. In this portion sixty-two house lots of thirty acres each were laid out, which were offered to permanent settlers at nominal rates, and promises were given to divide the remainder of the land amongst them, provided that sixty families should settle there within the prescribed seven years, reserving, however, sufficient lands for the use and support of the ministry and school, and one thousand acres, which had previously been granted by government to Samuel Sewall.

When the seven years had transpired the requirements had been consummated, the settlers coming from Boston, Lexington, Concord, Sudbury, Marlborough, Framingham, Lancaster, Brookfield, and from Ireland. The condition of the grant having been fulfilled, the proprietors petitioned the General Court, which commenced its session the last Wednesday of May, 1722, for an act of incorporation, and, on the 18th of the following month, a bill was passed for further establishing the town of Rutland, and empowering them to choose all proper officers, also empowering them to raise and collect money for defraying the necessary charges of the said town.

This part of the territory was afterwards called the "settled part" of Rutland, and the proprietors, fulfilling their promises to the settlers, ceased to have any authority over it; the other three-fourths of the grant was still held by them, and was under their authority and jurisdiction, and to this portion their immediate attention was now given, and efforts were made to induce families to settle in the north and northwest sections. Some of the families had settled westerly of the first section, and were living in the "Northwest Quarter," as it began to be called, and others, from time to time, came to the same vicinity.

Tradition says that some were induced to locate here by reason of the fertile meadows, where their cattle could graze in summer and sufficient hay be cut and placed in stacks for their winter's support, and the same tradition relates that some of the Irish emigrants of Scotch descent, who had settled in and around Worcester, were of those who came into what is now Barre. It is a matter of record that James Caldwell was here June 6, 1739, representing the ownership of Great Farm No. 9, which was in the east part of the town, lying on the banks of the Cannestow and Ware Rivers. He was the eldest son of William and Sarah (Morison) Caldwell, who had emigrated from Ireland about 1719, and settled in Worcester, where they remained but a few years, for prior to 1730 they had come into this "Northwest Quarter."

[1]This deed is a document of much value and importance, showing somewhat the customs of the times, and also the clearness and sagacity with which the instrument is drawn; it is too lengthy a document for insertion here; the recorded copy may be seen in the Registry of Deeds for Middlesex County, book 16, page 511, Worcester County not being incorporated until 1731.

Tradition says that James came here before his father, having driven cattle hither, and remaining with them during the following winter, living alone and finding shelter under a shelving rock, which is still seen on the farm which was the last residence of the late Caleb Harwood. He soon built for himself a cabin of stone, against which, as a protection from the elements and from wild beasts, he made a kind of palisade of split logs, and later, in 1754, built the first frame house ever erected in this section; this is a large, two-storied house and still stands, and is in a good state of preservation, being located but a short distance from the shelving rock, or from where was his cabin. The Caldwells were men of rare worth and influence in the community; James was killed in 1763, he, with one of his slaves, having taken refuge under a tree during a heavy thunder-shower. The tree was struck by lightning, and falling, killed him and broke a thigh of the negro. The spot where he died is marked by a stone on which the following inscription, now nearly illegible, was carved: "This stone is erected in memory of the time when and place where Mr. James Caldwell died, which happened by the falling of a tree, July 18, 1763, in the 52d year of his age."

As early as 1720 families, or representatives of families, had gone nearly to the western limits of this Northwest Quarter. In 1726 the first known deed of land in this section was given, it being for a strip near the present residence or farm of Mr. J. N. Patterson. A few families having settled here, their number was increasing. November 7, 1733, by virtue of a warrant issued by Joseph Wilder, justice of the peace, the proprietors met at the Royal Exchange Tavern, in Boston, and, on the fourth article in the warrant, voted "that the north half of said township (Rutland) be divided into two equal parts by a plain line running across the breadth of the same, and that the proprietors will proceed to divide the western part of said north half into lots, and that sixty-six other lots of good land of fifty acres each, as near as may be to the spot for a meeting-house, be laid out for homesteads; and, wherever any of said sixty-six lots fall short in quality to be made up in quantity, and said sixty-six lots to be numbered, in order to be drawn for in convenient time; and that convenient highways be at the same time laid out, so as to accommodate the several lots; and that a fair and regular plot of the said west part of said north half be, with the several lots and highways, delivered in as soon as may be to the proprietors at their meeting for their acceptance." At this meeting a tax of three hundred and thirty pounds was laid upon the proprietors to defray the expenses. Henry Lee, of Worcester, made application for appointment as surveyor, offering to do the work for one hundred pounds, but the work was given to Samuel Willard, a relative of some of the proprietors, who, in company with Lee, made the survey, and when completed, each signed the plans. In addition to the sixty-six lots of fifty acres each, the lot for a meeting-house and for the school, thirty-three Great Farms of five hundred acres each were plotted out, an additional number of acres being allowed to such of those where the land was of inferior quality.

John Butolph, of Boston, was appointed collector of the tax from those of the proprietors who lived near Boston, he being authorized to collect the sum of £248 8*s*. 11*d*., and Phineas Brintnall, of Sudbury, was authorized to collect the balance, or £81 11*s*. 1*d*. These Great Farms, as well as the house-lots, exceeded in acres the specified number, not only because some of the land might be of inferior quality, but also because a desire had been expressed that good measure be invariably given.

The proprietors of this Northwest Quarter now drew for their lots. Joseph Foster, holding two shares in the proprietry or association, drew Great Farm No. 9, in the east part of the town, and No. 13, which lay in the north part and included the land where now is the reservoir which supplies Prince River, and other land sufficient to make five hundred and sixty acres in each plot; it was a part of Foster's share of No. 9 which was afterwards represented by James Caldwell.

All these Great Farms were offered for sale, and strenuous efforts were made to induce settlers to locate upon them. In 1735 a farm of two hundred and fifty acres was offered to the first orthodox minister who would settle here, provided he would continue in the ministry for seven years, or until his death, if that should sooner happen. Land was also tendered to parties provided they would build and occupy a house thereon, of certain dimensions and within a specified time, the usual dimensions being twenty feet long and eight feet studs, the houses to be made habitable by the following winter and to be occupied by the builder or his heirs for at least five years; provision for travelers was anticipated and a tract of land was offered to any one who would build a house of entertainment thereon and keep it for that purpose for at least seven years. The terms of the proprietors were most liberal, and if the conditions on which the settlers took lands were not all fulfilled at the expiration of the times specified, the privileges were continued to such of those as had exhibited a disposition to comply with the terms imposed, but who had been prevented by some untoward event; those who had received lands and had failed to fulfill their conditions through neglect or want of energy, were dispossessed of them and the property reverted to the proprietors. Thus plans were laid for a thrifty and energetic population; to still further encourage immigration roads were projected and built from the settled part of Rutland to Nitchewag (now Petersham). A "great bridge" was built over the Ware River near where is now the Baptist Church; this was destroyed by a forest fire in 1740, but was rebuilt the following

year, logs being thrown across the stream, as in the case of the former bridge, and this time gravel was carted on to prevent the recurrence of such a mishap and also as a protection to guard against its being washed away by any sudden rise of the water.

With a road, rough though it might be, built from east to west, nearly through the centre of the Northwest Quarter, better facilities were afforded for the incoming of settlers; and they came,—energetic, rugged, honest men, who did much to aid and encourage the little band already here, and who later filled many offices of trust in the direction of affairs here. The Rices, the Holdens, the Wallaces, the Nourses, the Allens, are some of the prominent ones who now came, all of whom left descendants who still dwell with us and fill honorable and responsible places in our midst.

For such a people the proprietors desired more and better conveniences, and at their meeting held at the Light-House Tavern in Boston, December 5, 1748, a committee of their number was requested to petition the General Court, as soon as may be, that the Northwest Quarter of the township of Rutland may be made a town of itself, or be a separate district, with all the privileges of a town. This petition was drawn up, and is as follows:

PETITION.

To His Excellency, Wm. Shirley, Esq., Captain General & Governour in Cheefe in & over His Majestys Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England & Vice Admiral of the same & to the Honourable His Majsty Council & Hcuse of Representatives in General Court assembled.

The petition of the Committee of the Proprietors of the Township of Rutland (the Original Settlers part excepted) in the County of Worcester in sd Province in behalf of themselves & sd proprietors & according to their votes & directions, Humbly sheweth That the sd Proprietors have been for above these fifteen Years at great & Constant Pains & Expense of time and many hundred Pounds in Running the Bounds, surveying, Dividing & Laying out Lots, finding out & clearing Roads, Building of Bridges, settling Inhabitants & paying for Preaching in the Northwestern quarter of the Township of Rutland. That the sd North Westerly Quarter is about the Quantity of six miles Square more or less, according to the plan herewth exhibited, bound East North Easterly about six miles on the North Easterly Quarter of said Township, South South Easterly aboute six miles, partly on the original settlers Quarters & partly on the West wing of sd Township. West South Westerly about six miles partly on Braintree Grant & partly on Hardwick, North North Westerly on Nichaway so-called. That there are now settled in sd Quarter nearly Thirty famillys consisting of above one hundred souls who stand in need of a Settled Gospel Ministry & Ordinances, and the Adult are Earnestly Dessirous of them, but cannot obtain them without a proper Encouragement by your Excellency & Honours. That the sd proprieters in view of sd Quarter being erected into a Town have given Laid out & set apart a fifty acre lot of Choice Good Land & another Farm of Two Hundred Forty seven Acres for the first Orthodox Minister that shall be ordained there, and a fifty acre Lot for the use of a School there forever. And Therefore your Petitioners Earnestly Desire That yr Excellncy and Honours would in your great wisdom set off & Erect the sd North Western Quarter with all the Inhabitants into a Town or otherwise into a separate District with all the priviledges & powers of a Town so far as to Chuse All sorts of Town Officers among themselves & make all kinds of Rules on the Inhabitants of sd District for building houses for Publick worship settling & maintaining ministers laying out & making Roads & for all other Services of a Publick Nature which any Towns inthe Province are by Law Enabled to do, only Reserving to themselves the Liberty allowed by Charter & the Laws of joining in Common with the other freeholders of sd Township in chusing & being Chosen Representatives to serve in the genl assembly as also desiring the Power of assessing Levelling & Raising a Tax of sixpence old Tenor upon every Standard acre in sd District for the first five Years next Ensuing annually for the purposes above said Excepting only sd land granted to sd ministers & school wh. said Tax in their present Infant & feeble state of less than Thirty Families is of absolute necessity for them. And your petitioners might humbly offer the following among other Weighty Reasons 1 The sd Quarter is nearly a Square body of generally good Land suitable & sufficient for such a Town or District. 2 The Centre of sd Quarter is about Ten Miles distant from the place of Worship of the Original settlers & some parts of sd Quarter aboute fourteen miles off, a very heavy Inconvenience either to be warned to their common Town Meetings or to attend them or to serve as Town Officers for so great an Extent & 3 The Inhabitants of the Original Settlers part are so sensible of this hardship as they have expressed their willingness above four years and nine months ago of the sd North Westerly Quarter being deteeshed from them, as appears by their attested vote herewith offered. 4 & Lastly, Upon your Excellency & Honours now granting the sd District there are so many people straitened in other places ready to move into this as afford a most rational prospect that in case of another war the sd Quarter will grow so full of people as instead of needing soldiers stationed among them at the Publick charge for their Defence, they will not only be sufficiently able with the Divine help to Defend themselves but also have numbers to spare for the Defence of other places above them. And your Petitioners shall ever pray as Bound &c

THOMAS PRINCE
JONAS CLARKE
THOMAS HUBBARD
CORNELIUS WALDO
} Propr[s] Committee.

Twenty-eight of the inhabitants further manifested their desire by signing this petition. This was presented in April, 1749, and on the 14th of that month it was read in the House of Representatives, and ordered granted, so far as to be erected into a separate district with full power to choose town officers, and have all the other rights and privileges of a town, excepting that of sending representatives to the General Assembly; but permission was granted to join with Rutland for this purpose, and an inhabitant of this quarter was eligible to the office; the petitioners were ordered to notify the non-resident proprietors by public advertisement, by inserting in the *Boston Gazette* so much of said petition as related to the tax. This notice having been given and so certified, the petition came up in the Council, June 13th, and was read again, when it was ordered that the tax be "one penny half-penny of the last emition per acre annually," except the land for the minister and the school, for the term of five years.

The bill was sent to the House for concurrence, and, in Council, June 20th, it was again read and concurred in, and that day it received the approval of Governor Shirley.

In 1749, then, the Northwest Quarter of Rutland was created a district, and, passing out of the control of the proprietors, became subject to the authority of a local board of officers having the same rank and titles as those connected with a town.

The history of the first church is nearly coeval with the settlement of the territory, a part of which is now the town of Barre. November 7, 1733, at a meeting of the proprietors, held at the Royal Exchange Tavern, in Boston, it was voted "that some spot, as near the centre of said western part as convenience allows, be found and pitched upon for setting a meeting-house, in the middle of some considerable quantity of good land fit for settlement, and that one lot should be for the first minister ordained there;"

they ordered that the lot for the minister should consist of fifty acres conveniently near to the meeting-house. A division of the land was made, and the place assigned for the meeting-house was near the dwelling now owned by Mr. D. B. Olin. It was the intention of the proprietors that the meeting-house should be built at as early a day as possible, and, in 1739 a plot of the Northwest Quarter was returned by Abner Lee, a surveyor, and June 6th accepted and placed on record. A meeting of the proprietors was called, to be held at the Light-House Tavern, in King Street, Boston, on the 9th day of June, 1742, the warrant being dated May 4th. After electing a moderator, the first matter under consideration was "to agree with some suitable person to prepare and raise the frame of a meeting-house within the Northwest Quarter, of such dimensions as the proprietors shall determine," and, secondly, "to give some encouragement for obtaining occasional preaching."

The prominent step taken towards erecting the meeting-house at this session was that Col. Samuel Willard was desired to purchase of the heirs of Robert Blood a portion of their farm on reasonable terms, in behalf of the proprietors, that they might erect a saw-mill. (This land lies on Prince River and is a part of the farm now owned by Nelson Loring.) This meeting was adjourned to August 25th, when they met and agreed with Jonas Clarke to build a saw-mill on this land. At an adjourned meeting held on the first Wednesday of June, 1743, sixteen pounds, old tenor, was voted to be allowed and paid John Caldwell to defray the charge of a minister's preaching to the inhabitants of the Northwest Quarter one month the preceding winter. This is the first intimation that we have of religious services being held here; we have no record in what part they were held, but as John Caldwell lived some distance easterly from what is now the centre of the town, and a number of the other settlers were in his immediate vicinity, it is highly probable that the preaching was at his house, about two miles from what is now the centre of the town.

September 1, 1743, it was voted that, as some of the settlers had represented the great difficulty they labored under by reason of their distance from all places of public worship, and desired the assistance of the proprietors towards procuring preaching among themselves, eighty pounds, old tenor, be allowed them for obtaining preaching for one year, next coming, and this amount should be paid to such a committee as the settlers might choose; December 12, 1744, forty-eight pounds was allowed and paid to the inhabitants that they might have a minister for twelve weeks; the two subsequent years sixty pounds were appropriated each year for the same purpose; in June, 1748, one hundred pounds was allowed; June 7, 1750, it was voted that twelve pounds, old tenor, be allowed and paid to John Caldwell, one of a committee for erecting a meeting-house in the Northwesterly District of Rutland, and to be by him applied towards the charge of erecting the same. In 1744, seventy pounds, old tenor, had been appropriated, and it was voted that Samuel Willard should build a saw-mill in the Northwest Quarter, and that he keep it in repair for fifteen years and furnish boards to build a meeting-house and house for the minister at three pounds, old tenor, per thousand feet, and that individuals should pay four pounds per thousand feet.

Here, then, were the forceful steps taken for the erection of a meeting-house, and for regular, in place of occasional, worship; funds were provided for with which to purchase the boards, the labor and timber being presumed to follow as needed; the determination of the inhabitants soon became manifest to erect the building at the earliest practicable moment.

From 1750, when the vote was passed to allow John Caldwell funds for building the house, we can see that due haste was made in prosecuting the work; notwithstanding all the difficulties they labored under, three years later the building was occupied for worship, and July 29, 1753, a church was organized, and the following October Rev. Thomas Frink was installed as pastor of "the Congregational Church and Society in Rutland District."

In those days the parish was bounded by the same geographical lines as was the town or district, and, while the church and society were at liberty to establish their rules and choose their officers, the district or town supported the minister and paid the necessary incidental or contingent charges that pertained to the care and repairs of the house, raising the funds therefor by a tax on the property and polls of all the people.

Although the meeting-house was used as a place of worship, it was not a completed building, merely sufficient work having been done to permit the people to assemble there for worship. It was evidently expected that the district would increase in population; and it did increase, and as more seats or pews became necessary, additional pews were placed in the gallery; these places for pews and privileges of building them were generally sold to the highest bidder. In 1765 several spots were sold, and it was specified that the size of the pews to be made should be "6 ft. wide, east and west, and 7 ft. long, north and south," and the floor of the pews should be a few inches above the floor of the gallery. The meeting-house was used, also, for municipal purposes, all the town-meetings being held there. This house was not built on the lot originally assigned for it in the proprietor's plan, but was located nearly opposite, where our post-office now is. We find no definite reason for this change, but attribute it to the fact that here the ground was nearer a level, and that this location was more central, the larger part of the inhabitants living in the eastern and southerly por-

tions of the district, where there were better roads, while in the westerly part the residents were less in numbers, and no roads had been constructed.

Mr. Frink was a native of Massachusetts and in the fiftieth year of his age; a man of vigorous intellect and strong opinions, both theological and otherwise, and, in addition to his imperious will, a man of great irritability. His annual salary was £53 8*s.* 6*d.*, the pound being equivalent to three and one-third dollars of the present currency; this salary was not always paid when due, at times the arrearages extending over a period of several years, but after 1763 and until his dismissal it was paid him regularly. His arrogance and infirmity of temper unfitted him for his sacred duties, being productive of dissensions of great bitterness, and these became so intense that a mutual council was called to decide where the fault lay in the unhappy controversy which had arisen, and to advise as to the future course to be pursued. This council was an able one, consisting of well-known pastors and lay delegates from the most important churches of the province, coming here from Springfield, Amherst, Watertown and Boston. It was in session six days, investigating the difficulties.

The task was a perplexing one; the determined spirit of the people on the one hand and the equally strong course of the minister on the other had produced such a bitterness of feeling that only a calm and searching investigation could allay the excitement.

June 18, 1766, the council reported its findings, which were signed by all the members. It was a lengthy document and on nearly every point sustained the complaints of the people. It found that Mr. Frink had acted in a very arbitrary manner towards members of the church, commanding some to abstain from the communion for what he termed their perverseness, speaking of them, both publicly and privately, in hard, abusive and scurrilous language; that he had interfered in the private and domestic concerns of others; that he had claimed and had exercised the power to summarily adjourn a church-meeting contrary to the wishes of those present; that he had denied the right and privilege of certain members either to speak or to vote in these meetings; that he had defamed many of the other regular ministers of the county; and that his example had engendered pride and wrath. In view of these and other findings, the council recommended "that the pastoral relation between the Rev. Mr. Frink and the Church in Rutland District should be dissolved."

On the part of the people another step was necessary. A town-meeting was held July 16th to see whether the district would acquiesce with and accept the "result" of the council. The meeting was a stormy one. John Caldwell was the moderator, and at his request the meeting was adjourned for one hour, and the people were requested not to leave the house; private consultation was desired, and it was deemed the part of wisdom to devise some plan that would allay the excitement and anger everywhere visible, and endeavor to obtain a better outcome of their deliberations than now seemed possible. After again coming to order, the district finally voted to accept the findings and to comply with the advice of the council that the pastoral relation should be dissolved.

This vote was passed by a large majority; in the district records is the following entry: "N. B. Some people said the meeting-house was so full of people that they desired the moderator would draw the people, that were voters, out of the meeting-house into a ring abroad, which was immediately done; and it was openly declared and desired by the moderator that there might be two rings of the people drawn up, and if there were any in favor of Mr. Frink, that they would draw into a ring at the westerly end of the house, and all that were for voting Mr. Frink's dismission to make a ring towards the easterly end of said house." The record further states that the people went almost unanimously into the ring at the east end.

Mr. Frink was not disposed to accept this finding of the council and its endorsement by the people; there were a few who, in the main, approved of his course.

Dr. Thompson, in his semi-centennial sermon, recalls the story that the next Sabbath Mr. Frink attempted to enter the pulpit, but was prevented by John Caldwell, who took him by his coat-collar and led him to the door of the house.

Mr. Frink preached a short time to his partisans here, and afterwards was an attendant at the church in Petersham, but soon returned to Rutland, where he died in the seventy-third year of his age. He brought an action against the district which was decided against him in the Court of General Sessions in November, 1767. The following April he brought another for trespass, and again the district was triumphant, but Mr. Frink entered an appeal. The decision of the Superior Court of Judicature was adverse to him, and he now agreed that henceforth there should be a bar to all further legal proceedings.

Immediate steps were taken to secure regular preaching again. In September, 1766, eighty pounds was appropriated for defraying the charges of preaching, and a committee was chosen to supply the pulpit. A pastor was soon found in the person of Rev. Josiah Dana; in his few sermons that he had delivered here the people recognized his worth and had become attached to him, and in April, 1767, the church gave him a call to settle over it; the district almost unanimously ratified the action of the church, and he accepted the call the following July. In his letter of acceptance, stating that he felt that the people would desire him to be as free from secular care as possible, he "must beg leave to desire, expect and depend upon being provided yearly with a sufficient quantity of fire-wood, fit for use, at the place of my abode, if Providence should put me into a family state." The

sum of £66 13*s.* 4*d.*, lawful money, was voted as his annual salary, together with a very liberal sum to defray the expenses of his settlement, but his firewood at the expense of the district was refused. He was installed the first Wednesday of the following October, his salary dating from the 9th day of July previous, that being the date of his acceptance of the call.

In the troublesome times of the Revolution Mr. Dana found his salary inadequate to his support; he asked for an increase of compensation, and again, that his firewood might be furnished him. These requests were passed over in town-meetings on several occasions, and the feeling spread that it would be advisable to dissolve the pastoral relation. After a time this feeling subsided, and his salary was increased and firewood furnished, and subsequently, partly on account of the depreciation in the value of the currency, and the increasing wants of his large family, his compensation was made still larger. He continued as pastor of the church for thirty-four years, or until his death, in 1801. He is remembered by persons still living here, and they speak of him as a benevolent and kind-hearted man, dignified, yet attractive and pleasant to the young, and one who had the respect of the whole community. His remains were interred in the burial-ground near his residence. During his pastorate his dwelling-house was destroyed by fire; it was soon rebuilt, partly with funds raised by subscription, and the balance by a tax laid upon the town. The town voted to have published three hundred copies of the sermon which was preached at his funeral, this being delivered by Rev. Ephraim Ward, his classmate in college. Mr. Ward says of him, "He was possessed of natural firmness of mind, of a sprightly imagination, and an easy and happy elocution; his utterance was solemn and manly, which added dignity to his address, and his preaching was serious, instructive and practical."

In 1783, on a petition of a number of the inhabitants a meeting was held to see if the town would enlarge the meeting-house or build a new one. A committee was appointed to investigate the question; they reported that it was advisable to build a new house, but as the news of a treaty of peace being made had spread abroad, they recommended a postponement of the subject until another meeting, as then the cessation of war would "make a very considerable alteration in the circumstances of men and things."

In April, 1785, the matter was again brought before the town, when it was voted to erect a new house; a committee of seven men was chosen to draw a plan of the proposed building, which they did, and their report accompanying the plan was accepted. The dimensions of the house were to be sixty-eight by fifty-four feet, which size was adopted, and it was also voted to increase the size of the grounds, which were now about one and one-half acres in extent; more land was purchased and the area was now about two and one-fourth acres. Measures were adopted towards commencing work on the new edifice. The town voted to sell the pews in the contemplated building, and if sufficient funds were not procured from their sale, a tax for the balance of the money needed for construction should be levied upon the town. Eighty-six pews were sold for £1184 6*s.*, the conditions being that each purchaser should give his note for the amount he had promised to pay for the pew, of which a third should be payable in building materials on demand, a third in cash at the time of "raising the house," and the remainder three months afterwards; and any person who should not fulfil his agreement should forfeit and pay fifteen per cent. of his bid to the town and the ownership of the pew should revert to the committee. The house was to be built in the Ionic and Doric order of architecture. The report of the committee not being satisfactory as to the price of the material, the number was increased and the estimates revised. A schedule of sizes and prices of each piece of timber and lumber, of stone and of lime was made, and this report was accepted. Some of the materials for the building had been delivered on the ground; but the process of construction was delayed, some of the purchasers of the pews being unable to fulfill their agreements; in consequence there was a postponement of the work, "the great scarcity of cash, and the load of debts, both public and private," making this course indispensable.

But the people felt that a new house was a necessity and further efforts were made towards its construction. Success soon crowned their endeavors, and in October, 1790, the edifice was so far completed that the town voted to worship in the house from and after the first Sunday in November. After collecting the sums, so far as possible, for which the pews were sold and from the sale of the old house, a debt of about ten pounds stood against the committee, the cost of the house having been £1201 1*s.* 6*d.*

It was desirable that every outstanding claim should be settled before occupying the house, and strenuous efforts were made for this purpose, but it was nearly two years before they succeeded in raising the required sum.

The people had a justifiable pride in their new edifice, and, for those times, it was an imposing building; it was located on the Common, where now is the North Park, a part of the building extending beyond the south limits; from its height and style of architecture it attracted much attention. Whitney says of it, in 1793, in his "History of Worcester County," that it was the largest meeting-house in the county; he gives its dimensions as fifty-six by seventy-four feet.

This building was kept well-painted and in proper repair; the society was prosperous, the town num-

bering in population upwards of sixteen hundred, the minister respected and beloved, and his relations with the people harmonious. The church and town acted in unison, the town willingly supplying the pulpit during any temporary sickness of the pastor.

After the death of Mr. Dana, in 1801, the church was without a regular pastor for upwards of two years. During this time several ministers had been called to preach as candidates for the vacancy. November 28, 1803, the town voted unanimously to unite with the church and invite Rev. James Thompson to the pastoral charge, and a committee of seven members was appointed to wait upon him and inform him of the proceedings of the town and see if there was a prospect of his settling here in the ministry. December 2d this committee reported that there was a probability of Mr. Thompson settling here if agreeable offers should be made. The town at once voted five hundred dollars as an annual salary so long as he should continue to be their minister, and four hundred dollars for a settlement. The records state that "Mr. Thompson came into the meeting and declared his acceptance cheerfully." A committee of five was chosen to provide for his installation, and this took place January 11, 1804.

The church was pleased with its new pastor; he was young, not yet twenty-four years of age, talented, social, yet dignified, and a favorite with the young as well as with the older part of his charge. He took an active part in the various plans and schemes for improving the society of the town and for its welfare in every regard, and he not only participated in these movements, but of many of them he was the originator and leader. He was a member of the School Committee for forty years, assuming most of the burdens himself, serving most of the time without compensation, and laying down the burden only on account of the increasing cares and troubles incident to old age. As a preacher he was favorably known far beyond the limits of his own parish, and an installation of a minister in any other town for miles around was hardly thought complete without his participation. He was a man of imposing presence, yet easy of approach, a good and fluent speaker, not one who dwelt upon abstract subjects, but one who would hold the attention of his audience and bring them into sympathy with himself; his sermons never seemed to weary his hearers, nor did they become weary of him.

Although a great reader and an original writer, it may be a question whether he was a deep thinker, but he was considered the best preacher in Worcester County. In 1813 he was afflicted with a stroke of paralysis, which, to some extent, affected his efforts of after-years, but his natural vigor and strong will-power led him on to a long and useful career. The impress of his labors in the community was great, and, to-day, although nearly forty years have elapsed since his death, he is still spoken of by the older part of our people with feelings of deep respect and love.

After preaching here for more than forty years, June 9, 1845, keenly noticing the effects of his early affliction and the encroachments of age, he desired the parish to release him from the active duties of pastor, in consideration of which he offered to relinquish his salary. The parish complied with his request, and the next January Rev. Henry F. Bond was installed as his colleague. Mr. Thompson continued as the senior pastor until his death, May 14, 1854. January 11th of that year he delivered a discourse at the end of a ministry of fifty years among our people to a house filled to overflowing, and the heartiest testimony as to his worth and influence were made manifest. Dr. Thompson was a graduate of Brown University and from his *Alma Mater* received the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Early in the century the parish desired to make its meeting-house still more attractive, and in 1806 the town appropriated a sum of money to build a handsome tower and cupola, provided individuals would give sufficient money for the purchase of a bell and clock; this money was soon raised by subscription, and, with the thousand dollars in the town treasury, the work was entered upon with much spirit and enthusiasm; this addition to the house was soon completed, but the cost was greater than had been anticipated, being more than the original edifice had cost; in September, 1807, one thousand dollars additional was appropriated to pay the expense.

From this time until 1812 the usual order of affairs prevailed. Under the pastorate of Dr. Thompson the church was prosperous and the number of members and attendants had increased. Nearly all the people had been united in one parish, holding to the prevailing theological (Congregational) belief of the day. In the east part of the town a few of the more prominent men had banded together to uphold and promote the Baptist scheme, and a number withdrew from the church here to unite with those of the eastern section; in the south part, in 1820, a few had organized and formed a Universalist society, attracting to themselves other attendants of the original church. One reason assigned by those of the Baptist persuasion for their withdrawal was the excessive taxes that were assessed for the ministerial support. As at this time the town was legally a whole and united parish, and all were liable to be assessed for the support of the one church, their method of withdrawal was somewhat unique. A committee of the church which they desired to attend certified to the town clerk this fact, the usual form of certificate being as follows: "We certify that A. B. of the town of Barre is a member of the religious society of the town of Barre called Baptist (or Universalist, as the case might be) and doth associate with them in public worship." This, signed by the church committee and entered upon the town records, was presumed and tacitly acknowledged as a release from their obligations in aiding to support and maintain the original church.

With other forms of belief, and with a more liberal as well as with a closer construction of the doctrines set forth, bitter controversies became prevalent. The church in the centre of the town adopted the liberal scheme, but many refused to adhere to this party, and, as was to be foreseen, could not act in harmony with them. They withdrew, and August 15, 1827, were organized by an ecclesiastical council, called for that purpose, as the Evangelical Congregational Church in Barre. Aside from the friction of a separation, harmony between these two organizations was somewhat interrupted, but the discords were afterwards allayed and a friendly rivalry sprang up between them.

In continuing the history of the original parish, or the First Parish in Barre, as it became to be called, as early as 1818, notwithstanding the withdrawal of a number of its members at different times, and more especially those in 1827 who had formed the Evangelical Church, and of the secession of others from 1834 to 1841, the parish prospered. In 1827 a number of the inhabitants who attended its services petitioned that, as the sufferings of the people who attended public worship in the parish during the cold season of the year were very great, the parish should procure a stove, or stoves, with sufficient pipe to warm the meeting-house. This was a decided innovation, but the matter was pressed, and in November it was finally decided to raise one hundred and fifty dollars to defray the expense of stoves and pipe and ground for their location, and a committee of three was chosen to superintend the business of placing them in the house; this was soon done, and from the year 1827 we may date the introduction of stoves into the churches of the country towns; these may have been introduced in some other towns at an earlier date, but none of the adjoining ones preceded Barre in this respect.

In 1848–49, the meeting-house having become somewhat antiquated, and being located in a place deemed worthy of improvement, such as enlarging and beautifying the Common, a new church building was erected a short distance northerly of the old one. It is of Gothic order of architecture, neat and attractive, and with a seating capacity of about five hundred. In its tower still runs the public clock. The old church was sold to private individuals and transformed into a building for offices and shops; from its magnitude, its pillars and general appearance it received the name of the Colonnade, it having been moved from its original site, where it continued to be an ornament to the town until its destruction by fire in 1862. A large brick structure was erected in its place, this being occupied to-day by the National and Savings Banks, store, printing-office, &c.

The various pastors of this society since its organization have been Rev. Thomas Frink, from October, 1753, to June 18, 1766; Rev. Josiah Dana, October 7, 1767, to October 1, 1801; Rev. James Thompson, January 11, 1804, to May 14, 1854; Rev. Henry F. Bond, as colleague, January 7, 1846, to December 30, 1850; Rev. Charles E. Hodges, as colleague, from June 11, 1851, to March, 1854; Rev. William A. Fuller, January 3, 1855, to March 28, 1859; Rev. Henry Westcott, June 14, 1860, to April 1, 1864; Rev. John B. Beach, November 9, 1865, to March 27, 1869; Rev. Henry R. Smith, September 1, 1869, to October 1, 1878; and Rev. Alvin F. Bailey, the present pastor, who was installed May 7, 1879.

The membership of this church is by many considered coextensive with the members or families of the parish. It draws its worshippers from the remote parts of the town as well as from the immediate vicinity of the church edifice. The membership of its Sunday-school is about one hundred.

The Evangelical Congregational Church at the time of its organization, in 1827, consisted of thirty-two members who had withdrawn from the First Parish, then under the charge of Rev. Dr. Thompson, who had adopted the Unitarian doctrine. The Articles of Faith agreed upon were moderately Calvinistic, containing but little more than the doctrines generally assented to by the various evangelical denominations. During the sixty years of its history the church has had the following pastors: Rev. John Storrs, January 14, 1829, to April 24, 1832; Rev. Moses Grosvenor, November 13, 1832, to May 4, 1834; Rev. John F. Stone, October 26, 1834, to November 17, 1836; Rev. Samuel A. Fay, May 10, 1837, to July 1, 1840; Rev. Erasmus D. Moore, July 1, 1840 to October 19, 1842; Rev. Amos Bullard, October 26, 1843, until his death, August 21, 1850; Rev. C. M. Nickels, May 7, 1851, to June 17, 1856; Rev. George Denham, December 3, 1856, to May 2, 1860; Rev. David Peck, April 16, 1861, to Nov. 19, 1867; Rev. Edwin Smith, October 29, 1868, to April 24, 1879, and Rev. Joseph F. Gaylord, the present pastor, who was installed September 18, 1879.

This church has always taken a decided stand against intemperance, having, as early as 1830, declared that it would not receive to its communion any who used ardent spirits except for medicine. In 1837 it adopted a series of rules, among which is the following:

"Those who become members of this church are required not to traffic in ardent spirits, or use it as a drink, and it shall be the duty of the standing committee to inform all persons offering themselves for our communion of this rule, and to obtain from them a pledge of its observance; and whenever any person is proposed it shall be understood that he stands thus pledged to the committee and the church."

In recent years the church has taken ground against the use of, and traffic in, fermented intoxicants as well as ardent spirits.

In the conflict with slavery the church also took a strong position, declaring, in 1842, "that we cannot hereafter receive to our pulpit or communion any minister or layman who holds his fellow-men in

slavery, and who encourages and upholds those who do." The church has had two church edifices, one known as the brick meeting-house, in the west part of the village, which was erected in 1828, and the other, its present place of worship, built in 1848–49, and which has a seating capacity of over five hundred. After the present church building was occupied by the society, the brick meeting-house passed into private hands and was transformed into tenements.

The church, at various periods of its history, has been favored with powerful revivals of religion, which have greatly promoted its growth, and to-day its position is strong in its influence and work, and in its membership, which numbers one hundred and sixty-one, of whom twelve are non-residents of the town, the membership of its Sabbath-school being about one hundred and thirty-five.

Soon after the organization of the church the society connected with it was formed, under the name of the Evangelical Congregational Society, in the town of Barre. This society was formed November 17, 1827, and in February, 1829, was incorporated by a special act of the Legislature. The relations between the church and society have always been harmonious, the church taking the initiative in selecting a pastor, but the relation is not established without the concurrence of the society, which determines also the salary of the pastor and provides for its payment. It also has charge, under certain limitations, of the church edifice. In 1888 the society adopted a carefully-prepared set of by-laws, and in the same year rules for the concurrent action of church and society were adopted by both of these organizations, such action having previously been guided by tradition rather than by specific regulations.

The date of the introduction of the Universalist creed to this town is 1820, in which year a spot of land nearly opposite the B. & A. R. R. depot on the Plains, and now occupied by a brick dwelling-house, was purchased, and the erection of a church edifice thereon was contemplated. Ministers prominent in that denomination in other towns were obtained to preach that doctrine, and to arouse such an enthusiasm as should result in the establishment of a church and society.

Public worship was held for several years in a hall and dwelling-houses, but gradually, chiefly on account of the depression in agriculture and of the scarcity of money, the people considered it impossible to raise funds for a church building, and the project was abandoned, and soon all interest in the matter was apparently lost. In 1838, and for two or three years previously, a number of persons had become dissatisfied in the First Church, and filed certificates of withdrawal. April 9th a few of these associated themselves, and formed the First Universalist Church of Barre, and some from the south part of the town, who had been interested in the scheme of 1820, joined them. The next year they purchased a building lot at the south end of the Common, and erected a building which was dedicated in April, 1840.

This society was never a strong one, but it held together as an organization for about ten years, when their interest waned and dissensions arose among them, which soon resulted in their disintegration, and June 6, 1851, their edifice was sold to a board of trustees for the Methodist Episcopal denomination, and, after some necessary repairs and changes in construction, was dedicated the following 17th of September to worship in accordance with the usages of that faith.

Although there had been desultory Methodist services in town as early as 1823, this denomination did not obtain a foothold here until 1842, when services were held in the town-hall; under the fostering care of various clergymen and prominent laymen of their faith their congregations increased, and in 1850 they took into serious consideration the matter of erecting a house for worship. A spot for a building was obtained, but when it was found that the Universalist edifice could be purchased, that was bought, and the building-lot sold to its previous owner. Since 1844, when the first pastor was assigned to this church, twenty-seven ministers have been sent by the Conference to its pulpit, but two of whom have remained for three years.

The present pastor is Rev. Charles Nicklin, who was located here in 1888. This church is in a prosperous condition, and, though not so strong as twenty years ago, is now increasing in the number of its attendants and its influence; its membership is about seventy-five, and of its Sabbath-school about seventy; the building has a seating capacity of about three hundred.

The first services under the auspices of the Roman Catholic persuasion were held about 1852, private houses being first used, and afterward the town-hall was occupied for this purpose. In 1856 services were held in the church building now owned by them, located south of the Common, and which was then a dwelling-house, although it had been built for, and previously occupied as a country store. The Catholics of Barre were then a component part of the Worcester Mission; in 1860 they were constituted a parish, and connected with Templeton, and afterwards with Ware and North Brookfield, and now with Otter River. In 1858 they purchased the brick dwelling-house, and remodeled it into a church building; about seventy-five families are connected with this parish, which is under the charge of Rev. Father Raynolds, and services are held bi-monthly. In accordance with the custom of the denomination, the church property is in the possession of Bishop O'Reilly, of Springfield, this parish being in that diocese. The house of worship is pleasantly located, and has a seating capacity of about four hundred.

In 1854 another church organization was effected under the title of the Free or Independent Church. Rev. Marshall G. Kimball was their pastor, the ser-

mon at his installation being preached by Theodore Parker. This society prospered for a while, but, for want of sufficient cohesive power, gradually faded away. It was in existence about five years; its pastor was a young and popular man; at the dissolution of the society he entered upon educational work in the West.

Early in the century several families came to the east part of the town from Sutton; their predilections were for the Baptist form of belief; as no denomination of that kind existed here, they attended upon that form of worship in the town of Templeton. As they increased in numbers, and the distance to Templeton was considerable, they desired to be organized into a church here. Accordingly, the officers of the Templeton Church came to the east part of the town, and August 21, 1811, a society was formed at the house of Elias Chase; this society was considered a branch of the Templeton Church rather than as an independent organization, and services were held in dwelling-houses for a number of years. In 1813 they were much strengthened in numbers by withdrawals from the First Parish or Old Church, the ministerial tax in that parish being considered burdensome. Notwithstanding that they considered themselves members of a distinct parish, the tax for the old parish was still levied and collected from them, this being assessed in connection with the town taxes. In 1816 the church protested against this tax, served notice on the town to that effect and that they should apply for an act of incorporation. This subject was freely discussed in town-meeting, when it was at length decided to pay no attention to their protest as regarded the tax, and not to oppose their incorporation. In 1817 the matter of taxation again came up, when a committee, on the part of the town, was appointed to consider the subject. They reported that they considered it unjust for the members to aid in supporting two organizations, and recommended that the voters of the old church choose their necessary parish officers, and grant and raise money for their own ministerial support. In a few years this was done, and harmony prevailed. No pastor was installed over the Baptist Church, but preaching was pretty constant. Rev. Mr. Leonard, who afterwards became a noted clergyman, was one of their early ministers, preaching for them about 1817; he was followed by other earnest workers, who so built up this mission and gave it such strength that it was deemed wise to erect a church edifice. This was accomplished in 1832–33, their first house being situated nearly opposite where Mr. Samuel Adams now lives. In 1832 the church was incorporated, and became a regularly organized body.

Previous to 1836 Rev. John Walker had preached occasionally for them and was their regular pastor from 1837 to 1844. During his pastorate a feeling prevailed that it was advisable to have their edifice in the village of Coldbrook, and plans were formed to move there; but when it was suggested that by so doing they would be in the town of Oakham, and their charter had incorporated them as a church in Barre, they obtained land westerly of the village and within the Barre boundary. In 1842–43 their new house was erected and in the winter of 1843–44 was dedicated. Their old house was soon afterward taken down and carried to Oakham, where it was re-erected and used for a number of years by the Methodists. Since 1837 their regular ministers have been Rev. John Walker, from 1837 to 1844; Rev. George W. Cate, September 8, 1845, to May 13, 1849; Rev. Lewis Holmes, June 1, 1849, to August 8, 1853; Rev. Payson Tyler, July 9, 1854, to August 17, 1856; Rev. L. Tandy, October, 1856, to November 28, 1858; Rev. D. Avery, April 1, 1859, to March 30, 1862; Rev. Joseph Shepardson, May 4, 1862, to January 18, 1863; Rev. George L. Hunt, June 3, 1863, to March 27, 1864; Rev. E. J. Emery, April 1, 1865, to January 28, 1866; Rev. C. D. R. Meacham, September 6, 1870, to August 9, 1874; Rev. K. Holt, March, 1877, to June 4, 1882; Rev. Philander Perry, September 3, 1882, to May 1, 1884; Rev. Henry H. Mansur, July 8, 1884, to March 26, 1888, and Rev. William Read, the present pastor, who was installed June 3, 1888. The seating capacity of the building is about three hundred and its services are well attended; the number of its church members is forty-five and of its Sabbath-school one hundred.

Leaving now this sketch of the church and returning to the period anterior to the incorporation of the town, we can form some idea of the trials of the inhabitants, struggling under many untoward circumstances to bring order out of confusion and have a well-disposed and well-regulated form of local government. The schools, crude as they were and maintained under many difficulties, were cherished as the bulwark of a future nation. Highways, too, were demanding much consideration.

From a mere handful of individuals, at the time when the proprietors of this Northwest District had assigned certain localities for roads, the inhabitants had so increased in number that it became necessary that additional paths for travel should be constructed to accommodate the passing to and from the places where the meeting-house and schools had been established and for transaction of business, or for social relations one with another, or to render and receive aid in case of sickness or other troubles, or to pay such slight visits of courtesy as the times demanded. Matters of state were coming to a crisis. May 20, 1772, a warrant for a town-meeting was issued to Noah Mandell, requiring him "forthwith, in His Majesty's Name," to warn all the freeholders and other inhabitants qualified to vote in town affairs to meet at the meeting-house, June 3d, there to act on certain articles. The voters assembled at the time and place, and after organizing the meeting, electing a grand juryman for the year to serve at the Court of Quarter

Sessions and choosing a committee to repair the "great bridge" over the Ware River, they voted to pass over three of the articles in the warrant and also voted that they be not entered upon the records. What these articles were might be a matter of greater conjecture, did not contemporaneous history reveal the existing state of affairs. The people were becoming restive under the restraints imposed upon them by foreign rulers, and the determination to have these burdens modified or to be released from such servitude was every day becoming more apparent. February 23, 1773, another meeting was held "to hear and consider of a Circular Letter from the town of Boston, dated November 20, 1772, containing the States and Rights of this Province in particular, etc."

A committee of five members, with John Caldwell as their chairman, was chosen to take this letter into consideration; they soon reported "that upon a full conviction of the propriety and expediency of the measure, they recommend the inhabitants of said District to pass the following resolves: 1. That the rights of the Colonists, and of this Province in particular, as stated by their respectable brethren of the metropolis of this Province, are agreeable to the real sentiments of the inhabitants of this District, and that it is of the utmost importance that the inhabitants of this Province stand firm, as one man, to support and maintain all their just rights and privileges. 2. That the inhabitants of this and the other British Provinces have an equal right with the people of Great Britain to enjoy and dispose of their own property, and the same cannot be taken from them but by their own consent. 3. That the Parliament of Great Britain have passed several acts in the execution of which American subjects are burdened with unconstitutional taxes. 4. That to render the Governor and Judges of the Supreme Court of this Province independent of the grants of the General Assembly is an innovation and infraction on the Charter Rights, as it destroys that check which should remain in the hands of the people. 5. That the thanks of this District be given to the town of Boston for their zeal shown in the defence of their Charter Rights." This report was unanimously adopted, and a copy was sent to the Committee of Correspondence and Communication at Boston.

A movement to throw off some of their burdens was now inaugurated, and a closer union of the people and a firmer binding together of the common interests made it imperative that the district should have a more united organization. The shackles of a greater power being distasteful, it is no wonder that the lesser authority of the district should be considered as tending to divert their cares and energies, and with the people working together for the common good, an organization as a town was felt necessary.

Accordingly, at a meeting held April 5, 1773, for that purpose, it was decided to petition the General Court to be set off as a town, and John Caldwell, Asa Hapgood and Nathan Sparhawk were chosen a committee for that purpose. This petition appears on the House Journal, June 22, 1773, and an order of notice was sent to the adjoining towns in relation to it. No further steps were taken in regard to it until the following February, when the petition was again brought to the attention of the General Court, again read and then ordered that the prayer be so far granted that the petitioners have leave to bring in a bill. This was sent down for concurrence and on the 16th of the same month a bill for incorporating the district into a town by the name of Barre was passed to be engrossed, but one week from that date the bill was ordered to be laid on the table. No reason is given for recalling the bill, but it is certain that Governor Hutchinson, in power by the authority of King George the Third, was a pliant and willing tool in the hands of his royal master, and a rebuke and punishment must be administered the people, in part and as a whole, for their participation in such stirring events as the Boston Massacre in 1770, the destruction of the tea in the harbor in 1773, and their apparent restiveness under the many restraints imposed upon them. May 13, 1774, Thomas Gage succeeded Governor Hutchinson, and on the 25th of this month the government was reorganized. In the Governor's opening address he declared his intentions, in accordance with the instructions of the King, to remove the General Court to Salem. This met there the 7th of June, and on the following day is recorded "a bill to incorporate Rutland District as a town." The following day the bill was read for the third time and passed to be engrossed, and on the 14th it was passed to be enacted. The records of the Commonwealth do not give the date when the bill was signed by the Governor. On the 17th of June the doors of the House were closed for a secret session, the members having assembled to consult upon the course of the Governor, his bearing towards the House and the condition of the Province; the Governor, having been informed of these proceedings, at once sent his secretary to dissolve the General Court; the House took no notice of this messenger, but proceeded with its business, which, however, did not relate so much to the affairs of the Province as to the existing general condition of matters.

On the authority of the *Massachusetts Spy* we have the information that the Governor then proceeded to the House and demanded admittance; this was refused; he immediately dissolved the General Court, having previously stated what bills he had signed that morning, among which was the one incorporating this town. In place of Barre the name of Hutchinson had been inserted; no reason is given for this change, but it is believed to have been made in the Council at the command of Gage, that thereby he might aid in perpetuating the name of his immediate predecessor. In August, 1774, a committee consisting of Asa Hapgood, Nathan Sparhawk,

Andrew Parker, John Mason and Peter Fessenden were chosen to meet committees of other towns at Worcester to take into consideration the existing condition of the Province; at an adjourned meeting held in September the committee made their report, a part of which was accepted; it does not appear what this was; with the spirit of freedom at work, a certain degree of secrecy was necessary.

The first warrant of the town for a town-meeting was issued December 20, 1774, notifying the inhabitants to assemble at the meeting-house the following 10th of January to choose a representative to the Provincial Congress, to be held at Cambridge, February 1st, and to choose a committee to give the representative instructions as to his course. John Mason was chosen representative, and at an adjourned meeting the committee's instructions were read and accepted by the town. They were in accord with the prevailing sentiments of the people; they desired Mason to stand for and to vindicate, in every consistent way, in a firm, steady and uniform manner, their rights; to act in accord with the Continental Congress, and to coincide with its determination in general, unless sad necessity should compel him to do otherwise. Notwithstanding his instructions, much was left to his discretion, the well-known character and ability of the man evidently convincing his fellow-townsmen that they had made choice of an honorable and able representative to an important assemblage. At the meeting of January 10th the patriotism of the town and their determination to resist the encroachments of Great Britain are still further shown when it was voted that the town would "indemnify the constables from paying any more money to Harrison Gray, the former treasurer of the Province, but that they should pay the said money to Henry Gardner, now treasurer." This vote was passed in accordance with the advice and resolve of the Provincial Congress. The times were eventful; the resistance to oppression had increased, and the necessity of acting in unison was apparent. August 1, 1774, the district met to take action on several papers sent hither in regard to the Boston Port Bill; after considerable deliberation they decided that their share or proportion of the money now in the district treasury should be paid towards the support of the Congress to be held at Philadelphia. Affairs were assuming conflicting aspects. Here, and now, as elsewhere, a few stanch men were vigorously endeavoring to have their more timid or cautious associates take more pronounced positions on the questions of the day. The officers of the militia had resigned their posts, "throwing the militia of the town, as it were, into a state of nature." The Committee of Correspondence for the County of Worcester had recommended that every town in the county should meet at once and choose officers to lead them wherever they might be called, until the government should be brought under proper regulations. In consequence of this, it was decided to form two companies of militia, one to be under the command of Captain Ezra Jones, the other under Captain William Buckminster. These companies were not to exceed fifty men each, including officers, and a proper allowance of money was recommended to remunerate them for each half-day that they should be required to be under arms for the purpose of drill and discipline, these half-days to be two in each month for the next eight months, unless the town should hereafter consider it unnecessary, or unless the Committee of Safety for the Provinces should, within that time, call them to march to any part of the Provinces, when their pay, so far as the town was concerned, should cease. In April, 1775, "the alarm" was sent out from Boston of the great need of militia. Twenty-one men marched from this town to do battle in their country's cause; they were attached to Colonel Brewer's regiment, and, under the immediate command of their own townsman, Captain John Black, did their duty at the battle of Bunker Hill. Buckminster was appointed lieutenant-colonel of this regiment; he received a severe wound in the engagement and was disabled from further military duty. He returned to his farm, but did not forget the needs of his country. His patriotism and enthusiasm were of great value in aiding and filling the quotas subsequently demanded from this town. Colonel Buckminster lived to see the end of the struggle, but his wound wore upon his stalwart frame, and June 22, 1786, he passed away, not fifty years of age.

These twenty-one men did not enlist in the army, but soon returned home. Subsequent events called for more aid, and in a short time fifty-eight men, including a number of those who were at Bunker Hill, enlisted under Captain Black for a term of eight months. Samuel Lee, born here in 1767, enlisted at the age of thirteen, and was attached to the army at West Point; he served during the remainder of the war, and was in many important engagements; returning to his home, he obtained an education, and became a prominent man in the town, holding many State and town offices. He was a man whose integrity and sound judgment were never questioned, and whose opinion was sought on many points. He died here at the age of seventy-two. An oil-painting of him adorns the walls of our Public Library.

By the demands of the country, ably seconded by a Jones, a Black, a Buckminster, a Sparhawk and others, the patriotic spirit prevailed; the wavering gradually sinking their objections to armed resistance, realizing that the power of tyranny was endeavoring slowly to tighten the cords which were being then thrown about them. Firm and decisive measures were necessary that the people might act together and in a spirit of accord, that they should encourage the fickle, take counsel one with another, and resist all overtures from royalty to consider in convention how peace might be obtained.

For the support of the militia money was essential; struggling with poverty, yet resolute and unwavering, the strictest economy was necessary to maintain their position. Schools and highways were now of secondary importance; no funds could be spared for support or repair; the minister's salary went unpaid; every effort of the people seemed given to the one cause. But this condition of affairs could not long exist; money must be obtained, and finally it was voted to sell some of the land about the meeting-house and the old proprietors' roads, and devote the proceeds to the use of the schools, as they recognized their great importance.

At this time another incident occurred, which still further illustrates the patriotism of the people. Thus far the town had been known as Hutchinson. The firm adhesion of ex-Governor Hutchinson to the authority of Great Britain, he being a strong believer in, and upholder of, royal prerogatives, had rendered the name obnoxious to the inhabitants. Smarting under the insult inflicted by the name, they resolved to apply to the General Court for an act authorizing the town to be named anew. January 17, 1776, it was voted to petition for authority to change the name from Hutchinson to that of Wilkes. John Caldwell, Nathan Sparhawk and John Mason, of the selectmen, and Andrew Parker and Asa Hapgood, of the Committee of Correspondence, were chosen to act for the town. Their petition stated that, having formerly been known by the name of Rutland District, in 1773 they applied for an act of incorporation as a town, which was granted by both Houses, but non-concurred in by Governor Hutchinson, unless he could have the privilege of naming the town; but the House dissented, and the matter was not completed until Gage became Governor, "who very soon after gave us a specimen of what he was, or intended to be to the colony, by filling up the blank with that obnoxious name, *Hutchinson*, that well-known enemy of the natural and stipulated rights of America, which gave us a very disagreeable sensation of mind, not being able to speak of the town in which we live, but our thoughts were necessarily turned upon that ignominious enemy of mankind, and, in a measure, filled with shame to tell where we lived, when requested," and the petitioners desired that the obnoxious name of Hutchinson be canceled, and that the name of WILKES, "that ever-memorable friend to the rights and liberties of America, would give content to the inhabitants."

The committee who had this petition in charge was made up from the best minds in town,—men commanding respect for their attainments and force of character.

The Legislature at this time was not in session, it having assembled on the last Wednesday of the preceding May, but it might be convened again and on any day, as at this time it held several sessions each year. John Caldwell was the representative at this time and was a member of the Provincial Congress that had sat at Watertown the previous summer; he was prepared to present the petition at the earliest practicable moment, it having been signed February 5th. But the Legislature was not again convened, and as its term would expire on the day next preceding the last Wednesday of May, on the 20th of February a town-meeting was held, and John Mason was chosen representative for the ensuing year. Soon after the next Legislature met the petition was presented, but, on account of an adjournment and other circumstances which were daily affecting the situation of affairs, it was not reported back to the House for some time, and it was not until the 7th of next November that the bill was passed, and which reads as follows:

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1776.

An Act for discontinuing the name of a town in the County of Worcester, lately incorporated by the name of Hutchinson, and calling the name BARRE.

WHEREAS, the Inhabitants of the Town of Hutchinson have by their Petition Represented to this Court, that in June, 1774, when the said Town was incorporated, General Gage, the then Governor, gave it the name of Hutchinson, in honor to and to perpetuate the memory of Thomas Hutchinson, his immediate predecessor in the Chair of Government, whom they have justly styled the well-known enemy of the natural and Stipulated Rights of America, and at a Town Meeting notified for that purpose, they Voted unanimously to petition, and accordingly have petitioned the General Court, that the name of the said Town might be altered, and that it might no longer bear the Disgraceful name of Hutchinson;

And, WHEREAS, there is a moral fitness that Traitors and Parricides, especially such as have remarkably distinguished themselves in that odious Character, and have long labored to deprive their native Country of its most valuable rights and privileges, and to destroy every Constitutional Guard against the evils of an all-enslaving Despotism, should be held up to view in their true Character to be execrated by mankind, and there should remain no other memorial of them than such as will transmit their names with Infamy to posterity;

And, WHEREAS, the said Thomas Hutchinson, contrary to every obligation of duty and gratitude to *this*, his native Country, which raised him from private life to the highest and most lucrative Offices in the Government, has acted towards her the part of a Traitor and Parricide, as above described, which has been clearly manifested to the world by his Letters lately published, and by his having thus acted, it has become fit and just that every honorable memorial of him should be Obliterated and cease.

Therefore—Be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the State of Massachusetts Bay, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that the land lying in the County of Worcester, formerly called Rutland District, and in June, 1774, incorporated into a town by the name of Hutchinson, shall no longer bear that name, but henceforth shall be called and known by the name of BARRE, the aforesaid Incorporating act notwithstanding, and all Officers in the said town shall hold and exercise their Offices respectively in the same manner as they would have done, had not the name of the said town been altered.

In the House of Representatives, Novm. 7, 1776.

This Bill having had three several readings, passed to be enacted.
Sent up for Concurrence.
T. DALTON, *Speaker Protem.*

In Council, Novm. 7, 1776.
This Bill having had two several readings, passed to be enacted.
JOHN AVERY, *Dep'y Secretary.*
Consented to by the Major part of the Council.
A true Copy, Attest, JOHN AVERY, *Dep'y Secretary.*

The name of the town had been changed to Barre instead of Wilkes, as the people had desired in their petition. Wilkes and Barré at this time were members of the same Parliament, and each was an ardent defender of what he considered the liberties and

rights of the people of the Provinces. For some years preceding Wilkes had acquired some notoriety by his writings and course of conduct, and had, at one time, been expelled from Parliament and placed under arrest, convicted and sentenced to imprisonment and heavy fine. What many of the English people considered as an act of oppression towards him had turned the current of popular opinion in his favor; the people of America were dazzled by his public course, and their desire to honor him and his name was but natural.

By whom the name of Barre was given to the town is not known, but it is evident that, as a blank for the name was left in the act, it was inserted in the House and acceded to in the Council.

Isaac Barré, after whom the town was named, was at that time attracting much attention and commendation from the Americans for his efforts in their behalf in the British Parliament; he was born in Dublin, of French parentage, in humble circumstances, in 1726; it was intended that he should study law, as in his career at Trinity College, which he entered at the age of fourteen, he had exhibited marked ability as a student and debater; disliking that profession, he enlisted in the British Army with the rank of ensign in 1746. He was in the service for fourteen years on the Continent and in Canada, where, under Gen. Wolfe, he rose to the rank of adjutant-general. He was severely wounded in his eyes in the same engagement where Wolfe was killed. At the surrender of Montreal in 1760, Lord Amherst sent him as bearer of despatches to the home government; he remained in London to obtain relief from his injuries, in which he was but partially successful. The next year he was elected to a seat in Parliament, where he distinguished himself in debate and became a powerful champion of the American people, denouncing the oppression of the British government and contending for the rights of the people. His career in Parliament attracted the attention of the Americans, and they acknowledged him as a powerful friend and advocate in their behalf. The title of colonel, which was at times applied to him, is incorrect, as he arose only to the rank of lieutenant-colonel. In consequence of the wounds he received at Quebec in 1759, he became blind when about sixty years of age. He died in London, July 20, 1802. An oil painting of Barré, after one by Stuart, hangs in our Public Library.

The representative to the body sitting at Watertown, Dea. John Mason, a man specially fitted to the times, kept the people informed of the condition of affairs, and largely through his influence they were led to act in advance of some of the neighboring towns and to preserve and strengthen the determination against yielding to any usurpation of their rights. What wonder, then, that when they were summoned to a town-meeting to act upon a resolve emanating from the representative body of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, asking them to advise their representative that, if the Congress should declare them independent of Great Britain, he should pledge the inhabitants to solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in this measure, they unanimously so instructed their representative, Dea. Mason. And they went still farther: they desired every male inhabitant of the age of sixteen years and upwards to be enrolled, that each and every one might contribute his share in the struggle for liberty. They desired their representative to act his part in agreeing upon and enacting a Constitution and form of government for the State such as should conduce to the safety and happiness of its inhabitants. To a people thus pledged to independence it must have seemed a direct insult to be petitioned into a town-meeting to take into consideration a circular from the King's Commissioners, Lord Howe and his brother, Gen. Howe, proposing measures of settlement, this proposition stating that all the acts that the people complained of as grievous should be righted, that they would be repealed, and their rights and privileges established. This petition for the town-meeting stated that "as all proposals must begin somewhere, we think it is time to know whether the people in this town mean to fight Great Britain only for independency, and if not, that their minds may be known thereon." The meeting was held December 30, 1776; the gilded bait of compromise was not acceptable; the meeting was of short duration; after a spirited discussion they decided not to act upon the warrant and it was dissolved. Another result of this meeting was that much indignation was aroused against the signers of this petition, John Caldwell, Ezra Jones, Matthew Caldwell, Noah Mandell, George Caldwell, William Caldwell and Thomas Holden, and their adherents, and so strong did this feeling become that a town-meeting was called by a warrant signed by but two of the five selectmen, and held January 20, 1777. Capt. John Black was voted "out of all office in town," and Col. Buckminster was removed from his position as town treasurer. When we consider the strength of these men in local affairs, their power in debate, their superior judgment and their valiant and valuable services on the field of battle, we can but feebly realize the force of that wrath that was visited upon them by those of their townsmen who, once having decided to contend for liberty, were unwilling to retrace a single step.

Notwithstanding this episode in their affairs, the spirit of patriotism was progressing. At succeeding town-meetings the people gladly voted to raise their quota of men for the fifteen battalions called for by the Continental Congress and appropriate a bounty of twenty pounds to each one who enlisted in the Continental Army; they also voted to consider those who acted as substitutes for such of the citizens as could not go to the war as inhabitants of Barre and placed them on the same footing, as to bounty, as were those who had previously enlisted for service at Ticonderoga or elsewhere.

Another element was now a source of discomfort; bills of credit had been issued by the State, and although its faith was pledged for their redemption, their value was constantly depreciatng. This was productive of hardship and suffering; these circumstances and the absence of many of the men had made the situation depressing; agriculture was neglected, specie had disappeared and nearly every one was unwilling to receive the currency for debts due them, and it was nearly impossible to procure with it many of the necessities of life. A meeting was held to see if the people would petition the General Court for a repeal or alteration of the act in regard to the bills of credit, and they voted against such a course, preferring hardship rather than to do aught that might weaken their hopes for independence, and preferring to co-operate with the General Court in all measures that it should consider necessary for the success of their cause. (In January, 1777, these bills of credit were about five per cent. below par, and in January, 1778, they were worth only about three and one-half per cent. of their face value.)

The people were ever in accord with the spirit of the times, town-meetings were of frequent occurrence and the condition of the colonies was demanding constant attention. At times a feeble minority would petition for an abrogation of certain measures, but the stern, unyielding sense of the majority, after a spirited discussion, would prevail; on some occasions, when meetings had been called on the petitions of this minority, discussion would be avoided by refusing to act on the articles, and in May, 1778, the town showed its spirit so strongly as to vote "to throw out a petition of twelve signers of the inhabitants of Barre in every part and paragraph."

This petition was for the reconsidering of a previous meeting's vote by which a bounty had been granted to those who should enlist in the Continental Army. In April of 1778 the town held a meeting to see whether it would ratify a Constitution or mode of government sent out by the General Assembly. This form was unsatisfactory, and by a strong majority they refused to ratify it as it then stood, the vote being eleven for to seventy-six against it. Realizing, however, that a stable form of government was essential, a committee was chosen to report such amendments as they thought fitting and proper, lay them before the town for its acceptance and instruct the representative in regard to them. This Constitution was the outcome of a recommendation of the House of Representatives, September 17, 1776, that the voters of the different towns assemble and determine whether they would give their consent that the House and Council should enact such a form of government for the State as would seem best; the towns generally voted unanimously to accede to this request, but when the proposed Constitution was submitted to them it was rejected.

In April, 1779, a convention of delegates was called to assemble at Cambridge to prepare another draft of a Constitution, to which Barre sent as delegates John Mason, Andrew Parker and Asa Hapgood. The work of this convention was no more favorable than before, for this draft also was rejected. When, in May of 1780, it came before the town for its consideration a committee of seven was appointed to examine and report upon this draft. Rev. Josiah Dana, the chairman, reported that it was imperfect and recommended these amendments:

1. No one, not of the Protestant religion, should be eligible to any office from Governor to Representative; 2. No person shall be eligible to any office in the Legislature who does not contribute to the support of the civil government in the way of taxation, giving as a reason that he who pays a part of the charges would be more likely to spend our money frugally; 3. That the chief officers of the State should not serve more than four years out of seven, as this might be a check on enterprising, designing men, and of consequence, a tendency to serve the liberties of the people and render the Commonwealth safe; 4. That no person should have a seat in the Congress and the State Legislature at the same time, as such a practice would give a way for some person to have an undue influence in government and be derogatory to the liberties of the people; 5. That a particular day should be appointed for the choice of representatives, as it would save the trouble and expense of an annual precept; 6. Each town should have the privilege of nominating one justice of the peace, it being the opinion that the towns entitled to choose a representative were under greater advantage to determine the qualifications and ability of their townsmen than the Governor of the Commonwealth could be.

The town, by a vote of one hundred yeas to four nays, accepted the draft with these amendments, and ordered their delegates to attend the convention at its adjourned meeting in June, to present them for consideration and to agree upon a time when the instrument should take effect, if accepted by a two-thirds vote of the people. Nothing resulted from these proposed amendments; but during this sitting a revised draft was brought before the convention and adopted, and, on being submitted to the inhabitants, was ratified; on the declaration of the convention that more than two-thirds of the voters of this Province had signified that they were in favor of it, the Constitution was declared accepted.

Barre was still contributing its proper portion of men and supplies for the army. Attempts were made to equalize the compensation of those who had labored for, and who were still in, the Continental army. As each member of the militia was, to a considerable extent, a judge of the value of his efforts, these attempts were not always productive of the best results; local jealousies and personal piques were as prominent as before or since that time, and when endeavors were made to have each free-holder pay a proportionate amount of the expense incurred, they would vigorously protest; but in the end their sense of right and justice would prevail.

The depreciation of the currency was a source of much trouble in this matter. Hours were spent in discussion, votes were passed and reconsidered, and at length the matter would be left to adjust itself. One proposition made at this time was to settle with the men for their services by paying them with bills of credit at "ninety for one," that is—that ninety

dollars in such bills should be considered as the equivalent in value of one Spanish milled dollar.

In this year, 1780, the town was called upon for a supply of beef for the army, the amount required being nine thousand nine hundred and sixty pounds; the town voted to raise £20,100, with which to purchase this beef. Additional men for the army were also called for, and committees were chosen to supply these calls. For the purpose of more easily and readily obtaining the men the town was divided into classes or districts; one man was taken from each district, either by his enlisting or, in some few cases, by hiring a substitute; sometimes one would be drawn by lot, when, if he refused to serve, the district in which he lived was assessed in a sufficient sum to procure a substitute. Twenty men marched from Barre, June 5, 1780, having enlisted for a term of six months' service. More men and more beef were still called for. In 1781 seven thousand eight hundred and ninety-three pounds of beef were called for for the army; the town voted to give John Caldwell forty-two shillings, currency, per one hundred pounds, or £165, "hard money," for the whole amount, and which he furnished.

After this time we have but little evidence that the State was still calling for aid, although in August of 1782 the town voted to use their best endeavors to collect a sum of money in compliance with a "pressing requisition" from the General Court. The last requisition for men had been made in March, but this and some of the preceding calls had not been based upon population, but on property according to the valuation.

There is no complete record of the names or number of men from this town who served in the Revolutionary struggle, but it has been asserted that about one-sixth of the inhabitants did military duty during the war; if this be so, then our town should be credited with sending out more than two hundred men to contend for their liberties.

The war was approaching its close; the campaigns of this year were destined to virtually decide the issues in favor of a long-suffering and much-enduring people. Amid deprivations and some internal dissensions they had worked steadily in answering calls for men and supplies for the force in the field, and now they could devote their time and attention to peaceful pursuits; town-meetings were less frequent, the business to be transacted relating more generally to the proper functions of a town. The church and schools and highways now received the attention they needed, and much time and care was bestowed upon them. One subject connected with the war was a source of much difficulty: some of the men considered that they had done more than their part in aiding to prosecute the war, and charged others with having shirked their duties. This was a subject of constant controversy, and so great was the excitement that the town endeavored at different times to equalize the value of the services of each one. Committees were appointed for this purpose, reports made and rejected; finally a committee reported that they had examined into the past services done in the war with Great Britain by individuals, and desiring to use their best endeavors to have every man's money made good that he had advanced for the support of the war, and also taking into view their personal services, they submitted a statement showing what each man had advanced and done by way of credit, and another statement showing by the valuation what each one's proportion should be; this report was accepted. Two hundred and sixty-five names appear upon this schedule, about one-half of whom were credited with having done more than their part; the delinquents were expected to pay the balance against them into the town treasury, but as this balance varied from a few pounds to several hundred, it was very evident that some would be unable to pay such sums, and others flatly refused to do so; numerous devices were resorted to to effect a settlement, and threats were made of invoking legislative interference; in the end a few settled the balance against them and the matter was allowed to drop.

In 1782 the people were so engrossed in their home affairs that they neglected to send a Representative to the General Court. The Legislature called the town to account for this neglect of their duty, but it declined to assign any reason for its course. So imperative were the demands of the State that the town should do its duty, the next year Colonel Nathan Sparhawk was chosen Representative. Matters of great importance to the condition and welfare of the country, in a civil rather than a military line, were coming forward and demanding settlement. A treaty of peace between the colonies and Great Britain had been arranged and preliminary articles signed. The town, to some extent, realized how great might be the benefits that would accrue to it from independence, and they eagerly desired that time to come when they might enjoy the fruits of their struggles and sacrifices. Nearly impoverished in helping to maintain an army scattered over a large territory by sending forward men and supplies, their farms suffering for want of proper care, in some instances having been carried on by the boys and girls of the household, the dawn of peace was gladly hailed. Resolved that nothing should be wanting on their part, they chose a strong committee, who should obtain the general sentiment of all the people, and from this formulate instructions by which their Representative in the General Court should be guided.

These instructions were drawn up; they expressed confidence in the integrity and good understanding of their representative to conduct public affairs in such a way as to promote the interests of the Commonwealth and this town in particular; they desired him to bear in mind that the State was free and independent, and retained every power, jurisdiction and right

that had not been specially delegated to the Congress, and that the foundation of good government rested on piety, religion and morality; that these, with moderation, justice, temperance, industry and frugality, were necessary to preserve our liberty, and that all laws must be based upon them; that the Constitution and Declaration of Rights were worthy of his frequent perusal, and that in public doings he should be be largely guided thereby. In regard to the treaty of peace, they say "our independence is confirmed, a blessing for which patriots have long toiled and heroes fought and bled. Posterity can never justly charge us with surrendering their rights. We and they shall be free so long as we deserve freedom It will depend upon our virtue."

The fifth article of the treaty of peace was unsatisfactory and distasteful. This article provided that the Congress should recommend to the Legislatures of the several States that they provide for the restitution of all the estates, rights and properties that had been confiscated from Britlsh subjects during the war, and likewise for the restoration of the estates and rights of persons resident here or elsewhere who had not borne arms against the country, but preferred to retain their loyalty to the King. The instructions on this point said, "we cannot help feeling anxious for the event of the fifth article, which respects those men who fled from their country when its liberties were invaded, and took refuge in the dominions of the invader. Congress can only recommend. It will not obtrude citizens in any of the States, much less declared traitors. Agreeable to the treaty of peace, the town wishes for no recollection of past dispute with Great Britain, no repetition of past injuries, but the seeds of discord being excluded, that a beneficial intercourse may be established between the two countries, so as to promote and serve to perpetuate peace and harmony, which would be extremely difficult were these persons to reside among us whom this country regards as the occasion of interrupting that intercourse formerly, and the cause of this suffering; especially as these wretched beings have already begun quarrels with that peace and those who made it, which terminates a long, bloody, unnatural war. Therefore, in the opinion of this town, the happiness, the liberties, interest and safety of these States forbid us to suffer persons of the above description to become the subjects of, and to reside in, this government;" they further instructed him that it would be dangerous to admit them, or to have them forced upon us. They enjoined upon him unremitting attention to business, and stated that it was their right to communicate to him their sentiments whenever they should judge it necessary or convenient, and they expected him to hold himself bound at all times to attend to and observe them.

Here is exhibited the spirit of our town in the struggle for its liberties. By their inflexible determination as a body corporate, by their material and moral support, they had conquered a peace, and no act or surrender of any principle should now put in jeopardy their rights. For neglecting to send a representative to the General Court in 1782, the Legislature had imposed upon the town a fine of forty-nine pounds, ten shillings. In May of 1783 a town-meeting was held to petition for a remission of this fine; a committee was chosen to prepare the petition, which is as follows:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts: To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled. The petition of the town of Barre humbly showeth that whereas said town is fined £49 10s. for not sending some person to represent them in the Great and General Court the last year, pray that the same may be taken off; and they flatter themselves that honorable Court will be convinced of the reasonableness of the petition when they consider this is the only instance of the like kind that they have failed in since they have been a town, and even in this, when it was tried to know whether they should send or not, there appeared but two or three votes majority in the negative, so that near one-half of the inhabitants are punished for what they must call their misfortune, not their crime; and it will appear further reasonable if the honorable Court will please to consider that the town of Barre, as they humbly conceive, has stood for some years past, and now stands as high on the State valuation according to its interest, than perhaps any town in the County, so that they feel, in a peculiar manner, the weight of their taxes. They have hitherto stifled every groan, that they might not seem to discourage the common cause in which they considered themselves so much interested, but for the future must beg leave to complain unless the proportion is altered between some towns with which they think they are well qualified to compare themselves. There is another reason which is of singular force with the town, and they hope it will have its due weight with the honorable Court, viz.: that besides the last Continental tax, the whole of which remains unpaid, they find themselves in debt between one hundred and two hundred pounds more than the town's proportion in the present State tax, all which, with the addition of fine upon fine, makes it appear to them a burden almost insupportable.

This petition probably had the desired effect, as we find no record of the fine having been paid.

The depreciation of the currency and the unsettled condition of the country were still weighing heavily upon the inhabitants, and were productive of deep and wide-spread suffering. Credit was extinct, the temporary act of 1782 making property a legal tender for debts due had proved a failure, as it still further postponed collections. Suits-in-law between neighbors and between individuals and the town were numerons; the town annually appointed an agent to defend such suits as were brought against it, trusting that a judicial hearing might be beneficial, both in the way of bringing the matter forward for a general discussion, and by the decision of the court, reducing the amount which had been claimed as due; the administration of the State government was arraigned, and the town was requested by petition to take measures that would result in changing the state of affairs for the better; this petition had no further effect than to elicit the reply that time would eventually make the matter right; other towns taking a similar stand, a convention was called to sit in Worcester in April to consider the grievances the people labored under, and to petition the General Court for redress. Barre and twenty-five other towns of the county were represented in this convention; the difficulties of the peo-

ple were freely and fully discussed, and the outcome of the meeting was, that the various representatives to the General Court should be instructed to procure a change in certain laws and customs, prominent among which were that there should be immediate settlements with all officers having charge of the State funds, a reduction of lawyers' fees and a settlement of accounts between the State and the Congress. Here was the entering wedge for what proved afterwards a blot on our escutcheon. The difficulties increased daily.

In 1784 a town-meeting was held on the 1st day of March to see if the town would choose a committee to sit in convention at Worcester on the third Tuesday, in conformance with the request of a circular letter, signed by Willis Hall, of Sutton, by the order of nine towns in the southeast part of the county. The substance of this letter was to have a discussion and consideration of their grievances, in regard to an impost being granted for twenty-five years. Nathaniel Jennison was the delegate from Barre; this convention being productive of no more satisfactory results than that of two years previous, another convention assembled in Leicester in June of 1786, to which this town sent William Henry as its delegate. Thirty-seven towns were represented; the distress of the people, and how to relieve it, were the chief topics for consideration; these deliberations were productive of no good result. The following September some of our citizens united with bodies from other towns in revolt against the laws and courts. On the evening of the 4th they entered Worcester and took possession of the court-house; amongst these was Lieutenant Moses Smith, of Barre, now claiming the rank of captain.

Chief Justice Ward, a man of much dignity, firmness and courage, and who had been a general in the Revolution, demanded an explanation of the proceedings; one of the leaders of the mob replying that they had come for a redress of grievances, Judge Ward informed them that their complaints were without any substantial foundation. Captain Smith replied that any communication from him to them must be in writing.

The judge refused to so communicate with them, and soon afterwards was allowed to address them, when he spoke for about two hours with good effect. The next day Captain Smith unceremoniously introduced himself to the judge, and with his sword drawn, offered him a paper purporting to be a petition of the body of people "now collected for their own good and that of the commonwealth," requiring an adjournment of the courts without day, and demanded an answer within half an hour.

The judge at once replied, telling him that no answer would be given, when Smith retired. In this condition of affairs it was found impossible to hold sessions of the courts, and they were adjourned until November, in hopes that the mob would see its uselessness and disperse. But the infection was too extensive; on the 29th of November, Captain Smith and others from this town were still taking a prominent part in what was now known as the Shays' Rebellion. How this rebellion ended is a matter of history. Smith, with his company of Barre men, after parading through the main street of Worcester, marched home on Saturday, the 9th of December.

The feeling in Barre was intense. The community was divided in opinion in regard to this affair, a large minority upholding the insurgent course and many bitter feelings were engendered. Even the church was disturbed, and one of the more offending members was the subject of a number of meetings, the result of which was his suspension; but, finally apologizing for his indiscretions, he was reinstated in his church membership.

In town affairs the excitement was of long-continued duration. About this time it was discovered that the town's ammunition had been stolen. A committee of nine was chosen to make immediate search for it. Lieut. (or Capt.) Moses Smith and Richard Mills (both of whom had been officers with the insurgents and were suspected of knowing considerable about it) were placed on this committee. After much labor and anxiety on the part of the committee, and by virtue of several search-warrants, the ammunition was found in the barn of a well-known citizen, Joseph Smith. The excitement increased, and Smith was prosecuted for the theft. He presented his case in a long petition to the town, stoutly affirming his innocence and declaring that he had no knowledge, directly or indirectly, how the powder came to his barn. He appealed for clemency and asked that the suit might be withdrawn. A number of town-meetings were held in regard to his case and the matter was finally allowed to drop, he being compelled to pay all the expenses that had accrued. Subsequent developments pointed strongly to Mills as the party who stole the ammunition, he having been encouraged in the theft by Lieut. Smith, and to throw any suspicion from himself, when the insurgents had no use for the powder, he concealed it in Josiah Smith's barn.

January 1, 1787, the town decided to petition Governor Bowdoin for relief from the causes that were generally assumed to be the cause of the revolt and that this outbreak might be condoned. In this petition the inhabitants represented that application having been made to the town by a number of its disaffected citizens, called insurgents, and desiring the town to take up the matter as mediator between government and the disaffected citizens of said town, they, the petitioners, deplored the situation and deprecated the horrors of bloodshed, "more especially town and neighbor against each other, and, to close all with accumulating horror, an armed force, ready to march from the town at the call of government, while a party is ready to march in opposition," and

besought His Excellency to desist from prosecuting the affair with rigor until every conciliatory measure had been used that was consistent with the good, the safety and the dignity of the Commonwealth; and if His Excellency would desist they pledged themselves that the insurgents among our people would promise that the Courts of Common Pleas and of General Sessions of the Peace should not be obstructed in their business until after the next session of the Legislature, provided their lives and property should be safe from seizure in consequence of their hitherto illegal acts.

One of the conventions that had previously been called had never dissolved, but had held numerous sessions from time to time, discussing the condition of the Commonwealth and endeavoring to devise means for a settlement of the difficulties. This convention was now in session, and notwithstanding that the majority of our people professed penitence for the course that had been pursued here, and had petitioned the Governor to desist from measures which would subdue the insurgents, they would not recall their delegate from Worcester. The insurgent minority had considerable power in town, and were not yet disposed to abandon their course in regard to the results that they hoped might be obtained from the deliberations of the convention, considering that by so doing they would be deprived of the right of petition, which they believed to be one of their inherent rights. They expected, too, that a continual agitation of the grievances would tend to bring an early relief to their sufferings. The whole town was considerably excited, but after the defeat of Shays the feeling gradually subsided.

The climax came at a town-meeting held July 6, 1787. The subject of the amount of costs incurred in regard to the procedures and search for the stolen ammunition was under discussion. Lieut. Moses Smith had been chosen moderator and a part of the business had been transacted. The debate over the ammunition was heated, and an attempt was made to suppress it, Lieut. Smith and his followers being in the majority. To offset their strength, a protest, signed by fourteen voters, all prominent men, was presented to the meeting. This protest was as follows: We, whose names are underwritten, protest against the proceedings of the town, in town-meeting now assembled, and declare that we will not pay one farthing of any cost or any charges that may arise to the town, either directly or indirectly, in consequence of the illegality of the same. The reason that we assign for this protest is that Lieut. Moses Smith, the moderator, has acted as an officer in the army of Captain Shays, in the rebellion against government in Massachusetts, and has not made it manifest that he has taken the oath of allegiance agreeable to the act of court.

Smith then resigned the office of moderator, which resignation was accepted. The record further states: "Then, after considerable altercation among the inhabitants of the town then assembled, the inhabitants dismissed without passing any further vote upon the articles contained in the warrant, leaving the selectmen and town clerk in the meeting-house without one inhabitant of the town with them, and said selectmen and town clerk, after waiting till the dusk of evening, retired."

Lieut. Smith was an innholder. His first location was easterly of where Mr. W. E. Hemenway now lives, and on the opposite side of the highway. This was not a tavern, but a house of entertainment. He gave this to his son, and soon afterwards, in 1801, erected a tavern, of which he had the charge for about twelve years. This house is now used as a dwelling-house, and is opposite the school-house in old District No. 9.

After the excitement of the rebellion had subsided, Lieut. Smith held various town offices for a number of years, being treasurer in 1792. His wife died about 1800, and at her grave he placed a head-stone. He afterwards placed his property in the hands of some friends, on the guaranty to support and care for him for the remainder of his life. He died in 1815, seventy-six years of age, and was buried by the side of his wife, but no stone ever marked his last resting-place.

He was a man of much force of character and kind and indulgent to his family.

At one time in our history there were nine public places in town, some of which were taverns, the others houses of entertainment, the distinction between the two being that a tavern was obliged to be licensed, and intoxicating liquors were sold there, while for a house of entertainment no license was required, and no liquors were supposed to be obtainable. The most noted tavern of the day in the last century was that of Jonathan Nourse, which stood where now is the Methodist Church. Another tavern was located where now is Smith block, and was maintained as such for some years in the present century. Still another was near the residence of Lemuel P. Rice. It is on record in the proceedings of our town-meetings of the last century that frequently the town would vote for an adjournment of five or ten or twenty minutes, then to reassemble at Landlord Nourse's.

Peace at home was now thoroughly established, and, although various primitive business enterprises had been established, farming was still the chief occupation; still struggling under many difficulties, the political condition of the town and nation was an object of much solicitude; after a few years of quiet, another war with Great Britain was believed to be imminent. When, in 1807, the Congress had passed the "Embargo law," the people were much concerned, and, as its effects gradually developed, the stringency in the scanty markets of the day was everywhere manifest; the distress that first appeared at the shipping centres soon extended to the interior towns. So marked was this here, a town-meeting was held in September, 1808, to take the matter into consideration, and an address or petition to President Jefferson

was adopted, praying for a repeal of the law, after reciting the distress that had fallen upon the people through its enforcement. It is highly probable that this law and the war rumors of this and two or three succeeding years had much to do in arousing a feeling of opposition to the War of 1812. The sympathies of the town were rather in consonance with the Peace Convention of Hartford; from Hartford and from Boston many circulars and posters were sent here, addressed mostly to the Federalists, showing, in various partisan ways, the attitude of the national administration. These aroused much discontent, and this trouble, with the increased scarcity of currency, added to the hardships of the people.

Our records in regard to this war are very scanty, but two allusions to it appearing. When a call for troops was made we have no records of any volunteers for the ranks, but it is evident that one draft for men was made. In August, 1814, a number of the people petitioned the town to grant such men as were or might be drafted into the service a compensation in addition to that allowed by the government, but the town refused to do this; in May, 1815, the town voted "to grant four dollars per month to those persons who, being inhabitants of the town, were drafted from the militia the last summer, and marched into the service of the State, or who hired substitutes."

The war with Mexico received but little sympathy here; it was fully realized that the idea of the extension of slave territory was the cause of this conflict, and to this extension our people were much opposed. The anti-slavery feeling had been growing for a number of years and was increasing, a few brave men standing by their convictions and aiding in forming that party which, twenty years afterwards, saved and perpetuated that Union for which their ancestors had so nobly contended in the last century. In 1840 the Presidential electors of the so-called Free-Soil party received but one vote in the fall election; in 1844 the number had increased to thirteen, and, in 1848, to forty-one. The only resident or native of Barre, of whom we have any record, who enlisted for service in this war, was George Field, who was a member of Company E, First Regiment Massachusetts Infantry.

Another terrible struggle was to come; the encroachment of slavery had been increasing, and, when a change in the national administration had come, in 1861, the conflict was precipitated. The firing upon Sumter was the tocsin that aroused the whole Northern people; united as never before, all petty jealousies dropped for the time, men of all shades of political belief and of various nationalities gallantly and promptly responded to their country's call; the old spirit which animated our Revolutionary sires burned anew. The young man, and the middle-aged, left his studies, his mercantile pursuits, the bench and the farm, and, cheered on by father and mother and sister, enlisted to do battle and to die, if need be, that his country might live. During that four years' struggle three hundred and nineteen men were enlisted as our quota, and engaged in the stern duties of the period, and saw many a bloody battle-field. At their enlistment the town and individuals pledged themselves to protect and guard the interests of their families or dependent relatives, and well did they perform that duty. The names of those three hundred and nineteen noble and brave men are cherished as one of our sacred records, and, though nearly a quarter of a century has elapsed since they proved their heroism, yet, to-day, their patriotism and their determination to guard the heritage entrusted to us to care for and perpetuate are held in high esteem by those for whom their efforts accomplished so much in preserving and maintaining this Union. Many of these men never returned to their homes,—the deadly rifle-ball, or disease contracted in the discharge of their duty, filling a grave near many a battle-field. The town was generous to its nation's defenders, and still recalls with pride, and will forever cherish, their brave deeds.

In 1866 the town erected a monument in honor of those who gave their lives for their country; this granite base and marble shaft stands as a grand memento in the north park, with Gettysburg, Newbern, Port Hudson and Antietam inscribed thereon, and there are the names of fifty-nine true men who died for their country, but who "still live" in the affections of a grateful people.

In the year following the adoption of the State Constitution the "Barre Slave Case" attracted much attention. James Caldwell had bought in 1754, at Rutland, a negro man, named Mingo, about twenty years of age, a woman, named Dinah, about nineteen years old, and their child, named Quako or Quork, about nine months old, for £108. By the death of Caldwell in 1763 a settlement of his estate became necessary; Quork, as a part of the personal property, was assigned to Mrs. Caldwell. She married Nathaniel Jennison in 1769 and died in 1774; at her death Jennison assumed the ownership of Quork, and Quork continued to live and work for Jennison. In April, 1781, Quork was enticed from Jennison's service by John Caldwell, a brother of James, who told him that he was a free man and not subject to Jennison's authority; the negro at first refused to leave his supposed master, but on Caldwell's representations that he would furnish work for him, pay him for his services and protect him, he left Jennison for Caldwell, who set him at work in his fields. Jennison missed his slave and, suspecting where he might be, went to Caldwell's and found Quork harrowing; he commanded the negro to return to his own house; Quork refused and was then attacked and beaten by Jennison and others who had gone with him, and was shut up for about two hours. By Caldwell's efforts the man in whose charge Quork had been placed was induced to release him, and through his influence, too, the case came before the

County Court, which was really a three-fold one. May 1, 1781, Quork, or Quork Walker, as he was now called, brought an action against Jennison for trespass, which was tried at the June term. The defense was that Quork was the proper slave of Jennison, and as such he had the control and possession of his body, and no action for trespass could hold, to which Quork joined issue, denying that he was his proper slave.

The case was tried in the Court of Common Pleas, and a verdict for plaintiff with damages in the sum of fifty dollars was awarded him. An appeal was was taken to the Superior Court, but was there defaulted. In the same month of May Jennison brought suit against John and Seth Caldwell for enticing his negro man from his service and business; he obtained judgment in the sum of twenty-five dollars; this case, too, was appealed to the higher court, and at the September term they were declared not guilty and recovered judgment and costs against the plaintiff. At this term of court Jennison was indicted for assault and battery and illegal imprisonment and on trial was found guilty and ordered to pay a fine and the costs of prosecution.

The question of slavery was not yet settled; this was sent up to the Supreme Judicial Court, but did not come to trial until the April term of 1783, when it had its hearing before the full bench. The case was ably argued and the decision of the court was pronounced by Chief Justice Cushing. This was the first and only trial of the question of slavery under our State Constitution, and it was then established that slavery in this Commonwealth was abolished by the Declaration of Rights, which prefaced the Constitution. Cushing, after rehearsing the case and explaining the previous situation, and remarking that the defendant in this case relied upon some former law of the Province which would tend to uphold the claim that Quork was the slave of Jennison, says, "as to the doctrine of slavery and the rights of Christians to hold Africans in perpetual servitude, and sell and treat them as we do our horses and cattle, that (it is true) has been heretofore countenanced by the Province laws formerly, but nowhere is it expressly enacted or established. It has been a usage which took its origin from the practice of some of the European nations and in the regulations of the British government respecting the then Colonies for the benefit of trade and wealth. But whatever sentiments have formerly prevailed in this particular, or slid in upon us by the example of others, a different idea has taken place with the people of America, more favorable to the natural rights of mankind and to the natural innate desire of liberty with which Heaven, without regard to color, complexion or shape of noses (features), has impressed all the human race, and upon this ground our Constitution of Government, by which the people of this Commonwealth have solemnly bound themselves, sets out with declaring that all men are born free and equal, and that every subject is entitled to liberty and to have it guarded by the laws, as well as life and property—in short, is wholly repugnant to the idea of being born slaves. This being the case, I think the idea of slavery is inconsistent with our own conduct and Constitution, and there can be no such thing as perpetual servitude of a rational creature, unless his liberty is forfeited by some criminal conduct or given up by personal consent or contract."[1]

Slavery, then, in this State, no longer existed. Some families had previously given their slaves their liberty, or tacitly acknowledged that they were free. After their freedom the negroes, in some cases, remained in the houses of their former masters, but worked wherever they desired or could find employment. Others formed homes in a little colony by themselves, and a number took up their abodes in the west part of the town, whence arose the name of Guinea, or Guinea Corner, which name is even now sometimes applied to old School District No. 10. Quork remained in town, and died here at an advanced age.

It is related that Jennison took the younger portion of his slaves to Connecticut and sold them there, and that one of them, Prince Walker, a brother of Quork, escaped and returned here; by some means he obtained some land in the east part of the town, where he lived and died. He married here and reared a large family. He died April 21, 1858, aged eighty-four years, as is supposed; a stone with his name and supposed age inscribed thereon marks his grave, by the side of which are five other graves of members of his family; the land, which passed out of his possession before his death, now belongs to the heirs of the late Larned Rice. "Stip," another slave, died here about 1845, supposed to be nearly ninety years of age. Annis Ring, another former slave in this town, died in Boston early in the present century. She married Pompey, who had been a slave in the family of Jonathan Allen; Pompey died in 1812, a decrepit, broken-down old man, breathing his last in a field in the north part of the town, from which circumstance the field is still known as the "Pomp lot."

In accordance with the laws of the Province, early attention was paid to education. These laws provided that this education should include the ability to read the English language and a knowledge of the principal laws, and that religious instruction should be joined therewith. Here was a three-fold system—intellectual, political and moral or religious—any one branch of which was within the power of the early settlers to cherish and promote. As the district or town was large or small, so far as relates to the number of its inhabitants, so were the requirements for schooling graded; a town of fifty families was required to fur-

[1] See "Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society," 1855–58, also 1874, January to June.

nish instruction in the elementary branches only, while one of a greater number of inhabitants was required to maintain a grammar school, or one of a high grade. That the proprietors were aware of these laws, and were disposed to observe them, is evidenced when, at their meeting in 1733, they voted to assign a lot for a school. What was done in the matter of instruction from that time until 1749 is not on record, and after 1749, when the district passed out of the proprietors' possession, until 1763 there are no records, they having been destroyed in a fire which consumed the house of John Caldwell, the clerk of this Rutland District. But that schools had been established and supported previous to 1763, is manifest from the following vote of the district, passed April 11th of that year: "Voted that £26–13–4 be assessed on said District for the present year, and that the school be kept at the same places and in the same manner that it was the last year."

Here is evidence of the early establishment of methods of instruction, and that at least one building had been erected and used as a school-house is shown by the proceedings of the district the following year, as they voted "that school be kept in ten places this present year," and specified the places where the school or schools should be held, all but one being located in or near certain dwellings, that one to be "at the school-house," and forty pounds was raised by tax for their support.

It is not on record how long a term of instruction was given; the schools were not always held at or near the same dwellings, each year the district deciding on the number there should be, and where they should be held, and thus the various sections of the district were accommodated from year to year.

Individuals in certain localities had erected or arranged small buildings on their premises as temporary school-houses, for, in the vote above quoted, one school was to be held at *or near* John Fessenden's house; in 1766 forty pounds were raised for the support of the school, which was to be kept at six places, as in the preceding year, one place at the Centre school-house, one at John Caldwell's school-house, *so-called*, one at Asa Hapgood's school-house, one at Joseph Robinson's house. There were not as many different teachers as there were schools authorized, so that it would appear that a teacher, after holding a school a certain number of weeks in one locality, was then transferred to another place, the length of the terms depending somewhat upon the valuation of the particular locality in which they were held.

The first record we have of the *town* proposing to build a school-house is in May of 1783, when it was voted "to sell the school-house that stands on the Common near the meeting-house and that the center quarter have liberty to set up a new school-house on the [same] ground." This school-house stood where the town-hall now stands.

The town had increased in population, and in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, better facilities for instruction must be provided.

In November, 1784, two articles appeared in the warrant for town-meeting,—one to see if the town would provide and maintain a grammar-school, the other to see if it would build one or more houses for a grammar-school or schools, and make any alterations in the school districts by enlarging or forming anew; the matter of establishing a grammar-school was passed over, but a committee was appointed to consider in regard to erecting school-houses; this committee reported that eight buildings should be erected, the dimensions of each of which were specified and their locations named. The usual term applied to each district was "squadron."

The war was now over, and the need of a return to a peace basis was weighing heavily upon the inhabitants and the distracted and uncertain condition of the country claimed their attention. With these weights upon them the matter of building the houses was postponed to a time in the future. Nothing more was done in regard to the houses until 1790, when it was voted to divide the town into eight squadrons and to build a house in each and their locations were again assigned, but if the residents of any of these districts were dissatisfied with the site, and they could agree upon any definite place, permission was given to locate the building on the spot agreed upon; otherwise a committee should locate the house wherever, in their judgment, would best serve the interests of the people. After the town had been divided into districts and the building spots assigned, complaints were numerous; after these had been discussed in town-meeting the voters ordered that the house in the Centre should be erected immediately and should be thirty feet square. This was done, but its dimensions were changed to twenty-nine feet by thirty-two feet; house No. 2 was built at or near where the corresponding one now is; No. 3 was in the east part of the town on an old road leading to Hubbardston, from where the Silas Harding farm-house now stands; No. 4 was "about twelve rods southerly of David Underwood's dwelling house" (this dwelling was afterward known as the Marcus Spooner place, and has lately disappeared); No. 5 was nearly opposite where the present No. 5 house stands; No. 6 was where the present No. 6 stands; No. 7 was located on an old road leading to what is now known as the Williams place, and about midway between there and the present residence of Mr. Franklin Babbitt; No. 8 was located about fifteen rods easterly of the bridge over the Ware River at Barre Plains and on the north side of the present highway. The inhabitants of District 7 objected in vigorous language to the location of their house. After much talk a vote was passed in town-meeting to notify them to agree by a majority where the house should stand. This building was at length erected southerly of the place assigned; but this location was not satisfactory and

afterward the town gave the inhabitants permission to move it. In 1791 the town raised four hundred pounds to erect these houses and notified each taxpayer in the varions districts to bring on to the grounds their proportion of the building material, they being credited in the tax-list for the value of the material furnished. The houses were soon erected, but the cost had been more than was anticipated. In 1792 the selectmen were requested to employ "a grammar-school master and direct him to the several districts in rotation" and to hold a school in each district so long as the proportion of the school funds should be sufficient to pay the expense. In 1796, the population of the town having increased, additional schools were needed and another district was established, being what is now known as No. 9. In after years other districts were formed, in some instances by dividing the former districts and in other cases by establishing new ones in the remoter parts of the town, and houses were erected in some central location. These buildings were small and of one story, usually about twenty-five feet square, built plainly and without regard to any rules of architecture, and not a great protection from storms or cold. They answered the purpose for which they were intended and were probably in keeping with the quality and quantity of information imparted. From 1763, which is as far back as our records of Rutland District extend, annual appropriations were made for the support of the schools, usually forty pounds, until 1775, when the energies of the people were otherwise concentrated and the schools were passed by. After that year the appropriations were resumed and increased each year until in 1781 the amount appropriated was three thousand pounds. Large as this seems, it was but little larger than some of the preceding grants, as the currency had so depreciated in value that it was equivalent to not more than seventy-five pounds when we compare its value with that of the Spanish milled dollar. In 1782 the amount appropriated was sixty pounds, and from then until 1803 the amount varied from sixty to two hundred pounds. In 1804 the grant was seven hundred dollars, this being the first year that our national word, or character for, dollars was used in our official capacity as a town.

The schools were held in different parts of the town in terms of various lengths, each year a committee being chosen to lay before the assessors a list of all the ratable polls in each district, the valuation and number of polls being used as a basis for determining the number of weeks of school that should be held in each district. Instruction was not limited to ages; in the same room would be found scholars varying in age from five or six years to, in some instances, twenty-five years; the older ones appreciated the value of the meagre instruction of the day, and efforts were made to extend the school facilities.

In 1798 the necessity of an academy was freely and fully discussed in town-meeting; while this plan was finally postponed, it had the effect of placing before the people the situation of educational matters and the unsatisfactory condition in which the schools were, exhibiting the autocratic form of government and the lack of uniformity in the methods of teaching.

The laws of the Commonwealth were defective; there was no supervision of schools, parents seldom visited them, and each was conducted according to the plans or fancies of the teacher, who, in many instances, had obtained the position for other reasons than for proper qualifications. The defects of this system were soon made apparent, and the necessity of uniformity in instruction and proper qualifications on the part of the teacher began to be realized.

In 1798 a committee was chosen, for the first time, to visit the schools and have supervision of them. This committee consisted of Rev. Josiah Dana, Seth Caldwell and Jonas Eaton, men of education and energy, and under their guidance and by their influence the cause of education was advanced. This committee received no compensation for their services, but freely and willingly gave their time for this purpose; but the people were not yet fully educated to the plan of choosing a School Committee annually, for no other board was chosen until 1804, although an article on this subject had been each year inserted in the warrant.

In this year Rev. James Thompson and Samuel Bigelow were chosen, and each subsequent year the office was filled, some years consisting of but two members, and, at other times, in connection with Rev. Dr. Thompson, who was chairman of the board for nearly forty years, one from each district was chosen. In 1810 the district, or "school ward," in the west part of the town was established, which was designated No. 10, and thirty dollars was appropriated for building the school-house.

Under the efficient management of the School Committee and the fostering care of the people, the cause of education was elevated, and as better and additional facilities were needed, the number of districts was increased until, in 1845, they numbered sixteen.

Previous to 1815 the schools had been entirely under the control of the town as a unit. In that year an agent in each district was chosen "to certify money which shall become due." The explanation of this vote is that the people in the various districts were taking more interest in educational matters, and were desirous of bringing their schools more directly under their control and regulating the length of the terms. While they should remain under the general supervision of the regular school Committee, it was believed that some local authority would be more conducive to their interests. This was the beginning of a plan which was adopted in later years, both here and elsewhere. In 1828 the town voted that each district should chose its own agent or prudential

committee. This agent had authority to engage the teacher and regulate the contingent expenses of the district in regard to the school, subject, however, to some control by the general committee.

The friends of education did not rest in their endeavors to improve the common-school system. Its wants and defects were closely observed and studied. In 1838 Rev. Mr. Fay, pastor of the Evangelical Church, who took a deep interest in the schools, and entered with much enthusiasm into all plans for their improvement, ably seconded the efforts of Rev. Dr. Thompson and others in this direction. The improvement of the schools of the Commonwealth had been agitated by Hon. Horace Mann, secretary of the State Board of Education, and, as one of the results of this movement, a convention of the friends of education was held in this town, at which were present, as active participants, Rev. Dr. Thompson, Rev. Mr. Fay, Rev. Luther Wilson, of Petersham, Rev. Josiah Clark, of Rutland, and many others, and from this and similar meetings in various parts of the State there resulted the establishment of Normal Schools, the second of which was opened here in September, 1839; this school occupied the second story of the town-hall building, which had been in process of construction for about two years, and had been completed the previous winter. Its principal was Rev. S. P. Newman, a professor in Bowdoin College. On account of the location of the town, access to which was then difficult, it was not well patronized, and was suspended in 1841, greatly to the regret of the people.

In 1852 a High School was established, and since then has been well maintained, being well-attended and in charge of well-trained and conscientious teachers. The languages, higher mathematics and kindred studies are pursued; young men have been fitted for our colleges, and besides imparting instruction to the youth of our own town, it is patronized to some extent by scholars from other municipalities.

In 1869 the district system was, by State enactment, abolished, the school property appraised, and the amount remitted to each district; since then the general School Committee have had the control of the whole system.

As we look back to the schools of the early settlers, with their limited instruction, and an annual appropriation of £40 or less, and then turn to our system of to-day, with its division into grades, from the primary to the high, with an annual appropriation of nearly five thousand dollars, and where all can obtain an education according to their taste or inclination, we can truly say, "Our lines are cast in pleasant places," and we fully realize the necessity of sustaining this system, and of making all possible advancement, so that the writer of our history, a century hence, shall say of us, as we record of our predecessors, "Well done."

The most noted and worthy establishment in town is the Private Institution for the Education of Feeble-Minded Youth. This was established here in June, 1848, by Dr. Henry B. Wilbur, a graduate of Amherst College, and of the Berkshire Medical College, who had practiced medicine in Lowell previous to his coming to Barre in 1845, from which time he continued the practice of medicine.

At this time there was no provision in this country for a class deemed incapable of improvement; but Dr. Wilbur, becoming deeply interested in efforts of European philanthropists, resolved to join their ranks, a resolve in which he was ably seconded by his young wife, a woman of great tact and untiring energy and self-devotion. Dr. Wilbur was a man of versatile genius, broad intellectual attainments, and a believer in the divinity that presides over the feeblest humanity. Gifted with large enthusiasm, and possessor of an indomitable will, he won success in spite of the obstacles that ever oppose a novel undertaking. Called in September, 1851, to preside over an experimental State School in Albany, N. Y., he left his Barre pupils in a dwelling on the corner of Pleasant and High Streets, under the care of Dr. George and Mrs. C. W. Brown.

The increasing number of pupils soon requiring more house-room and ground for out-door living, the residence of Mr. Willard Broad was purchased, enlarged and adapted to special needs, and the institution removed to that location in January, 1853. Since that date its growth has been continuous, comprising now seven dwelling-houses, with a fine gymnasium, stables, &c., surrounded by about two hundred and fifty acres of land. These cottages, sufficiently contiguous for supervision, have ample grounds for each classified group of pupils, and all financial receipts have been devoted to making attractive homes for these unfortunates. For some time the only private institution in the country, still the largest, pupils have been received from all parts of the United States, Canada and the Sandwich Islands, whilst applications have come from South America and Australia. To the upbuilding of this institution Dr. and Mrs. Brown, assisted since 1884 by their son, Dr. George A. Brown, have given their undivided efforts, personal supervision and mental ability, making the standard of family organization, as to care, mental improvement and æsthetic surroundings, high enough to receive from a European specialist of wide experience the title of an "Ideal Institution."

"Here boys and girls have come with all their senses perfect, but connected with nothing within, telegraphing no communication to or fro, reaching inward only to dumb inanition. Was there a mind hid away there? Were there elements out of which a mind could be formed? Was it possible to find a way into that empty space, to pick up the buried germs of mental faculty, if such there were, attach them to the delicate wire of some sense and thus open a communication between the world within and the world without? This was the problem which the institu-

tion here, with kindred ones in other lands, has, with a sublime faith, attempted to solve; and the result has been such as to fill all observers with admiration. A work has been wrought in our village scarcely less wonderful than the creation of a human mind."[1]

At the opening of the present century the population of the town had increased from thirteen hundred and twenty-nine in 1776 and now numbered nineteen hundred and thirty-seven. Farming still continued the chief occupation, attention more particularly being given to raising such crops as wheat, potatoes, corn, flax and hemp. Whitney, in his "History of Worcester County," published in 1793, says, "here they have many and large dairies, and it is supposed that more butter and cheese is carried annually into market than from any other town of the same extent." A circulating medium was almost unknown, a majority of the inhabitants seeing no currency, or only at rare intervals, and rather as a curiosity than otherwise. Such articles of food as were not produced on the farm were obtained at the small country store in exchange for home products. Their clothing was made at home, the wool shorn from the sheep's back, carded by hand, spun into yarn and woven on the old lumbering loom, or the flax was pulled in the field, hetchelled, and finally made into garments or bed-linen, most of this work being done by the women of the household, the men attending to the out-door and more laborious duties. Considerable flax and hemp were raised, and were considered so important crops that inspectors were annually chosen to decide as to its quality and value, as in such a time of exchange and barter it was deemed necessary that disinterested parties should affix a value. Although the people were struggling for a livelihood and were dependent one upon another, yet a spirit of sociality prevailed, notwithstanding the question of their existing required hard and long hours of labor. Mills for grinding their corn and wheat had been built in several places, but all of these were of the old colonial style. The constructive and inventive faculty which this town so fully exhibited at a later day was here, and early began to manifest its outgrowth.

The raising of flax, to be more profitable, required mills to return to the people the full benefit of the crop, and two were soon established for crushing or grinding the seed and obtaining the linseed oil; one of these was on Prince River, at what is now Heald Village, and the other was in the east part of the town. With this oil and pigments their houses were kept neatly painted; clothier's mills, as they were termed, were established and tanneries erected in various parts of the town; the manufacture of brick, which had been pursued previous to 1800, had been abandoned, the yards near where now live Nathaniel Holland and the heirs of Lysander Crawford having become "worked out," while the one near Charles S. Holland's present residence was closed. About 1828 this industry was resumed at the latter yard, and in the south part of the town, at the Plains, a new yard was opened. These yards were worked for about ten years, when the business again ceased.

Saw-mills had been established as early as 1753, but from their rough construction had continued but for a short time. In the latter years of the last century and early in the present one a number of these mills were erected on the various streams. Perhaps the most business enterprise existed in the south part of the town, this being favored and promoted by the abundant water-power in that section.

There was a saw-mill at what we now term the Powder Mills early in the century. At the Plains Seth Pratt conceived the idea of diverting the water from the Ware River by means of a canal and forming a pond, throwing a dam across the river from land on the south side, now owned by Mr. A. F. Adams. This canal was excavated in 1808; subsequently the dam was moved farther up the river and the canal extended.

In 1810 Phineas Heywood, who, with his father, had come here from Shrewsbury, and who was a son-in-law of Pratt, having previously obtained considerable land in that vicinity, sold land and water-rights for manufacturing purposes. In addition to the grist-mill and saw-mill, which had been for a year or more in operation here, two tanneries were built by Parker & Pratt, and in the same year Phineas Heywood commenced work in a clothier's mill; nearly all the grinding of grain and the fulling and finishing of the woolen cloth was now done at the Plains. This clothier's mill continued the business, with changes adapted to the times, until about 1870, the manufacture of yarn and coarse woolen cloth having been adopted a number of years previously. Heywood, who was of an ingenious and inventive turn of mind, succeeded in operating, in a crude way, a cotton-spinning machine about 1814 and a woolen-carding machine about 1816. In 1827 he erected a larger mill; this has been moved from its original site and is now used for other purposes.

David Wadsworth erected a scythe manufactory a short distance easterly from where the Messrs. Stetson now live, and its production was considerable. About 1830 a company, prominent in which were Henry Holbrook and Hiram and Paul Wadsworth, purchased of John Wadsworth a lot of land bordering on the Ware River and erected a brick building for the manufacture of woolen cloth, and a pleasant little village was built up. This company did not succeed in the woolen business, and were soon followed by Jonathan Wheeler, who was favored in his venture, but who was compelled to close the works by the financial panic which existed from 1837 to 1842; he sold the property to Wright & Farnum, whom a Mr. Fisher soon succeeded. He was followed by Edward Denny, who purchased the property

[1] Rev. Dr. Thompson in Centennial Discourse.

in 1844 and who continued engaged in the manufacture of various kinds of woolen goods, conducting the business with success until about 1867. In 1871 the property was leased to C. T. Deacon & Co., who soon failed in the business. The factory was destroyed by fire in the winter of 1857–58; another one of the same dimensions, eighty-two by forty-four feet, and four stories in height, was erected the following summer.

At Mr. Denny's death, in 1874, the property passed into other hands, meeting with varying fortunes. A company with the firm-name of the Ware River Woolen Company, purchased it in 1880, and after operating it for about two years, finding the business unprofitable, sold it to James E. Crossley. In 1883 the mill was again destroyed by fire and has not been rebuilt.

During, or a little previous to, 1825, Silas Bemis and Benjamin Clark each and separately conceived the idea of erecting a cotton-mill and each made strenuous efforts to complete the first dam. Mr. Clark, having obtained control of the water privilege by purchasing it and a considerable lot of land of the heirs of Matthew Caldwell, erected a brick factory, which at that time was the first of any importance in this section of the State; by the erection of this and the necessary tenement-houses he became financially embarrassed, but he soon organized a stock company, consisting of Messrs. Mixter, Woods, Bowman and others, by whom the work was carried on and the manufacture of cotton commenced; Mr. Clark, becoming involved in a lawsuit growing out of a claim for priority of rights to the water privilege, became insolvent and retired from the manfacturing business. The success of the company, under the name of the Boston and Barre Manufacturing Company, was not at first propitious; they entered into a contract with Mr. John Smith, who was a practical manufacturer, to take the mill and make the cotton cloth at a certain price per yard, in which he was successful, making the business remunerative for himself and the stockholders. While the business was thus prosperous the factory was destroyed by fire; the company, not desirous of rebuilding, sold out by auction, the land, buildings and water privilege being purchased by Mr. Smith for himself and four others; subsequently purchasing their shares, he erected a new mill, which he managed with signal success until his death, in 1859, when the business passed into the hands of his two sons, by whom it was profitably carried on under the firm-name of C. W. & J. E. Smith. On the death of Charles W. Smith a few years ago and the settlement of his estate, J. Edwin Smith became sole owner, by whom some needed repairs and alterations were made, and now the establishment is in successful operation. The village, now and for many years known as Smithville, is a model factory village and with its neatly-painted houses, broad street and abundant and beautiful shade trees presents an attractive appearance.

On the Ware River, about midway between Smithville and the woolen-factory village, buildings and mills for the manufacture of gunpowder were erected about 1826 by Silas Bemis, one of the early settlers, and his son-in-law, Charles Bemis, and others, and did a good business under various ownerships until 1865, when this industry left the town. Here is a good water privilege awaiting utilization.

In the centre of the town manufacturing interests have been varied. Thirty-five years ago the Barre Boot Company carried on a large business, employing many hands; they were followed by J. W. Rice & Son, who continued in this industry until about 1876, when they ceased, unable to compete with the large establishments of the Brookfields and other towns. From 1850 to 1865 the manufacture of "Shaker-hoods," or bonnets made of palm-leaf was extensively carried on, furnishing employment to many women and children in weaving the leaf into the strip of which the hoods were made, but by the demands of fashion, this business became of the past. The introduction of the palm-leaf business into Barre is somewhat singular. About 1829 some hats were imported into this country, made of a material that was unknown here. A Boston merchant, attracted by their apparent durability, imported a few bales of the raw material from Cuba. A woman in Dedham was engaged to take one of the hats to pieces, learn its construction and endeavor to imitate it. She succeeded, and taught the art of making these hats to a woman of Petersham, by whom women in this town were taught. Braiding these hats became an extensive business, and a source of some income to many families here and elsewhere. The hats thus made were rough; as they needed smoothing and shaping, they were at first pressed by hand with hot irons, and by those who made them. As the industry grew, men's help was obtained to do the pressing. Mr. John W. Weston engaged in the business in a dwelling that then stood northerly of the Lincoln burial-ground. Afterwards machinery was devised for the purpose, and a small shop was built on Prince River by Mr. Chester Gorham. The business was carried on at this place for about thirty-five years, Dexter Dennis succeeding to it and enlarging the plant, which also accommodated other kinds of manufactures.

A short distance down the stream is a water privilege which, as early as 1750, the proprietors considered the second most valuable one in the territory, and they proposed to have a saw-mill erected there; but as the mill already built could furnish all the boards that were then required for building purposes, this project was abandoned. In the latter part of the last, or early in the present century, a clothier's mill was built on this privilege, where the fulling and finishing of the homespun cloth was carried on for a number of years. Woods & Field purchased this building about 1840, and, remodeling it, commenced the business of pressing and finishing palm-leaf hats;

they continued in this but a few years, when they sold to Carlos Gambol, who had superintended the work for them. He soon sold the property to Spencer Field, who ran it for a few years, and about 1854 sold it to Jason Desper. None but palm-leaf hats were finished at this time, nor was it until about 1860 that other kinds of hats came to these works. Only ten hands were employed at this time, and from forty to eighty thousand dozens were finished each year, the number varying with the different years. Mr. Desper carried on this business, enlarging the works from time to time, until about 1874, when J. F. Snow and J. Andrew Rogers became associated with him.

At the death of Mr. Snow the following year, Jesse A. Rogers became a member of the firm, which was now known as Desper, Rogers & Co. The plant was still further increased from time to time to accommodate the additional work that came in upon them; the manufacture of hats was adopted, and has proved a profitable branch of the business. In 1888 Mr. Desper, who had begun to feel the weight of advancing years, sold his interest to W. H. Osgood, and a new firm was formed under the name of the Rogers-Osgood Co. For the last eight or ten years about forty women have been employed in running sewing-machines, making the hats from braid bought in the markets. At the commencement of this business in 1840 but little finishing was done; now that branch is much more elaborate, the hat going direct from the manufactory to the salesman, and thence to the consumer. Seventy men are employed, and the annual output is now upwards of two hundred thousand dozens of hats per annum.

Farther up the stream and about half a mile easterly of the Common is an extensive foundry and machine-shop owned and conducted by Mr. L. S. Heald. This business was established in 1830 by Stephen Heald. Previous to this time a grist-mill and another small building had been erected, in the former of which wood-turning was carried on, Charles Rice having improved the water privilege by constructing a more extensive dam and excavating another pond and canal that he might get out carriage wood-work by machinery. Stephen Heald, who came to town in 1826 entered his employ, poor in purse but full of energy; soon afterwards engaging in the iron business, he built up a considerable establishment, where he was successful. In 1850 all of his shop buildings were destroyed by fire and his capital swept away. By the encouragement of individuals he was induced to rebuild, which he did on an enlarged scale, and with better accommodations found his business increasing. In 1865 two of his sons became co-partners with him. The manufacture of agricultural implements was one of their specialties in which they did a large amount of work. Wood-working and other machinery of various kinds have been an extensive part of their manufactures, which have found a market in remote as well as near sections of the country. About these works a pretty little village sprang up, which for many years has been known as Heald Village. At Mr. Heald's death, in 1887, at the age of nearly eighty-eight years, the larger part of the property passed into the hands of his son, L. S. Heald, who carries on the works. Among the agricultural implements that have been made here was a hay-tedder, invented by Mr. E. W. Bullard, of this town, which was the first machine ever constructed for turning hay in the field. Amongst other machinery Mr. Heald is now making an improved tedder of his own invention.

Wagon manufacturing has been another branch of industry in this vicinity; the making of scythes by two different establishments at the same time formerly gave employment to a number of hands, but these trades have passed from among us.

About twenty-five years ago a horse hay-rake, the invention of S. R. Nye, of this town, was made here to a considerable extent, but, partly on account of the breaking away of the reservoir, this business was discontinued here. Fifteen years ago another horse-rake, the combined invention of C. M. Lufkin, and Charles G. Allen of Barre, was placed upon the market, since which time Mr. Allen has built up an extensive plant, and is successful in his invention and manufacture. Each year a large number of these rakes are made, finding a market in all the New England and some of the other States. Other industries on this stream are planing and saw-mills.

In the north part of the town, known as Rice Village, the wagon-making, carried on for many years by Charles Rice and others, was from its extensiveness an important factor here, but for the past few decades nothing has been done in this line. Near the centre of the town the manufacture of packing boxes and mattresses, and of preparing palm leaf for braiding into hats was very prominent; of these the mattress business alone remains with us.

From the location of Barre, it was, before the days of railroads, a prominent thoroughfare for the stage-routes from Boston to New York, Albany, Keene, Brattleboro' and other places; prominent among those old-time drivers, which was then considered a responsible berth, was the late Hon. Ginery Twichell. Coming here a young man, about 1830, full of energy, genial, affable and always thoroughly reliable, he made friends of all, and always had a deep interest in the town and its welfare. To him the town was indebted to some extent for better accommodations for travel. Deeply interested in the railroads projected around us, he left the staging business and entered the employ of the Boston and Worcester Railroad, where he was soon after chosen as its superintendent, and afterwards elected to its presidency. On the consolidation of that road with

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the Western, he retired for a while from active railroad life, but never lost his interest in it, and it was one of his hopes that Barre should be connected with the cities by steam communication. Having chosen Brookline as his residence, he was elected to the national House of Representatives from the Congressional district in which he resided, where he served a number of years, greatly to his own honor and that of his constituents. On his retirement from Congress his active spirit led him to assume the presidency of a short line of railroad, the Boston, Barre and Gardner, then struggling under many difficulties. Always a friend to Barre, in preceding years he had advocated the construction of a road to and through this town, and it was due somewhat to him that our people began to consider this matter so early as they did. As early as 1840 the subject began to be agitated here. In 1845 the town voted to raise a sum not exceeding three hundred dollars, for the survey of a route from Worcester through this town to the Miller's River. This route being found impracticable, the matter rested for a few years. About 1850 the agitation again began, this time in connection with towns southerly of us. A line was considered, under the name of the Ware River Railroad, to extend from Palmer to Winchendon, but, mainly through the opposition of the Western road, this road was not constructed for a number of years. A charter was obtained, and renewed from time to time as circumstances demanded. The first section, from Palmer to Gilbertville, was built in 1869, and in 1870 ground was broken in Barre for its extension to Winchendon. The work of grading and track-laying progressed but slowly, but the road was at last completed, and in October, 1873, it was opened for travel to Barre Plains. In 1854 the town voted to petition the Legislature for permission to loan its credit to the amount of five per cent. of its valuation for aiding in building a railroad from North Brookfield to Barre; the necessary surveys were made, but for want of sufficient encouragement the scheme was abandoned.

In 1847 a company was chartered under the name of the Barre and Worcester Railroad Company. This road was intended to run from some point on the Worcester and Nashua road to some convenient place in the centre of Barre. This project was kept alive by renewals of its charter, but when it was constructed, in 1870–71, it ran from Worcester to Gardner.

In 1869 the town became deeply aroused to the necessity of a railroad, and entered with much enthusiasm into the project of the Massachusetts Central Railroad, and, to further aid the enterprise, took stock of the company to the amount of ninety thousand dollars, or five per cent. of its valuation, while individuals took about fifty-five thousand dollars' worth additional. From lack of necessary funds this road, which was to extend from a point on the Boston and Lowell road near Boston, passing through Barre and forming a "through line" to the West, was not constructed for a number of years. Its financial troubles were great, but finally becoming reorganized under the name of the Central Massachusetts Railroad, it was completed, and in December, 1887, trains commenced running from Boston to Northampton, although passenger trains had run from Boston as far as Ware in July.

The culture of the town has always been noteworthy. In May of 1834 a weekly newspaper, with the name of the *Farmer's Gazette*, was established by C. C. P. Thompson. He continued as its proprietor until his death, a few years afterwards, when it passed into the hands of Albert Alden, the name being now changed to that of the *Barre Gazette*. Soon afterwards Walter A. Bryant assumed its ownership and management. In 1844, the political feeling running high, the *Barre Patriot*, upholding the tenets of the opposite party, was established by his brother, N. F. Bryant. Both of these papers flourished for several years, but about 1856 they were merged in one, under the name of the *Barre Gazette*, and since then it has prospered. It is now in its fifty-fifth volume, and under the ownership and control of Henry H. Cook, although there have been two or three changes of proprietorship since the consolidation of the two papers.

In October, 1858, N. F. Bryant issued a magazine with the title of the *Household Monthly*. This was discontinued at the end of a year and a half. Previous to this he had published the *Wachusett Star*. This continued but about a year. *Bryant's Messenger* was another paper, of short duration, that was issued.

In 1866 R. W. Waterman commenced the publication of the *Worcester West Chronicle*. After issuing it here for about one year the establishment was removed to Athol. Various amateur journals have been put forth, but these were ephemeral.

In 1888 the *Central County Courier* was introduced, under the management of S. H. Ingersoll. This paper is printed in one of the neighboring towns, but has a creditable foothold here.

Previous to 1857 we had a small library, but under no competent management. In that year Samuel Gates, a farmer of small means, left by his will five hundred dollars to the town for a free public library, on condition that an equal amount should be given by the town. This condition was complied with. Cases were obtained for the books and the unexpended balance of the town's appropriation added to Mr. Gates' bequest increased the fund to seven hundred dollars. This was placed in the town treasury, and the interest of it, at six per cent., is annually expended for books.

In 1866 a Central Pacific Railroad bond of the denomination of one thousand dollars was given to the library by a native of Barre, the income of which was to be used for books. For a number of years the library had its home in the post-office rooms, and in time outgrew its limits.

In 1885 the Barre Library Association was incor-

porated, one of its objects being to procure a building suitable for the library and for kindred purposes. In 1886 Mr. Henry Woods, a native of Barre, purchased land and erected thereon, at an expense of upwards of twenty thousand dollars, a brick building which, under the name of the "Woods Memorial Library Building," commemorative of his deceased parents and brothers, and as a token of his kindly and substantial interest for the welfare of the town, he presented to the association, this corporate body holding it in trust for the benefit of the whole community. He also established the "Edwin Woods Fund" of five thousand dollars, the annual income of which (two hundred and fifty dollars) is to be expended for books of permanent value.

The library, well arranged and cared for in its new home, now numbers upwards of thirty-five hundred volumes, and is pronounced a valuable collection. In connection with the library proper are a reading-room, rooms for the directors of the association, for assemblies and for a museum.

The agricultural interests of the town have always been active. Large amounts of butter and cheese have been made in previous years. There are two cheese-factories or establishments for the manufacture of cheese, their aggregate capacity being upwards of two thousand pounds per day. These are temporarily closed, the farmers considering it more to their pecuniary advantage to send their milk to the Boston market, it being transported thither by both of our railroad corporations.

An agricultural society, with the name of "Worcester West," was chartered and established in 1851. It holds its annual fair the last Thursday of September, and is one of the best, if not the best, in the State. It has extensive and well-arranged grounds, on which is a half-mile track for exhibiting and speeding horses, and a large building for display and for dining purposes. The society is free from debt and offers annually for premiums upwards of fifteen hundred dollars.

The town has a national bank, with a capital stock of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and a savings bank, each of which is in a prosperous condition. The telegraph and telephone furnish instantaneous communication with the great centres of business and commerce. Our postal accommodations are good, three through and two local mails arriving and departing daily.

There are two hotels at the centre of the town and another, to be more extensive, in process of construction, which is under contract to be open for business early in 1889. At Barre Plains is another hotel. The town is noted for its temperance and good order; no intoxicating liquors, except for medicine, are allowed to be sold.

In 1885 the population of the town was not so large as in 1880, on account of the temporary suspension of manufacturing in the southern portion. Since then the cotton industry has been resumed and the population has increased. At different periods the population has been as follows: In 1776, 1329; 1790, 1613; 1800, 1937; 1810, 1971; 1820, 2077; 1830, 2503; 1840, 2751; 1850, 2976; 1855, 2787; 1860, 2973; 1865, 2856; 1870, 2572; 1875, 2460; 1880, 2419; 1885, 2093.

On a sightly eminence, about two miles southerly of the centre, is the Almshouse, with which is connected a large farm for the support of the town's poor. This house was built in 1873, in place of one destroyed by fire the same year. Its size and style of architecture attracts much attention, and the stranger to the town would receive no intimation from its appearance as to the purposes for which it is used, but would rather consider it the residence of some prosperous farmer. The number of pauper inmates is very few, the general thrift and temperance sentiment of the people acting as a preventive of pauperism. The farm for the support of the poor was purchased in 1844, but has since been enlarged by obtaining an adjoining farm. Previous to 1844 the poor had been cared for in families, bids for their support being received by the town, and the lowest offer for their maintenance was accepted, the party taking them being expected to furnish their board and lodging, clothing, necessary medical attendance and nursing.

In addition to several literary societies or gatherings, the town contains a lodge of Free Masons, of the Grand Army of the Republic, of Good Templars and a Grange, P. of H.

From the elevated location of the town and its beautiful scenery and surroundings, its health is greatly enhanced. Probably no town in the Commonwealth has so large a percentage of old people as Barre; men and women from eighty to ninety years of age are not uncommon, and there live here to-day, hale, active and well-preserved, two persons in the ninety-sixth year of their age. In 1867 James Piper died at the age of nearly one hundred and five years; in 1872 the death of Mary A. Boney is recorded at the age of one hundred and three, and in 1888 Timothy Bacon died in the one hundred and second year of his age. If we turn to the record of deaths for the past one hundred years, we find the same remarkable longevity as now. The most notable instance of this is in the families of two brothers, who came here about 1750, Nehemiah and Jonathan Allen. Jonathan lived on the same farm and with the same wife for over sixty years; Jonathan sat out the first orchard in the town, having brought from Sudbury forty apple trees and a young wife on the back of his horse; he died at the age of ninety-two, his wife at eighty-seven; they had six children, whose average age at death was eighty years. This farm has never passed out of the Allen family, it now being in the possession of George E. Allen, the great-grandson of Jonathan; on this farm it is said that the fourth framed house in town was erected, but this is not now standing. Nehemiah Allen had ten

P. W. Harwood.

Truly Yours
Chas. A. Robinson

children, the oldest of whom died at the age of ninety-six, the youngest at seventy-eight; their average age at death was eighty-seven. In view of the remarkable longevity of our people, now and in former years, the compiler of this history can desire no better verification of the healthfulness of our surroundings than these advanced ages will testify to. But younger and more vigorous energies are not wanting, and as in the years past we have built up a thriving, healthy and attractive town, so in the time to come will we add to what has been done and enlarge and render still more beautiful that which has been bequeathed to us.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

LUKE ADAMS.

Luke Adams, who was one of Barre's most substantial farmers, was born in New Braintree, January 20, 1801; he was the son of Jonathan Adams, formerly of Northboro', and Dorothy, daughter of Dr. Edward Flint, of Shrewsbury. His parents came to the adjoining town of Barre in 1808, and located upon the farm in the southern portion, which is now the residence of his son, Austin F. Adams. Mr. Adams' father dying when he was but about twelve years of age, the farm passed into the management of strangers' hands, by whom it was carried on for several years. Mr. Adams lived with his mother and sister during this time, attending the common school, and obtaining such an education as the instruction of those days could furnish. At the age of eighteen that spirit which marked his after-life began to assert itself; purchasing stock and farming implements, he began farming for himself on the old farm, although owning but a half-interest in the place. At this time the buildings were out of repair and the land badly run down; with this discouraging outlook he began his life-work in earnest, and met with signal success. He soon erected new buildings, and so improved the farm that its capacity and value were much increased. He took a great interest in all practical farm machinery, and was among the first to make use of the tedder, spreader-cart, horse-rake, etc.; it was upon his farm that the inventor of the first successful tedder experimented with his invention, and by him the inventor was financially aided in obtaining his patent. Mr. Adams was conservative in his operations, firm and decided in his opinions, and of sound and practical judgment. He was a valued member of the Boards of Selectmen, Overseers of the Poor and Assessors, and a trustee for many years of the Barre Savings Bank; he filled many places of trust and responsibility, but never neglected his farm, which to-day ranks high. The utmost confidence was placed in his sound judgment and strict integrity. He died October 25, 1884, leaving a widow, a son and daughter.

PETER M. HARWOOD.

Peter Mirick Harwood was born in Barre June 10, 1853. His ancestry in direct Harwood line is Peter (1804), Peter (1763), Daniel (1736), David (1708), David (1668) and John (1630), who is supposed to have been a son of Henry, who came from England in fleet with Winthrop. His mother, whose maiden-name was Eunice Jones Mirick, was a descendant of Abram and Eunice (Jones) Garfield, who were also ancestors of the late President Garfield.

Mr. Harwood's early days were spent on the farm where he now lives. He attended the district school, the Barre High School and the Massachusetts Agricultural College at Amherst, from which he was graduated in 1875. While in college he had the honor of winning the first Farnsworth Rhetorical gold medal. At the death of his father (1876) he assumed the management of the homestead, and began business life as a farmer and breeder of fine stock. In 1877 he was elected a member of the Board of Selectmen, being the youngest man ever on the board. In 1879 he was made a member of the School Board; again elected in 1884, he has held that office ever since, being its chairman three years. He was lecturer of Barre Grange, P. of H., in 1877, '80, '81 and '82, and master in 1883, '84 and '85, during which period the organization reached the largest membership in its history; he was lecturer of the Massachusetts State Grange in 1886 and '87; he was secretary of the Massachusetts Agricultural College Alumni Association for several years, and its president in 1886–87, and presided at the great banquet on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the college. He was for several years a director, and in 1887 and '88 president of the Barre Central Cheese Company, and president of Worcester County West Agricultural Society in 1887 '88 and '89. He married Mary Ann Wallace December 13, 1884, from which union two children have been born,—Eunice Frances (July 18, 1886) and Mary Louisa (February 29, 1888). Mr. Harwood has been engaged for several years in the breeding of Holstein-Friesian cattle, and has developed one of the finest herds in the State. He enjoys a wide and honorable reputation, both as a public officer and as a business man.

CHARLES ROBINSON.

Charles Robinson is a native of the town of Barre, where he was born July 29, 1834. His early days were spent on the farm; at the age of seventeen years he obtained a position in a general country store in his native town as a clerk, attending school in the mean time. Leaving Barre in 1856, he started his business life in the dry-goods and grocery business in Wilmington, of this State, where he remained for about two years. Not finding the business congenial to his taste, he returned to Barre, and began the manufacture and sale of boots and shoes, in which he continued until 1862, when he enlisted in the Fifty-fourth

Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, from which he was soon transferred to the Forty-second Regiment. From this regiment he was detailed into the Engineer Corps, where he did efficient service as pontonier at Donaldsonville, Port Hudson and other places. At the expiration of his term of service he returned to Barre and re-engaged in the boot and shoe business. In 1871 he resumed farming, making market-gardening his specialty, and followed this for about ten years. In 1875 his attention was drawn to the superiority of the Holstein Friesian breed of cattle, and, after thoroughly investigating their merits, in 1880 engaged in breeding and raising this fine class of stock, since which time he has devoted his whole attention to it. His sales of these cattle, which are numerous, have been mostly in the New England States, although some of his stock has been sold to go as far south as North Carolina. His farm consists of about seventy acres, and is in a high state of cultivation and, with the aid of a silo, of which he is an enthusiastic advocate, will keep through the year fifty head of cattle. His crops are mostly corn and hay, which, with purchases of hay and grain, is fed out to a herd of one hundred and four Holstein Friesians, all of which are registered stock. A son of Mr. Robinson is associated with him in the business of breeding and managing this fine collection; besides these, four men are employed on the farm throughout the year.

CHAPTER LIII.

WEBSTER.

BY WILLIAM T. DAVIS.

In the town of Belper, Derbyshire, England, on the 9th of June, 1768, Samuel Slater, the founder of the town of Webster, was born. On the 28th of June, 1782, at the age of fourteen, he was apprenticed for seven years to Jedediah Strutt, a partner of Arkwright, to learn the business of manufacturing cotton. At about the time of the close of his apprenticeship he saw an advertisement of a premium for the introduction of Arkwright machinery into the United States, and being familiar with the methods used by his employer, he determined to seek his fortunes in the New World. On the 1st of September, 1789, he left Derbyshire for London, and on the 13th of the same month sailed for New York, where he arrived after a sixty-six days' passage. He at first engaged his services to the New York Manufacturing Company, but, after a few weeks, hearing of Moses Brown, of Providence, he wrote to that gentleman on the 2d of December, offering his services in the line of his trade. On the 10th of December Mr. Brown replied, inviting him to Providence, to which place he removed in January, 1790. On the 5th of April in that year he signed a contract to construct machinery after the plan of that with which he had become familiar during his apprenticeship. He soon became engaged in Pawtucket, R. I., in the successful manufacture of cotton-yarn, which was sold to be woven on hand-looms into cloth by domestic labor.

While engaged in this business, Mr. James Tiffany, of the town of Wales, in Massachusetts, then known as South Brimfield, became acquainted with Mr. Slater in his trading expeditions to Pawtucket, and at his request Mr. Slater took his two sons, Lyman and Bela Tiffany, into his employ. Through Mr. Tiffany, Mr. Slater was informed of the existence of water-power in what is now Webster, and in 1811 Bela Tiffany was sent to examine it. In a letter, dated May 27, 1811, Bela Tiffany wrote to Mr. Slater that he had found on the examined premises a two-story house unfinished, a grist-mill with two stones, a good saw-mill, a trip-hammer shop, thirteen or fourteen acres of land, one-half of which was swamp, and water-fall sufficient for all practicable purposes. He added that the region was a most benighted one, four miles from Oxford, three miles from Dudley and six and one-half miles from Thompson, in Connecticut. The price asked was $4000, and he wrote that he had secured a refusal of the property until the 20th of June. The result of the examination was the purchase of the property in the name of Bela Tiffany, and this purchase was followed by others, including a farm of two hundred and twenty acres, with a house and barn, nine and one-half acres bought of Elijah Pratt, and before the close of the year 1812 about two hundred and sixty acres more from various persons. In December, 1812, Mr. Tiffany transferred to Mr. Slater five-sixths of the property, retaining one-sixth as his own interest in the enterprise.

Mills were at once erected, and in 1813 Slater & Tiffany began in what is now Webster the manufacture of cotton yarn. At the same time a dye and bleaching-house was erected and placed under the charge of John Tyson, who took an interest in the business. Mr. Tyson died August 2, 1821, and his interest passed into the hands of Mr. Slater. Other purchases of land were made by Slater & Tiffany in 1814 and 1815, but on the 27th of November, 1816, during the depression in manufactures which followed the War of 1812, Mr. Tiffany sold his interest to Mr. Slater for $8400. During the war the company began the manufacture of broadcloth under the superintendence of Edward Howard, a Yorkshireman, who had at home been engaged in the business.

Up to 1821 the business of Mr. Slater was conducted on a stream which runs from Chaubunnagunganug Pond, but in that year, through Mr. Howard, a location was made on French River, where property was bought at a cost of twelve thousand dollars. In 1822 Mr. Howard transferred one-half interest to Mr. Slater for six thousand dollars, and in that year, while the woolen-mill was there building,

the old woolen-mill was burned. Additional purchases of land on French River were made by Slater & Howard between 1822 and 1824, including about four hundred and twenty-five acres, and still other purchases were made at later dates.

On the 2d of January, 1829, Mr. Howard sold his interest to Samuel Slater and his sons, George B. Slater and Horatio Nelson Slater, who thus, as Samuel Slater & Sons, became the owners of all the property which had been puchased since 1811, including all the water-power supplied by French River within the limits of what is now Webster and by Chaubunnagunganug Pond. During the year immediately following the purchase of the entire property the firm of Samuel Slater & Sons became involved in embarrassments, from which they were, however, happily and entirely extricated. Mr. Slater died in Webster April 20, 1835. He married, October 2, 1791, Hannah, daughter of Oziel Wilkinson, who died in 1812, and about 1817 he married Esther, daughter of Robert Parkinson, of Philadelphia. His children, all by his first wife, were: William, born August 31, 1796, died January 31, 1801; Elizabeth, born November 15, 1798, died November 4, 1801; Mary, born September 28, 1801, died August 19, 1803; Samuel, born September 18, 1802, died July 14, 1821; George Bassett, born February 12, 1804, died November 15, 1843; John, born May 23, 1805, died January 23, 1838; Horatio N., born March 5, 1808, died August, 1888; William, born October 15, 1809, died September, 1825; Thomas Graham, born September 19, 1812, died 1844.

After the death of Mr. Samuel Slater, in 1835, the business was carried on by George B. Slater and Horatio N. Slater until the death of the former, in 1843, after which date Mr. Horatio N. Slater conducted the business until his death, in August, 1888, and was succeeded by his son, Horatio N. Slater, who is the present manager. The three establishments belonging to the concern are the H. N. Slater Manufacturing Company at the North Village, incorporated in 1836, manufacturing cotton dress-goods, checks, lawns, silesias, jaconets, etc.; the H. N. Slater Manufacturing Company at the East Village, employed in the finishing of cambrics, silesias, cotton dress-goods, lawns, etc., and the Slater Woolen Company at the East Village, incorporated in 1866, manufacturing broadcloths, flannels, tricots and doeskins. In the three about fifteen hundred hands are employed. The cotton and woolen factories are located on French River and the finishing factory on the outlet from the pond. The water with which the inhabitants of the town and the Fire Department are supplied is furnished from a reservoir belonging to one of these establishments, through pipes of the town water-works, first laid in 1867, for which an annual rental is paid by the town.

Not long after the recovery of Mr. Slater from his embarrassments the question of the formation of a new town began to be agitated. His property and interests lay for the most part within a territory made up of a part of Dudley, a part of Oxford and what was called Oxford South Gore, which was a tract of land included in no incorporated town. There were eleven hundred and sixty-eight inhabitants living on this territory, whose wishes in the premises were expressed in a petition to the General Court, which may be found at length in another part of this sketch. An act of incorporation was passed March 6, 1882, of which the following is the text:

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE TOWN OF WEBSTER.

Sec. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same, That the territory in the Southerly part of the County of Worcester comprised within the following limits that is to say beginning at the southwest corner of said territory where the line between Massachusetts and Connecticut intersects French River; thence running easterly by said line to the southwest corner of Douglas; thence northerly by the line which divides Douglas from Oxford South Gore until it intersects the line between Oxford and Douglas; thence due west two and three-fourths miles and thirty rods to a stone monument about eighty-eight rods west of French River; thence Southerly in the direction of a stone monument in the line of Oxford and Dudley near the house owned by Daniel Greenwood and Samuel Slater to the middle of said river; thence southerly by said river to the first mentioned corner together with all the inhabitants dwelling thereon be and they hereby are incorporated into a town by the name of Webster and vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities and subject to all the duties and requirements of other incorporate towns agreeably to the constitution and laws of this Commonwealth.

Sec. 2. Be it further enacted, That the inhabitants of said town of Webster shall be holden to pay all arrears of taxes which have been legally assessed upon them by the towns of Oxford and Dudley before the passing of this act; and all taxes assessed and not heretofore collected shall be collected and paid to the treasurer of the towns of Dudley and Oxford respectively in the same manner as if the act had not been passed.

Sec. 3. Be it further enacted, That the said town of Webster shall hereafter be liable to pay two-seventh parts of the expenses necessarily to be incurred in the support of all paupers who at the time of the passing of this act were actually in need of relief and were receiving support from the town of Dudley and one-fourth part of the expenses so to be incurred by the town of Oxford in the support of paupers at present receiving relief from the said town of Oxford. And that in all cases of paupers who shall hereafter stand in need of relief as paupers whose settlements have been derived or obtained in either of the towns of Oxford or Dudley previous to the passing of this act the said paupers shall be supported by the town within the territorial limits of which such settlement was gained, the said town of Webster being required to support all such as have acquired or shall hereafter acquire a settlement within the territory herein described.

Sec. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said town of Webster shall be holden to pay and discharge two-seventh parts of all expenses which may accrue to the said town of Dudley in the construction of a county road leading from a point near the dwelling-house of Ralph Vinton to the line of Oxford, which the county commissioners for the county of Worcester have heretofore located and ordered to be wrought; and shall also pay and discharge two-seventh parts of all debts and obligations due and incurred by the town of Dudley before the passing of this act by virtue of any contract already executed and shall be holden in the same proportional amount for all legal liabilities heretofore incurred by the said town of Dudley not otherwise provided for in this act, Provided, nevertheless that all monies now in the treasury of the said town of Dudley or which may hereafter be paid into the same as the proceeds of taxes already assessed or of obligations now due or owing to the said town of Dudley shall first be applied to the payment of the debts and expenses and the discharge of the liabilities due from or incurred by the town of Dudley as aforesaid.

Sec. 5. Be it further enacted, That the bridge over French River near Preston's cotton-mill and the bridge on the same stream near Slater's cotton thread-mill shall forever hereafter be maintained and kept in repair by said town of Webster and that the bridge on said river near the line of the State of Connecticut shall be maintained and kept in repair by said town of Dudley; and that the said bridges in regard to all legal

liabilities shall be respectively deemed and taken to be within the limits of the town which by this act is required to maintain and repair the same.

Sec. 6. Be it further enacted, That of all state and county taxes which shall be required of said towns previous to a new valuation the said town of Webster shall pay thereof in the proportion in which the said town of Webster is liable as aforesaid to the payment of expenses to be incurred as aforesaid in the support of paupers now chargeable to the towns of Oxford and Dudley.

Sec. 7. Be it further enacted, That any justice of the peace for the County of Worcester, upon application therefor is hereby authorized to issue his warrant directed to any freeholder in the said town of Webster requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants thereof to meet at such time and place as may be appointed in said warrant for the choice of all such town officers as towns are by law required to choose at the annual town meetings.

On the 27th of February, 1841, an act was passed by the General Court providing that "from and after the passage of this act the boundary line between Webster and Douglas is hereby confirmed and established as follows, viz.: beginning at Nipmuc corner on Oxford line; thence running south seven and a quarter degrees, east one thousand five hundred and seventy-eight rods to the Bald Hill monument on Connecticut line erected by the commissioners of Massachusetts and Connecticut in the year one thousand seven hundred and twelve."

The following is the text of the petition on which the act of incorporation was based:

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The undersigned inhabitants of Dudley Oxford and Oxford South Gore so-called in the County of Worcester represent that they are residents within a territory containing about ten thousand acres of land bounded as follows beginning at the south west corner where the line between Massachusetts and Connecticut intersects French River thence Easterly by said line which divides the States to the south west corner of Douglas thence Northerly by the line which divides Douglas from Oxford South Gore till it intersects the line between Oxford and Douglas thence due west to French River and thence down said river to the piece of beginning that said Gore which is not within the limits of any municipal corporation contains about four thousand five hundred acres; that about three thousand five hundred acres are within the limits of Dudley and about two thousand acres within the limits of Oxford, that the whole population is supposed to be from fifteen to sixteen hundred from seven to eight hundred of which is in Dudley from five to six hundred in Oxford & from one hundred to one hundred and fifty in said Gore that said territory was rough and very thinly inhabited until the water-power afforded by said river and a large natural pond invited the enterprise of manufacturers and mechanics from which time it began to flourish vigorously and is destined undoubtedly to increase in capital & business and to afford at no distant period a support to a much more numerous population—that there are within said territory two religious societies each of which has a meeting-house also a post-office five cotton-mills three woolen-mills a machine-shop, five forge-shops, hoe & scythe-shop, a dyeing and bleaching establishment and six stores in all which extensive and active business is carried on, that most of said population is distant from Dudley from three to four miles—from Oxford from four to five miles, that the great public highways leading to Boston to Hartford to Providence and other large towns do not pass through Dudley or Oxford so that said population has little natural connection or connection in business with the villages in the centre of those places, that it is burdensome and inconvenient to travel so great a distance to attend town-meetings and for other town purposes that it would greatly promote the prosperity happiness and convenience of said population to be admitted to separate municipal privileges, as nearly one-half of said territory has hitherto been denied all participation in such rights and the other half is so situated as to be subjected to unreasonable expense and loss of time in obtaining them—that a separation would not be injurious to Dudley or Oxford as each would be left with a large population and territory. Your petitioners therefore pray that they may be incorporated into a town with the limits aforesaid or such other limits as you shall see fit to assign them. And as in duty bound will ever pray.

This petition was signed by George B. Slater and one hundred and fourteen others of Dudley, William Kimball and thirty-six others of Oxford, and Paraclete Morris and twenty-one others of Oxford South Gore. It bears no date, but was presented to the General Court in 1831, and referred, June 3d of that year, to the Committee on Towns. On the 8th of June that committee reported through its chairman, David Wilder, that a copy of the petition "be served on the town clerks of the towns of Oxford and Dudley, and be published three weeks successively in the *Massachusetts Spy* and *National Ægis*, two newspapers published in Worcester, and that Messrs. John Wyles of Brimfield, Elijah Ingraham of Pawtucket, and William J. Otis of Boston be a committee to view the premises at the expense of the petitioners and report to the next General Court. This report was accepted. and the matter went over to the Legislature of 1832, and the petition was then re-enforced by another dated December 31, 1831, and signed by Joseph Bracket and five others, who claimed to be residents in Oxford, Dudley and Oxford South Gore.

Another petition, dated Dudley, December 14, 1831, was presented to the General Court of 1832, of which the following is the text:

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives to be assembled on the first Wednesday of January, A. D. 1832:

The subscribers, inhabitants of the town of Dudley, in the County of Worcester, beg leave to represent to your honorable body that whereas George B. Slater and a number of other persons, inhabitants of the town of Oxford and Dudley, and Oxford South Gore, did, at the last session of the General Court of said Commonwealth, held on the last Wednesday of May last, present a petition, praying that all of that part of Dudley lying Easterly of French or Stony River, and a part of Oxford described in said petition, together with said Oxford South Gore, might be incorporated into a Town, and whereas there was an order of notice issued on said petition, returnable to the next General Court, to be held on the first Wednesday of January, then next following; we therefore humbly pray that if your Honorable Body shall see fit and proper to grant the prayer of the aforesaid George B. Slater and others, that the following described tract of land, lying in Dudley aforesaid, and westerly of the aforesaid River (containing by estimate eight hundred acres, bounded as follows), viz.: Beginning on the west bank of said River being at the southeast corner of the farm formerly owned by Nathan Ward, but now by Zera Preston and Joseph Scholfield; thence on the south line of said farm, westerly about eighty rods, to the southwest corner of said farm; thence northerly on the west line of said farm to the northwest corner of the same; thence in a northerly direction to the outlet of Peter Pond (so-called); thence in a straight line to a monument on Oxford old line, where Dudley projects northerly into Charlton; from thence, on Oxford old line, easterly about two hundred rods, to a monument northerly of Olney Esten, in Oxford; thence southerly, on Oxford line, to the River aforesaid, and down said River to the first-mentioned corner, may be incorporated into the same Town, and be a part thereof as fully and effectually as if the same had been included in the aforesaid petition. Our reasons for earnestly requesting that our petition may be granted are that we are owners of land on both sides of the aforesaid River; that we live from two and one-half to three and one-half miles from the centre of the Town in Dudley, where public business is done; that we are but from half a mile to a mile from the centre of population of the contemplated new Town, and where it is contemplated that the town business will be done. That three or four years since, we, together with a number of inhabitants on the easterly side of

said River, composing a large and respectable School District, erected a large and commodious stone school-house on the westerly line of said River; that if the Town is divided by said River, our School District will be so small that we shall receive but very little advantage of schooling. That our business is almost wholly connected with the first-mentioned petitioners, having very little intercourse with the Town of Dudley, most of us, that we are almost wholly connected, and attend religious meetings at the houses of public worship, east of said River, we therefore humbly beg that your Honorable Body will take this, our petition, under your consideration, and act thereon as you, in your wisdom, shall see fit and proper.

Signed by

JEPHTHAH BACON,
JOHN BROWN,
NATHANIEL LYON,
CHESTER CLEMANS,
GEORGE B. SLATER,
JOSEPH SCHOLFIELD,
PALASKI BACON,
JEPHTHAH BACON, JUN.,
WILLIAM WAKEFIELD.

On the 17th of September, 1831, a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Oxford was held, and Ira Barton, Stephen Davis and Richard Stover were appointed a committee to confer with the committee appointed by the General Court, and a remonstrance against the petition of George B. Slater, presented by Mr. Barton, was adopted.

At the same date, a meeting of the inhabitants of Dudley was held, and a committee, consisting of George A. Tufts, Morris Larned, John Eddy, William Hancock and Joseph H. Perry, was chosen to oppose the petition for a new town. On the 14th of November, in the same year, another meeting was held in Dudley, and a remonstrance prepared by the committee chosen in September was adopted.

Another remonstrance was presented by Joseph Kingsbury, who represented himself to be a resident in the territory proposed to be incorporated, and asked that he, together with his estate, might remain in the town of Oxford.

The committee appointed by the General Court at the session of 1831 made a report dated September 30, 1831, which, on the 17th of January, 1832, was referred to the Committee on Towns of the General Court of that year. The committee stated that the territory within the towns of Oxford and Dudley and Oxford South Gore contained 39,943 acres, of which Oxford contained 18,250, Dudley 17,200, and the Gore 4,493. The territory included in the petition would take 1,350 acres from Oxford, 3,280 from Dudley, and the whole of the Gore, thus constituting a town of 9,123 acres, and leaving to Oxford 16,900 acres, and to Dudley 13,920 acres.

As regards population, they stated that Oxford contained 1900 inhabitants, Dudley 2155, and the Gore 134, making a total of 4189. The town petitioned for would take 312 inhabitants from Oxford, 722 from Dudley, and all the inhabitants of the Gore, making a total of 1168, leaving in Oxford 1588, and in Dudley 1433. They also stated that in 1731 a portion of the Gore had been annexed to Oxford, and in 1807 another portion, and that the school in the Gore was supported by voluntary contribution. The taxable property in Oxford in 1830 was $693,333, of which $90,200 belonged to the proposed town, and was owned—by Samuel Slater, $54,450; George and John Slater, $12,316. The valuation of real and personal estate in the Gore for the same year was $28,034. In the part of Dudley proposed to be included in the new town there were twenty-four freeholders, with real estate valued at $41,624.40; the Slaters owned real estate in it valued at $63,374, and the personal estate in that portion, including that owned by the Slaters, was valued at $53,886. The committee also stated that the inhabitants of the South Gore in 1831 petitioned for certain highway and school privileges analogous to those of incorporated towns, and that fourteen of the remonstrants were now petitioners for the new town. The committee stated in conclusion, "that, all things considered, the towns of Oxford and Dudley and Oxford South Gore are well calculated to constitute three convenient towns, and that the prayer of the petitioners ought, in the deliberate opinion of the committee, to be granted."

The Committee on Towns, in accordance with the recommendations of the foregoing report, reported the bill, the text of which has been already quoted, and the bill was duly passed, as before stated, March 6, 1832.

It is only necessary to refer in this sketch to that part of the town of Webster which was popularly known for many years as Oxford South Gore. The remaining portions of the town, prior to the incorporation of the town of Webster, will be appropriately treated in the histories of the towns of Oxford and Dudley. This Gore was simply a tract of land which had been included in grants to individuals, but in the formation of towns had never been included within their boundaries. In 1831, when surveyed under a resolve of the Legislature, it contained, as already stated, four thousand five hundred and ninety acres, was irregular in shape, and was bounded by lines running in seven different courses, and by the irregular margin of a part of Chaubunnagunganug Pond, which separated it from Douglas, Dudley and Oxford. It is largely covered by either woods or water, and possesses a soil which did not, in the creation of early towns, make it a desirable possession. On the 8th of December, 1731, a small portion of the Gore was annexed to the town of Oxford, in reference to which the following extract from the records of the General Court may not be without interest:

WEDNESDAY, December 8, 1731.

A petition of Isaac Larned, in behalf of the town of Oxford, showing that Josiah Kingsberry and Theodore Kingsberry live upon a farm adjacent to the said town of Oxford, and nearer to the meeting-house there than to any other meeting-house, and are very desirous to be annexed to the said town, Therefore praying that the said farm between the south end of Oxford village and Chaubunnagunganug pond so running westward till it comprehends all the said farm and the land of the said Isaac Larned lying east of the Road passing from Oxford to Woodstock, be annexed to the said town of Oxford, the said petition

being signed by the said Josiah and Theodore Kingsberry as approved by them.

In the House of Representatives read and ordered that the petitioners with their lands within mentioned, be and hereby are to all intents and purposes whatsoever annexed to the town of Oxford.

In Council read and concurred. Consented to J. BELCHER.

On the 6th of February, 1807, another portion of the South Gore was annexed to Oxford, as described in the following act:

An act to annex a part of a tract of land commonly called The Oxford South Gore, with the inhabitants and estates thereon to the town of Oxford.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, That Lemuel Cudworth, Craft Davis, Ezekiel Davis, David Fitts, Abijah Harris, Joseph Kingsberry, Ephraim Kingsberry, Samuel Kingsberry, Jeremiah Kingsberry, Jr., John Larned, John Larned the 3d, living on or being owners of a tract of land lying between the towns of Dudley, Douglas and Oxford, commonly called The Oxford South Gore, together with James Wallis, of Dudley, and all others, the inhabitants living on or owning lands in that part of said Gore hereby set off with their families and estates, although not particularly named in this act and without the line of the town of Oxford, as the same is described by the following bounds, be, and hereby are, annexed to and made a part of the said town of Oxford, viz.: Beginning at the line at the southeast corner between Dudley and Oxford, and running north thirty-four degrees west three hundred and twelve rods; thence east eight degrees north two hundred and ten rods; thence north eight degrees and twenty minutes west two hundred and thirty-two rods; thence east eighteen degrees north three hundred and eighty-eight rods; thence south two degrees and forty minutes west one hundred and thirteen rods; thence west two degrees and forty-five minutes north eighty-five rods; thence south twenty-one degrees and forty-five minutes west four hundred and thirty rods; thence south eight degrees and twenty minutes east eighty-nine rods to the corner first mentioned.

At the time of the incorporation of the town of Webster there were within its territorial limits a Baptist and a Methodist Episcopal Society. The Baptist Society had its origin at an early period in that part of Dudley which was included in the town of Webster, probably as early as 1744, though it was not formally organized as a religious body until October 26, 1814. It was then called the Baptist Church of Dudley, and consisted at the time of its organization of twenty-seven males and twenty-eight females. The organization was formed in the district schoolhouse by an ecclesiastical council consisting of Rev. P. Crosby, of Thompson, Conn.; Rev. William Bentley, of Worcester; Rev. James Boomer, of Charlton; Rev. Z. L. Leonard, of Sturbridge; Rev. James Grow, of Pomfret, Conn.; Rev. Luther Goddard and Messrs. Jeremy F. Tolman and John Walker. Rev. Mr. Bentley was chosen moderator, and Rev. Mr. Leonard scribe, and the sermon was preached by Rev. Mr. Grow. The members of the society as then organized were Smith Arnold, John Baker, Stephen Bartlett, Jr., Stephen Bracket, Thomas Brown, Esek Brown, Nathan Cody, Nathaniel Crosby, David Freeman, Michael Hill, Liberty Ide, William Leonard, John Larned, Eliakim Robinson, John Stockwell, John Stone, Gardner Stone, Jubal Wakefield, Aaron Wakefield, Joel Wakefield, Simeon Wakefield, Luther Whitman, William W. Webster, Nathan Wood, Luther Wood, Lucy Arnold, Lucina Bartlett, Catherine Bartlett, Fanny Bracket, Phebe Brown, Jerusha Bracket, Sally M. Crosby, Dolly Freeman, Taman Freeman, Araminda Freeman, Rosella Greenwood, Mary B. Hill, Abigail Humphrey, Lavina Ide, Abigail Larned, Sibyl Moore, Anna Robinson, Ruth Stone, Sarah Wakefield, Betsey Wakefield, Mehitable Wakefield, Mary Whitmore, Lucinda Wood, Charlotte Wood, Eunice Wood, Adamira Wood and Betsey Wright.

On the 8th of November, 1814, Mr. Stephen Bartlett and Mr. Nathaniel Crosby were chosen deacons, and on the 15th of June, 1815, Mr. Esek Brown, who had been a deacon of the Sutton Church, was invited to become pastor. The ordination was conducted in a tent, and Rev. Samuel Waters and Rev. Zenas L. Leonard were chosen moderator and scribe of the council. Rev. Mr. Leonard, then of Sturbridge, preached the sermon; Rev. James Grow, of Pomfret, made the ordaining prayer; Rev. Samuel Waters, of Sutton, the charge; Rev. William Bentley, of Worcester, gave the right hand of fellowship, and Rev. Isaac Dwinell, of Auburn, made the concluding prayer. In September, 1818, Mr. Brown removed to the Baptist Church in Lebanon, Conn., and until the spring of 1826 the society was without a pastor. At that time Rev. John B. Ballard was settled and served until the spring of 1828. Mr. Ballard was born in Dudley, October 25, 1795, and was a graduate of the Hamilton Theological Institute in 1820. Before his settlement in Webster he was settled in Masonville, where he was ordained November 13, 1823. After leaving Webster he was settled in Bloomfield, Conn., and for thirteen years he was the agent of the American Sabbath-School Union. He died in the city of New York, January 29, 1856, while in the service of the Tract Society. In the year of his settlement the first meeting-house was erected and dedicated on the 26th of December of that year, on which occasion Elder Jonathan Going, of Worcester, preached the sermon.

In 1828 Rev. Joshua Eveleth was ordained and served one year, when he was succeeded by Rev. Hubbard Loomis, who also served one year. Mr. Loomis had been for twenty-four years a settled Congregational minister in Wellington, Conn., and in 1832, after leaving Webster, he founded the Theological Seminary in Alton, Illinois. Rev. Thomas Barnett, a native of Belchertown, succeeded Mr. Loomis in 1830, and served two years and five months. During his pastorate Webster was incorporated, and the church became by name the Baptist Church in Webster. In December, 1832, Rev. Abiel Fisher was ordained and served one year and six months. Mr. Fisher was born in Putney, Vermont, June 19, 1787, and graduated at the Burlington University in 1812. He studied theology with Rev. Nathaniel Kendrick, of Middlebury, Vermont, and was licensed to preach June 18, 1813. In January, 1816, he was ordained pastor in Bellingham, where he served twelve years. In September, 1828, he went to West Boylston, where he preached three years, and then to Sturbridge.

After leaving Webster he was settled in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, and Swansea and Sutton, and died at West Boylston, March 26, 1862.

In April, 1834, Rev. James Grow was settled and remained one year. Mr. Grow died in Thompson, Conn., March 17, 1859, at the age of ninety years. Rev. Loomis G. Leonard, a graduate of the Newton Theological Institute, succeeded in September, 1836, and served six years and seven months. He was dismissed, at his own request, March 3, 1843, and removed to Thompson, Conn., and afterwards to New London, and to Zanesville, Marietta and Lebanon, Ohio. Rev. John F. Burbank was settled in April, 1843, and served three years and five months. He graduated at the Newton Theological Institute in 1840, and died in Worcester November 22, 1853, at the age of forty-two years. Rev. Lyman Jewett, also a graduate of the Newton Theological Institute, succeeded Mr. Burbank, in March, 1848, and Rev. Joseph Thayer, of South Sutton, followed, in April, 1849. Mr. Thayer afterwards was settled as a Free-Will Baptist minister in Mendon, and finally removed to Minnesota. Rev. Frederick Charlton, of Plainfield, was settled in April, 1850, and served three years. After leaving Webster he removed to Wilmington, Del., and finally was settled in Sacramento, Cal. In April, 1853, Rev. George W. Dorrence, who had been a chaplain in the navy, was settled, and preached two years, followed in March, 1856, by Rev. J. L. A. Fish, who served seven years and three months. Mr. Fish was a graduate of the Newton Theological Institute. He resigned in June, 1863, and removed to East Tisbury. In April, 1863, Rev. Charles W. Reding was settled, and preached six years, followed by Thomas T. Tilman, in August, 1869, who still remains. During the pastorate of Mr. Reding the present stone meeting-house was built at a cost of $31,067. During his pastorate also the fiftieth anniversary of the formation of the society occurred on the 30th of October, 1864, on which occasion he delivered a commemorative address.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in September, 1823. Samuel Henderson and John McCausland came from Ireland and settled within the territory afterwards included in the town of Webster. They established class meetings, and in the same year founded a society together with Samuel J. Booth, William Archer, Parsons Tourtellot, Olney Esten, Ebenezer Plummer, William Harbenson, William Hurd, Hezekiah Davis, Calvin Aldrich, Charles Wait, Henry Davis, John Dixon, William Andrews, Daniel Dwight, Oliver Adams, Jr., and Jeremiah Upham.

Rev. Elias Marble was settled as the first minister. His successors were as follows:

1825. Rev. John W. Hardy.
1826. Rev. John W. Chase.
1827. Rev. Heman Perry.
1828. Rev. George Southerland.
1829. Rev. Isaac Bonny.
1830. Rev. John Lovejoy.
1831. Rev. O. Robbins.
1832. Rev. Peter Sabin.
1833. Rev. Isaac Jennison.
1834. Rev. Ira M. Bidwell.
1835. Rev. Jonathan Cady.
1836–37. Rev. Isaac Stoddard.
1838–39. Rev. Joseph A. Merrill.
1840. Rev. Isaac Sanbourn.
1841–42. Rev. Abra'm D. Merrill.
1843–44. Rev. Leonard B. Griffin.
1845–46. Rev. Mark Staple.
1847–48. Rev. C. S. McRedding.
1849–50. Rev. Joseph W. Lewis.
1851–52. Rev. D. E. Chapin.
1853–54. Rev. Union Ward.
1855–56. Rev. Samuel Tupper.
1857–58. Rev. J. S. Haniford.
1859. Rev. Abraham S. Dobbs.
1860–61. Rev. Pliny Wood.
1862. Rev. Joseph C. Cormack.
1863–64. Rev. Cyrus L. Eastman.
1865. Rev. James W. Murray.
1866–67. Rev. Edward S. Best.
1868–70. Rev. A. O. Hamilton.
1871–72. Rev. Le Roy S. Brewster.
1873–74. Rev. Wm. J. Pomfret.
1875–76. Rev. Daniel Richards.
1877–79. Rev. S. B. Sweetser.
1880–83. Rev. Samuel Jackson.
1883–85. Rev. Charles F. Rice.
1885–88. Rev. W. E. Knox.
1888. Rev. T. B. Smith.

The first meeting-house of this society was erected in 1828 and dedicated June 29th of that year. Its cost was $1,467.40. A second and larger meeting-house was built in 1833 and dedicated January 14, 1834. Its cost was $4,626. A third meeting-house, larger and more commodious as the growing necessities of the society demanded, was built at a cost of $22,000, including land, organ and fixtures, in 1866, and dedicated September 12, 1867.

The above two societies—the Baptist and the Methodist Episcopal—were the only religious societies existing in Webster at the date of its incorporation, March 6, 1832. The first religious society organized after its incorporation was the First Congregational Church and Society, which was formed June 13, 1838, with a membership of forty-one persons, most of whom had previously been attendants on public worship in the Baptist Church. At the first meeting of this society Jonathan Day was chosen moderator, and James J. Robinson, clerk, and George B. Slater, Dexter W. Jones and Lyman Johnson, assessors and standing committee. Its first services were held in the old meeting-house of the Methodist Episcopal Society, where they continued to be held until the present meeting-house was built in 1842. The new house of worship soon proved too small for the needs of the society and was enlarged in 1849.

The first minister of the society was Rev. Sidney Holman, who was installed October 31, 1838, and served until May 4, 1840; Rev. Hubbard A. Reed served from May 6, 1841, to November 5, 1844; Rev. Lorenzo Cary from August 14, 1845, to June 29, 1852; Rev. S. C. Kendall from March 29, 1854, to March 30, 1857, and from November 8, 1860, to July 22, 1868; Rev. David M. Bean from December 10, 1868, to May 25, 1871; Rev. J. S. Batchelder from December 6, 1871, to September 7, 1874; Rev. H. M. Rogers from December 9, 1874, to September 28, 1876; Rev. B. F. Parsons from 1876 to 1881; Rev. John G. Leavitt from 1881 to his death, in October, 1886; Rev. W. W. Sleeper from 1887 to his resignation, in August, 1888. The society is at present, in October, 1888, without a pastor.

The Catholic Church and Society was organized in 1844, and placed under the charge of the pastor of St. John's Church at Worcester. The foundations of the St. Louis Church edifice were laid in 1853, while

the society was under the ministrations of Rev. Mr. Gibson, and cost eight thousand dollars. It was built of brick, but soon proving too small, was enlarged in 1865 at a cost of twenty thousand dollars, and soon after a parish-house was built at a cost of seven thousand five hundred dollars. Mr. Gibson was succeeded by Rev. Napoleon Magnault, and in 1858 Rev. James Quan became pastor and still remains. The large number of Catholic French belonging to the church, who could with difficulty speak and understand the English language, soon rendered the formation of a new society desirable, and in 1870 the French-speaking portion of the St. Louis Church organized the Parish of the Sacred Heart in the old Methodist Episcopal meeting-house, which they bought and enlarged, with Rev. J. Cosson as their pastor. Mr. Cosson left in 1871, and was succeeded by Rev. A. A. Landry, of North Adams, who remained until his death, in 1885. He was succeeded by Rev. H. H. Landry in 1885, who was followed in 1887 by Rev. Joseph A. Legris, the present pastor.

The Webster Universalist Society was organized April 22, 1861, and on the 1st of May, 1864, Rev. George J. Sanger was ordained as its pastor. On the 2d of June, 1866, the society was incorporated under the General Laws. In that year and the next, their meeting-house was built at a cost of about twenty thousand dollars, and dedicated August 21, 1867. Mr. Sanger was followed in 1869 by Rev. J. W. Keyes, and in 1874 Rev. J. W. Moore was settled and served until 1877. In September, 1878, Rev. J. F. Simmons became pastor, during whose pastorate Mrs. Julia Clemens Murdock, a devoted friend of the society, died on the 27th of April, 1879, and gave to it by her will a bequest of several thousand dollars in value. Rev. Edgar W. Preble is the present pastor, and succeeded Rev. Mr. Simmons in January, 1887.

There is also a Polish Catholic Society, whose church was dedicated on the 1st of April, 1888, of which Rev. Franz S. Chalupka is the pastor.

The Protestant Episcopal Church of Webster held its first service in the town-hall at East Webster, July 18, 1869, with Rev. William H. Brooks, D.D., rector of Grace Church, at Oxford, as the officiating clergyman. On the 3d of January, 1870, a parish was formed under the name of the Church of the Reconciliation. On the 23d of January, 1870, the church held services in Webster Hall, and on January 30th in Good Templars' Hall, where it continued to hold services until April 10th of that year, when it occupied the Congregational Chapel, which it continued to occupy until its church edifice was erected. On July 18, 1870, the corner-stone of its church was laid on land presented by Mr. William S. Slater, and on the 3d of January, 1871, it was dedicated by ceremonies conducted by Right Rev. Manton Eastburn. At the laying of the corner-stone, Dr. Brooks officiated, on which occasion Rev. Thomas L. Randolph, of St. John's Church, of Wilkinsville, made the prayer, Rev. William N. Ackley, rector of Trinity Church at Newtown, Conn., delivered the address, and Rev James W. Clark, of St. Philip's Church, at Putnam, Conn., made the concluding prayer.

Rev. Doctor Brooks, the rector of Grace Church at Oxford, held one service in Webster, after the formation of the society, until October 1, 1869, and after that date until April 1, 1870, he devoted his whole time to the interests of the society at its urgent request. On the 19th of March, 1870, he was called to the rectorship, and accepted the call at the termination of his temporary service on the 1st of April, serving as rector until his resignation, April 2, 1872. He was a graduate of the Theological Seminary of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Virginia, July 15, 1852, and was ordained deacon by Right Rev. William Meade, D.D., in Christ Church, Alexandria, Virginia, the next day. On the 13th of January, 1855, he was ordained priest by Right Rev. Alfred Lee, D.D., in St. Thomas' Church, Newark, Delaware. Before his pastorates in Oxford and Webster he was for a time rector of Christ Church, in Plymouth, and is now rector of St. Andrew's Church at Hanover, Mass.

Rev. Roger S. Howard succeeded Dr. Brooks, and resigned in January, 1879. He was followed in 1880 by Rev. Langdon C. Stewardson, who served until 1884, when Rev. A. U. Stanley officiated until 1887, who was succeeded by Rev. J. Eldred Brown, the present pastor.

The Reformed Methodist Church of Webster was organized in 1872, under the direction of Rev. Harvey Wakefield. In 1872 its meeting-house was built at a cost of two thousand five hundred dollars, and dedicated January 1, 1873. On the occasion of its dedication the dedicatory prayer was made by Rev. Mr. Wakefield, and the sermon was delivered by Rev. William H. Kirk. Mr. Wakefield still has charge of the pulpit of this society.

The Second Advent Society was established in 1883. Rev. J. E. Cross served as its pastor from 1884 to 1886. Rev. D. Matherson from 1886 to 1887, and its present pastor is Rev. George D. Smith.

The public schools within the territory of Webster were far from being in a satisfactory condition at the time of its incorporation. At a town-meeting held April 23, 1832, a committee consisting of the Board of Selectmen, with Dexter Rawson and Turner Cudworth added, was appointed to divide the town into school districts. At a meeting held on the 28th of May, the committee reported the formation of five districts, as follows:

No. 1. All that part of the town formerly a part of Oxford, and east of French River, including the Oxford South Gore, which lies north of the farm of John Rawson, and a line extending easterly to the Douglas line.

No. 2. All the remainder of the Gore bounded east by Douglas, south by District No. 1, west by what was Dudley east line, and south by the Connecticut line.

No. 3. That part of Dudley bounded east by what was the Gore west line, north by the road leading from Unionville to the four corners near the house of Rev. Thomas Bassett, west by the road leading southerly from said four corners to the Thompson road, and by said Thompson road, including the farm on the west side thereof and adjoining the same, and south by the Connecticut line.

No. 4. The territory bounded east by District No. 3, north by the road leading from the Thompson Road, west to the central turnpike and a line extending therefrom in the same direction to the French River, and west by said river and south by the Connecticut line.

No. 5. The remainder of the town bounded east and north by Districts 3 and 1, including the territory that was formerly a part of Oxford, situated on the west side of French River, west by said river and south by Districts 3 and 4.

The district system was abolished in 1867 by law, and since that time a steady improvement has marked the schools of the town. There are now fourteen schools besides an evening school. There are a High School with an average attendance of 47, a High Grammar School with an average attendance of 34, the No. 1 Centre School with an average attendance of 34, the Fenner Hill School with an average attendance of 29, the Prospect Street Intermediate with an average attendance of 27, the Prospect Street Primary School with an average attendance of 31, a Grammar School with an average attendance of 34, the Gore School with an average attendance of 10, the Kingsbury School with an average attendance of 7, the First Primary, No. 4, with an average attendance of 37, the Second Primary, No. 4, with an average attendance of 38, the Intermediate, No. 4, with an average attendance of 29, the Grammar Room, No. 4, with an average attendance of 33 and the North Village School with an average attendance of 29.

To support these schools appropriations were made at the annual meeting of 1888 of $2000 for the High School, $4200 for the common schools, $1000 for school incidentals, $300 for books and supplies and $400 for evening schools.

The appropriations for other purposes made at the same meeting, which may properly be mentioned in this place, were: For roads, $2200; sidewalks, $1500; repairing sidewalks, $600; Fire Department, $2000; water supply, $565; hook-and-ladder truck, $1000; Memorial Day, $100; street lights, $1500; salaries, $1500; interest, $500; insane poor, $4400; Poor Farm, $1200; railings for dangerous places, $150; snow, ice and gutters, $300; town incidentals, $2000; buildings at town farm, $2600, and repairs of Harris Street, $1000—making the total appropriation for the year $30,265, or a valuation of $2,290,844.

During the War of the Rebellion the inhabitants of Webster faithfully performed their duty in the enlistment of soldiers and in the appropriation of money. There was no military company within the limits of the town and consequently the patriotic rather than the mere military spirit of the young men inspired enlistments in the service. These enlistments began at the earliest period of the war and were kept up with vigor as long as demands were made on the town for recruits. At the close of the war it was found that Webster had furnished three hundred and sixty-seven men, a surplus of fifty-seven over its required quotas.

On the 29th of April, 1861, at a legal town-meeting, it was voted "to pay each volunteer, belonging to Webster, five dollars a month while in active service, and to his wife and mother, dependent upon him for support, one dollar and a half per week, and to each child fifty cents per week, and if the family should need more the amounts to be increased at the discretion of the Selectmen." It was also voted to pay volunteers one dollar per day while drilling, the aid to families beginning when the soldiers were sworn into service. At the same meeting the sum of four thousand dollars was appropriated for the establishment of a war fund.

On the 6th of July, 1861, the town voted "to furnish the Slater Guards, then drilling, with uniforms preparatory to its entering the service as Company I of the Fifteenth Massachusetts Regiment of Infantry." On its departure a dinner and the sum of one thousand dollars were given to the men, and swords and belts to the officers. The ladies of the town gave also to each man mittens and socks, and William T. Shumway presented the company with a flag.

On the 5th of November the town voted "that we hereby tender our thanks to the Slater Guards for their bravery at the battle of Ball's Bluff." On the 10th of July, 1862, it was voted "to pay a bounty of one hundred dollars to each soldier enlisting for three years on the quota of the town." On the 8th of December, 1863, the sum of six thousand dollars was appropriated for a war fund and a like sum for recruiting purposes. On the 14th of July, 1864, it was voted to increase the bounty to one hundred and twenty-five dollars. The money appropriated by the town during the war for war purposes, exclusive of State aid, was $28,674.61, and the amount paid for State aid was $18,920.63.

The following is a list of the soldiers furnished by the town with the terms of their enlistments and the organization to which they belonged. The terms of enlistment of those not marked were, in each case, three years, those marked (1) enlisted for nine months; those marked (2) for one hundred days; those marked (3) for one year; and those marked (4) for three months.

Name.	*Regiment.*	*Name.*	*Regiment.*
Henry L. Ammidon	15th	George C. Alden[1]	51st
Marcus M. Aldrich	15th	Samuel G. Alden[1]	51st
Wm H. Ammidon	15th	Joseph C. Allard[1]	51st
Peter Agnew		Marcus M. Allard[1]	51st
Luke Agnew	30th	Isaac L. Ammidon[1]	51st

Name.	Regiment.
Asahel Aldrich	25th
Harrison G. O. Aldrich	2d H. Art.
Taylor Anderson	4th Cav.
Samuel Armer	
William Armer	2d
Edwin Alden[2]	42d
Amos Bartlett (2d)	15th
Thomas Blasland	15th
Whitman W. Bosworth	15th
Henry Butler	15th
Cornelius W. Briggs	15th
Lucius H. Briggs	15th
Elisha T. Bigelow	15th
George Butler	15th
William Brandis	15th
Jacob Bender, Jr.	15th
James Barker	15th
Charles E. Buck	15th
Alexander Bryson	15th
Stephen W. Burrill	15th
Fred. H. C. Bengen	21st
Lewis J. Bengen	21st
Thomas A. Bryden	21st
George L. Brackett	21st
Culbert Burke	9th
Henry Blanchard	9th
H. G. O. Bacon	34th
James Buckley	34th
Dennis Breen	34th
Wm. H. Briggs[1]	51st
Horace S. Briggs[1]	51st
Elmer Bugbee[1]	51st
Solon D. Bushee[1]	51st
George W. Blackman[1]	51st
Frank S. Bixby	15th
Herbert O. Bixby	1st N. Y.
Henry L. Brown	25th
Wilson Bryden	
Gustavus Bates	
William Blute	
John W. Bixby	2d H. Art.
Benjamin Baxter	14th H. Art.
Joseph E. Bowman	5th Cav.
James E. Bacon[3]	
William Bocock	37th
Elmer Bowles	25th
Luther Briggs	1st U. S. Art.
Marvin G. Bates[3]	4th H. Art.
Paul Baker[3]	4th H. Art.
Judson A. Bates[3]	4th H. Art.
Lucian Bates[3]	4th H. Art.
James T. Bigelow[3]	4th H. Art.
Henry Brantes[3]	4th H. Art.
Owen A. Bigelow[2]	42d
Henry H. Clapp	15th
Wm. F. Converse	15th
Myla S. Converse	15th
Leeman B. Cummins	15th
Rufus E. Corbin	15th
Michael Cunningham	15th
James H. Chadwick	15th
Marcus M. Corbin	21st
Horace Clapp	21st
Patrick Coffee	34th
Edward Cahel	
Noel E. Converse[1]	51st
Samuel B. Childs[1]	51st
Amasa Copeland[1]	51st
Orin W. Cutter	25th
Frederick C. Childs	
Julius A. Cummings	25th
Michael Cutler	9th
Lewis J. Crosby	28th
Wm. K. N. Cody	
Vernon Chaffee	4th Cav.
George W. Cuzzens	21st
George M. Clark	15th N. Y. Cav.
Thomas Comaford	34th
John Cassidy	4th Cav.
Monroe H. Corbin	56th
Daniel Carey	4th Cav.
John Chaffeny	2d Inf.
Edward Daley	15th
Gustave H. Dabers	15th
Daniel L. Dow	15th
Asa Francis Day	15th
Francis N. Davis	15th
Lewis S. Dunbar	21st
Louis Duprey	21st
Peter Dowd	9th
Joseph Duprey	34th
Albert Duprey	34th
Rufus L. Day[1]	51st
Wm. H. Dixon[1]	51st
John Delaney	21st
Hezekiah W. Dorous	2d H. Art.
Lewis Daley	
Henry F. Davis[3]	4th H. Art.
Elias Ellis	4th H. Art.
Samuel Emerson	
Hiram P. Emerson	21st
Wm. A. Emerson[1]	51st
Thomas Egan	4th Cav.
Frank W. Emerson[3]	4th H. Art.
Charles G. Foster	15th
Daniel W. Freeman	15th
Albro Freeman	25th
Horace Floyd	
Lawrence Fagan	
Levi Flagg	4th Cav.
J. Augustus Fowler[3]	4th H. Art.
Edward Farrell	7th R. I.
Pliny M. George	15th
Jonathan I. Geary	15th
Henry Groh	15th
Francis Gallen	15th
James Gardner	15th
John Grady	15th
Charles T. Gage	15th
Joseph Gill	9th
Martin Grady	34th
John Gilroy	2d Inf.
George L. Googins[1]	51st Inf.
Eugene Googins	2d R. I.
John George	2d H. Art.
Frank Gould	
Thomas Griffin	2d Cav.
Henry S. Gilmore[3]	1st H. Art.
Harris Gleason[2]	42d
Joseph Holland	15th
Wm. T. Harding	15th
Carlos Holt	21st
Jeremiah Harrington	21st
Barlow Hoyle[1]	51st
George Hadfield	15th
Thomas Henry	15th
John Hollen	15th
Patrick Healey	15th
Andrew Hoyle	34th
Allen Howland	43d
Charles H. Humes	7th R. I.
Thomas Hay	
Thomas Hoolahan	
John H. Harrington	
John Houghton	2d H. Art.
Emory Humes	7th R. I.
George Heyman	4th Cav.
Henry Hanvin	2d Inf.
Thomas Higgins	2d Cav.
Louis Hendrick	56th
Christian Holly[3]	4th H. Art.
John E. Holland	1st H. Art.
Albert M. Harrington[2]	42d
John Irving	15th
Monroe W. Ide	2d R. I. Bat.
Samuel E. Joy[3]	
Vernon M. Jepsin[1]	51st
Peter Johnson	15th
Emory W. Joy	15th
Wm. H. Joy	15th
Jacob E. Judd	21st
Warren B. Johnson	21st
Silas S. Joy[1]	51st
Henry Kassack	15th
John Kelley	15th
Oliver King	15th
Frank S. Kelley	15th
Daniel Kenney	9th
Earnest Kaulke[1]	51st
George Frank Keith[1]	51st
Wm. Kelley	15th
Cornelius Kenney	13th
Victor King	57th
George W. Lewis	15th
Patrick C. Lanning	15th
Robert T. Laverty	15th
Frederick Levoice	21st
Anthony Little	30th
John Ledworth	
Wm. N. Leavens[1]	51st
George Leary	21st Conn.
Patrick Mahan	15th
Thomas P. Munyan	15th
John Maguire	15th
Wm. H. Mitchell	15th
Charles H. Mellen	15th
John Maly	15th
James Mahoney	15th
Samuel Marsh	34th
John McLaughlin	2d Inf.
Samuel P. Morris[1]	51st
John Maguiness	Navy
Wells C. Munyan[1]	42d
Wm. Muller	9th
John G. Murphy	Eng. Corps
Michael Mahon	34th
Wm. H. Mealey	11th U. S.
Albert E. Morri	13th
Roswell S. Miner[3]	4th H. Art.
Jerome Marsh	2d H. Art.
George A. Munyan	4th Cav.
Thomas Meehen	2d Inf.
George Masters	2d Inf.
Pliny S. May	1st R. I. Cav.
James McGovern	9th
Charles McLean	54th
James May	2d Inf.
John Nichols	
Wm. H. Nichols	21st
Lucius Vernon Negus	15th
Aaron S. Nichols[2]	42d
John O'Brien	9th
Thomas O'Connor	15th
Wm. H. Palmer	15th
Jackson Pool	15th
Edwin L. Parmenter	15th
Antoine Phillips	15th
Mitchell Prevost	9th
Joseph Plant	9th
Patrick Powers	9th
Michael Powers	15th
Solomon Pepper	
Patrick Pendergrast	15th
Edward Pendergrast	34th
Norman Perry[1]	51st
Lewis S. Prince[1]	51st
Martin L. Parmenter	25th
Lewis E. Patterson	5th Bat.
Alexander Patterson	54th
Lewis Perrin	34th
Alfred M. Pettis	
Wm. Page[2]	42d N. H.
Charles Quinn, Jr.	12th
Lewis O. Riley	15th
Gottfried Reidman	15th
Hiram J. Raymond	15th
Rufus F. Raymond	15th
Thomas Redfern	15th
John T. Raymond	15th
George O. Raymond	15th
John D. Reynolds	21st
John Ryan (2d)	9th
Patrick Ryan	9th
Malaky Ryan	24th
Robert Robertson	
Augustus Renway	9th
Augustus Renway (2d)	15th
John F. Rawson[1]	51st
Evander T. Rawson[1]	51st
John Regnal	
Wm. H. Ryan	4th Cav.
Stephen L. Robbins	2d H. Art.
Abijah Richardson	2d H. Art.
John Reed	2d Inf.
Michael Reed[3]	4th H. Art.
Nelson Ross	
Wm. Scott	15th
Albert H. Slater	15th
Egbert M. Stevens	
Joseph D. Scholfield	
James Stevens	15th
Joseph Sandback	15th
Frederick Soden	15th
John Scherler	15th
Emerson Samuel	15th
Abram Sargent	15th
Albert H. Snow	15th
Francis Santurn	15th
Frank K. Snow	15th
James Slattery	9th
Paul Subraup	
Ezra Spencer[4]	
Emery Sibley, (2d)[1]	51st
George Smith[1]	51st
Charles O. Storrs[1]	51st
Andrew R. Snow[1]	51st
Harrison Senter[1]	51st
Wm. E. Sharples[1]	51st
Samuel G. Slater[1]	51st
George A. Slater[1]	51st
Amos D. Shumway	7th R. I.
Frederick Stanten	
William L. Sholes	
Thomas W. Scott	2d H. Art.
Robert Steel	4th Cav.
Wm. R. Saunders	
J. W. Savage	25th
Warren B. Sargent[3]	4th H. Art.
Simon D. Sibley[3]	4th H. Art.
Otis P. Stone[3]	4th H. Art.
Riley Thayer	15th
Alfred Tourtellotte	15th
George A. Tanner	15th
Edwin H. Tanner	15th
Wm. J. Taylor[1]	51st
Lucian R. Thayer[1]	51s
Owen Taylor[4]	5th
Thomas Tobin	4th Cav.
Jeremiah Toohig	2d Inf.
George D. Thayer[3]	
Thomas Thompson	11th U. S.
Thomas Tomlinson[3]	4th H. Art.
Thomas J. Thompson[3]	3d H. Art.
John Vickers[3]	4th H. Art.

Name.	*Regiment.*
Moses J. Warren	15th
Joseph H. Wood	15th
Elias B. Wakefield	15th
Moses Wood [3]	15th
George Walker	15th
Henry A. Webster	15th
John Wetherington	21st
Oliver P. Wade	21st
Reuben K. Waters	21st
Lorin D. Waters	21st
Lewis Wakefield [1]	51st
Edward Warren [1]	51st
Francis Wakefield [1]	51st
Simeon D. Wheelock [1]	51st
Joseph E. Wetherington [1]	51st
Wm. H. Wood	22d
George Waters	2d Inf.
Ira Wakefield	1st R. I. Cav.
Christopher Wetherington	9th
Joseph White	2d H. Art.
Thomas Whalen	4th Cav.
James E. Wilson	2d Inf.
Wm. Wilson	3d Art.
Joseph S. Wetherington [2]	42d
Frank H. Young	15th
A. P. Young	15th
Aaron P. Young [3]	4th H. Art.

Of the above list the following were either killed, or died while in the service:

Asahel Aldrich, killed at Cold Harbor, Va., June 2, 1864.
Harrison G. O. Aldrich, died at Newbern, N. C., 1864.
Henry L. Ammidon, killed at Antietam, Md., September 16, 1862.
Elisha T. Bigelow, died at Harrison's Landing, Va., July 7, 1862.
Thomas Blasland, died December 25, 1863.
William Brandis, killed at Gettysburg, Pa., July 2, 1863.
Dennis Breen, killed at Lynchburg, Va., June 18, 1864.
Lucius H. Briggs, killed at Antietam, Md., September 16, 1862.
Charles E. Buck, died September 27, 1862.
George Butler, killed at Antietam, September 16, 1862.
Henry Butler, died November 14, 1862.
Wm. K. N. Cady, died a prisoner.
John Cassidy, died at Hilton Head, August 5, 1864.
Frederick C. Childs, killed at Laurel Hill, Va., August 10, 1864.
William I. Converse, died a prisoner in Richmond, Va., February 13, 1862.
Marcus M. Corbin, died at Newbern, N. C.
Louis Dupey, killed at Cold Harbor, June 2, 1864.
Samuel Emerson, died at Antietam, September 26, 1862.
Charles G. Foster, died at Antietam, September 17, 1862.
John George, died a prisoner, 1864.
John Grady, killed at Gettysburg, Pa., July 3, 1863.
John E. Holland, died November 29, 1864.
Joseph Holland, died at Alexandria, Va., November 28, 1862.
William Kelley, died at City Point, Va., June 25, 1864.
Frederick Levoice, killed at Chantilly, Va., September 1, 1862.
Thomas P. Mungan, died of wounds received at Antietam, Md., October 17, 1864.
John Nichols, died a prisoner.
William H. Palmer, killed in the Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864.
Edwin L. Parmenter, died of wounds received at Antietam, October 14, 1862.
Antoine Phillips, died at Andersonville.
Mitchell Prevost, killed at Malvern Hill, Va., July 1, 1862.
George O. Raymond, died of wounds received at Gettysburg, Pa., July 22, 1863.
Gottfried Reidman, died of wounds received at Antietam, Md., September 30, 1862.
John D. Reynolds, killed at Cold Harbor, Va., May 30, 1864.
Francis Sarturn, killed at Gettysburg, Pa., July 3, 1863.
Abraham Sargent, killed at Antietam, Md., September 16, 1862.
Joseph D. Scholfield, died at Fort Lyons, Va., February 16, 1863.
William Scott, drowned at Ball's Bluff, Va., October 21, 1861.
William L. Sholes, killed at Antietam, Md., September 17, 1862.
Albert H. Snow, died of wounds received at Gettysburg, Pa., July 10, 1863.
Frederick Soden, killed at Ball's Bluff, Va., Oct. 21, 1861.
Frederick Stanton, killed at Gettysburg, Penn., July 3, 1863.
Egbert M. Stevens, died Feb. 8, 1863.
James Stevens, killed at Ball's Bluff, Va., Oct. 21, 1861.
Alfred Tourtellote, died of wounds received at Antietam, Md., Oct. 25, 1862.
John Vickers, died Sept. 2, 1864.
Edward Warren, killed at Webster by the cars while in service.
Moses J. Warren, died of wounds received at Ball's Bluff, Va., Oct. 25, 1861.
Moses Wood, killed at South Mountain, Md., Sept. 12, 1862.

The first meeting of the town was held under a warrant issued by Charles Allen as justice of the peace, and directed to Jonathan Day, one of the freeholders of the town of Webster, requiring him to notify and warn the freeholders and other inhabitants of the town qualified to vote in the choice of town-officers to meet at the Baptist meeting-house on the 2d day of April, at two o'clock in the afternoon, to choose all necessary officers. The warrant was dated March 7, 1832. On account of the sickness of Judge Allen the meeting was called to order by Ira M. Barton, a justice of the peace, who read the act of incorporation and then put the question to the town, "Will you now proceed to the choice of a clerk?" which was responded to unanimously in the affirmative. Mr. Barton then read the law prescribing the qualification of voters, and the election followed, which resulted in the casting of one hundred and three votes, eighty-four of which were for Charles P. Baldwin, and nineteen for Charles Waite, and Mr. Baldwin was chosen.

The selectmen chosen at the meeting and at each annual meeting since may be found in the following list:

1832. George B. Slater.
John H. Day.
John Learned.
Benjamin Wakefield.
Nathan Cady.

1833. George B. Slater.
Samuel C. Butler.
Dexter Rawson.
Alanson Bates.
Charles Tucker.

1834. George B. Slater.
Samuel C. Butler.
Dexter Rawson.
Wm. Andrews.
John H. Day.

1835. George B. Slater.
Alanson Bates.
John Learned.
Wm. Andrews.
Parker Palmer.

1836. George B. Slater.
Samuel C. Butler.
Charles Yeomans.
Solomon Robinson.
Erastus Spaulding.

1837. J. P. Stockwell.
Charles Yeomans.
Alanson Bates.
Nathaniel Hunt.
Elisha Kingsbury.

1838. George B. Slater.
Nathan Cady.
Charles Yeomans.
Solomon Robinson.
Phinehas Houghton.

1839. Charles Yeomans.
Nathan Cady.
Nathaniel Hunt.
Benjamin Wakefield.
Nelson Bates.

1840. George B. Slater.
Solomon Robinson.
Lathrop Clark.
John Dixon.
Eden Davis.

1841. Jonathan Day.
Solomon Robinson.
Lathrop Clark.
John Dixon.
Eden Davis.

1842. Nathaniel Hunt.
Asahel Mansfield.
Edwin May.
Erastus Spaulding.
Wyman Perry.

1843. Dyer Freeman.
Asahel Mansfield.
Erastus Spaulding.

1844. Erastus Spaulding.
Asahel Mansfield.
Chandler Fay.

1845. J. W. Tenney.
John Dixon.
Amos Bartlett.

1846. Same.

1847. Edwin May.
Amos Bartlett.
Solomon Robinson.

1848. Hiram Allen.
Chandler Fay.
George Dixon.

1849. Same.

1850. Erastus Spaulding.
Edward Lippitt.
Chandler Fay.

1851. Chandler Fay.
Hiram Allen.
George Dixon.

1852. Hiram Allen.
George Dixon.
Emery Sibley.

1853. Erastus Spaulding.
Emery Sibley.
James D. Tourtellotte.

1854. Hiram Allen.
George H. Bacon.
Ezek. Mowrey.

1855. Emery Sibley.
Asahel Mansfield.
Erie Walker.

1856. Henry E. Bugbee.
Emery Sibley.
Solomon Robinson.
1857. Henry E. Bugbee.
Emery Sibley.
B. A. Corbin.
1858. Emery Sibley.
W. H. Davis.
E. W. Mixer.
1859. Emery Sibley.
Asahel Mansfield.
E. W. Mixer.
1860. Henry E. Bugbee.
C. E. Brown.
Asahel Mansfield.
1861. Henry E. Bugbee.
Lyman Sheldon.
Nathan Joslin.
1862. Hiram Allen.
Nathan Joslin.
Nathan Chamberlain.
1863. Nathan Joslin.
Emery Sibley.
B. A. Corbin.
1864. Emery Sibley.
B. A. Corbin.
F. D. Brown.
1865. F. D. Brown.
John F. Hinds.
Solomon Robinson.
1866. W. H. Davis.
Wilson Cutler.
Wm. W. Holmes.
1867. Wm. W. Holmes.
Wilson Cutler.
Henry R. Smith.
1868. Wm. W. Holmes.
James D. Tourtellotte.
James H. Howe.
1869. James H. Howe.
James D. Tourtellotte.
Hiram Allen.
1870. James H. Howe.
James D. Tourtellotte.
Andrew G. Waters.
1871. James H. Howe.
Leonard Barnes.
Thomas McQuaid.
1872. Edward S. Bradford,
James D. Tourtellotte.
James Johnson.
1873. Edward S. Bradford.
James D. Tourtellotte.
George Tracy.
1874. George Tracy.
Frederick T. Chase.
Richard Thompson.
1875. James H. Howe.
Frederick T. Chase.
Richard Thompson.
1876. James H. Howe.
W. T. Shumway.
Cyrus Spaulding.
1877. Same.
1878. James H. Howe.
W. T. Shumway.
Asher T. Moore.
1879. Amasa Davis.
F. T. Chase.
James H. Howe.
1880. James H. Howe.
F. T. Chase.
Elisha G. Burnett.
1881. Asher T. Moore.
Richard Thompson,
Cyrus Spaulding.
1882. Asher T. Moore.
John F. Hinds.
John Flint.
1883. Same.
1884. Same.
1885. Charles A. Hodges.
James H. Lynch.
Asher T. Moore.
1886. Asher T. Moore.
Charles A. Hodges.
Patrick Condren.
1887. Charles A. Hodges.
Patrick Condren.
Austin C. Burnett.
1888. Austin C. Burnett.
Lyman R. Eddy.
Patrick Condren.

The following list will show the persons who have been chosen moderators, clerks and treasurers at the annual town-meetings since the incorporation of the town:

Year.	*Moderator.*	*Clerk.*	*Treasurer.*
1832.	Ira M. Barton.	Charles P. Baldwin.	Charles Tucker.
1833.	George B. Slater.	Charles P. Baldwin.	Charles Tucker.
1834.	George B. Slater.	Wm. E. Starr.	Loring Leavens.
1835.	George B. Slater.	Charles Waite.	John W. Tenney.
1836.	George B. Slater.	Charles Waite.	Charles Yeomans.
1837.	George B. Slater.	John P. Stockwell.	Charles Yeomans.
1838.	George B. Slater.	Harvey Conant.	Charles Yeomans.
1839.	Jonathan Day.	Wm. H. Bigelow.	Alanson Bates.
1840.	George B. Slater.	John Dixon, Jr.	John W. Tenney.
1841.	Jonathan Day.	John Dixon, Jr.	John W. Tenney.
1842.	John W. Tenney.	John Dixon, Jr.	John W. Tenney.
1843.	Wm. Crossman.	John Dixon, Jr.	John W. Tenney.
1844.	Jonathan Day.	John Dixon, Jr.	John P. Stockwell.
1845.	Hiram Allen.	John Dixon, Jr.	John W. Tenney.
1846.	John W. Tenney.	John Dixon, Jr.	John W. Tenney.
1847.	Hiram Allen.	Edward Rogers.	John W. Tenney.
1848.	Hiram Allen.	Edward Rogers.	John W. Tenney.
1849.	Hiram Allen.	Edward Rogers.	John W. Tenney.
1850.	Edward Lippitt.	Liberty Lamb, Jr.	Joseph Ireson.
1851.	Herbert A. Read.	F. H. Underwood.	Joseph Ireson.
1852.	Edward Lippitt.	Edward Rogers.	Joseph Ireson.
1853.	George Hews.	John Q. Adams.	Joseph Ireson.
1854.	George Hews.	John Q. Adams.	Joseph Ireson.
1855.	Joel Goddard.	John Q. Adams.	Liberty Lamb, Jr.
1856.	Henry E. Bugbee.	Newton Tourtellotte.	Liberty Lamb, Jr.
1857.	Henry E. Bugbee.	P. W. Bruce.	Liberty Lamb, Jr.
1858.	Newton Tourtellotte.	P. W. Bruce.	Liberty Lamb, Jr.
1859.	Hiram Allen.	P. W. Bruce.	Wm. T. Shumway.
1860.	Hiram Allen.	P. W. Bruce.	Wm. T. Shumway.
1861.	Amos Bartlett.	S. A. Tingier.	Wm. T. Shumway.
1862.	Hiram Allen.	S. A. Tingier.	Wm. T. Shumway.
1863.	Horace I. Joslin.	S. A. Tingier.	Wm. T. Shumway.
1864.	Horace I. Joslin.	S. A. Tingier.	Wm. T. Shumway.
1865.	Horace I. Joslin.	S. A. Tingier.	Wm. T. Shumway.
1866.	Hiram Allen.	S. A. Tingier.	Wm. T. Shumway.
1867.	Horace I. Joslin.	S. A. Tingier.	Wm. T. Shumway.
1868.	Hiram Allen.	S. A. Tingier.	Oscar Shumway.
1869.	Hiram Allen.	S. A. Tingier.	Oscar Shumway.
1870.	Horace I. Joslin.	S. A. Tingier.	Oscar Shumway.
1871.	Henry E. Bugbee.	S. A. Tingier.	Oscar Shumway.
1872.	Horace I. Joslin.	S. A. Tingier.	Oscar Shumway.
1873.	Horace I. Joslin.	S. A. Tingier.	Oscar Shumway.
1874.	Amos Bartlett.	Cortland Wood.	Oscar Shumway.
1875.	Horace I. Joslin.	Cortland Wood.	Oscar Shumway.
1876.	Horace I. Joslin.	Cortland Wood.	Oscar Shumway.
1877.	Horace I. Joslin.	Cortland Wood.	Oscar Shumway.
1878.	Horace I. Joslin.	Cortland Wood.	Oscar Shumway.
1879.	Horace I. Joslin.	Cortland Wood.	Oscar Shumway.
1880.	Horace I. Joslin.	Cortland Wood.	Oscar Shumway.
1881.	Horace I. Joslin.	Cortland Wood.	Oscar Shumway.
1882.	Horace I. Joslin.	Charles H. Burr.	Oscar Shumway.
1883.	Horace I. Joslin.	Louis E. Denfield.	Oscar Shumway.
1884.	F. D. Brown.	Edward P. Carter.	Oscar Shumway.
1885.	F. D. Brown.	Edward P. Carter.	Oscar Shumway.
1886.	John J. Love.	Edward P. Carter.	Oscar Shumway.
1887.	John J. Love.	Edward P. Carter.	Oscar Shumway.
1888.	Maurice P. Chase.	Edward P. Carter.	Oscar Shumway.

The following persons have served as Representatives from Webster in the General Court in the years set against their names, down to the representation of districts, in 1858:

John Slater.....1833
Charles Tucker.....1834
Charles Tucker.....1835
John W. Tenney.....1836
Horace Whitaker.....1837
None.....1838
Solomon Robinson.....1839
Lathrop Clark.....1840
Joseph Ireson.....1841
Eden Davis.....1842
Joseph Ireson.....1843
Solomon Robinson.....1844
Solomon Robinson.....1845
John Dixon, Jr.....1846
John W. Tenney.....1847
None.....1848
John Dixon.....1849
None.....1850
Nathan Cody.....1851
Chandler Fay.....1852
None.....1853
Elias Jacobs.....1854
George H. Bacon.....1855
Parmenus Keith.....1856
Henry E. Bugbee.....1857

By an amendment of the Constitution, adopted by the Legislatures of 1856 and '57, and ratified by the people May 1, 1857, it was provided that a census of the legal voters in the Commonwealth, on the 1st of May, 1857, should be taken, and returned to the Secretary of the Commonwealth on or before the last day of June, on the basis of which census the Legislature should create representative districts. Under the new arrangement Webster and Douglas formed the Twenty-second Worcester District, which was represented as follows:

1858.—Lyman Sheldon, of Webster.
1859.—Asher Joslin, of Webster.
1860.—John Abbott, of Douglas.
1861.—Emory Sibley, of Webster.
1862.—Albert Butler, of Douglas.
1863.—F. D. Brown, of Webster.

1864.—Charles Hutchins, of Douglas.
1865.—Prince Brackett, of Webster.
1866.—Gardner Chase, of Douglas.

Under the census of 1865 a new apportionment was made, and the Sixteenth Worcester District, including Douglas, Webster, Dudley, Oxford, Sutton and Millbury, was entitled to three Representatives, as follows:

1867.—Benjamin A. Corbin, of Webster; Solomon D. King, of Sutton; Henry E. Rockwell, of Millbury.
1868.—Lament B. Corbin, of Oxford; Silas Dunton, of Millbury; Wm. D. Jones, of Douglas.
1869.—George J. Sanger, of Webster; James M. Cuniff, of Sutton; Marcus M. Luther, of Douglas.
1870.—Charles H. Page, of Webster; John Rhodes, of Millbury; Moses W. McIntire, of Oxford.
1871.—Wm. L. Davis, of Dudley; Edwin H. Hutchinson, of Sutton; Thomas H. Meek, of Douglas.
1872.—Horace I. Joslin, of Webster; E. Harris Howland, of Oxford; Irving B. Sayles, of Millbury.
1873.—C. D. Morse, of Millbury; Andrew J. Waters, of Webster; Samuel W. Heath, of Douglas.
1874.—James B. Williams, of Douglas; George Hodges, of Oxford; Wm. Abbott, of Sutton.
1875.—M. M. Hovey, of Sutton; C. W. Duggan, of Millbury; E. F. Smith, of Dudley.
1876.—Frederick T. Chase, of Webster; Francis Bugbee, of Webster; George F. Daniels, of Oxford.

Under the apportionment based on the census of 1875, Webster, Douglas and Dudley formed the Fourteenth Worcester District, with one Representative, as follows:

1877.—Francis M. Draper, of Douglas.
1878.—Josiah Perry, of Dudley.
1879.—Robert Humphrey, of Webster.
1880.—Wm. W. Brown, of Douglas.
1881.—John J. Love, of Webster.
1882.—Edwin Moore, of Douglas.
1883.—Butler Bates, of Webster.
1884.—George A. Gleason, of Douglas.
1885.—Philip Smith, of Dudley.
1886.—Julius P. Freeman, of Webster.

Under the apportionment based on the census of 1885, Webster, Oxford and Auburn constituted the Eighth Worcester District, with one Representative, as follows:

1887.—Henry Brandes, of Webster.
1888.—John J. Allen, of Auburn.

Besides the Slater factories there are only a few other manufacturing industries worthy of mention: A. J. Bates & Co. employ about one hundred and fifty hands, and B. A. Corbin & Son about three hundred and fifty hands in the manufacture of men's and youths' shoes. The Webster Gas Light Company began business in 1865, and is controlled by the Stevens Linen Works, in Dudley, on the other side of French River. Among the institutions may be mentioned the First National Bank of Webster, incorporated in 1875, and having a capital of one hundred thousand dollars. Its present officers are Chester C. Corbin, president; E. L. Spaulding, cashier; and C. C. Corbin, Cyrus Spaulding, Josiah Perry, J. M. Morse, L. R. Eddy, George Tracy and E. L. Spaulding, directors. The Webster Five Cent Savings Bank was incorporated in 1868, and had, at the time of its last report, deposits of $683,091, undivided earnings of $7,118.16, and a guaranty fund of $11,336.26. Its officers are Cyrus Spaulding, president; Waldo Johnson, John F. Hinds, Darius Wood and E. P. Morton, vice-presidents; F. A. Stockwell, treasurer; and L. E. Pattison, secretary. In 1869 the Webster Mutual Fire Insurance Company was incorporated, but was never organized.

The following societies are now in existence in the town: The Sovereigns of Industry; the Webster Lodge, A. F. and A. M.; the Webster Lodge, No. 56, A. O. U. W.; the Sigel Lodge, No. 93, D. O. H.; the Benjamin Franklin Council, No. 333; the Loyal Order of Tonti, No. 107; the Maanexit Lodge, No. 117, I. O. O. F.; the Nathaniel Lyon Post, G. A. R.; the Assembly, No. 4060, K. of L.; the Royal Arcanum Relief Association; the St. Jean Baptiste Society; La Ligue Du Cœur de Jesus; the Gesangverein Deutschen Liederkranz; the Deutsch Dramatischen Verein; the Deutsche Liederkranz Band; the Turnverein Vorwärts; the Deutschen Theater Club; the St. Patrick's Temperance Society; the Sodality of the Sacred Heart; and the Ladies of St. Ann.

The post-office, now located at the main village of Webster, was located at the time of the incorporation of the town and had been for some years at the east village and was called the South Oxford office, but, in 1841, nine years after the incorporation, was moved to its present location. The main, or depot village, as it is called, shows many signs of prosperity. It is the chief business section, and there are located the banks, the town offices, the apparatus of the Fire Department, the hotel, and most of the stores. It lies on the Southbridge section of the Boston and New England Railroad, and also on the Norwich and Worcester Railroad, thus having easy access to Boston by two routes, and also to Providence, Worcester and New York. It not only enjoys its own local trade but the people in the settlements at Jericho, Marino Village, Chaseville and Perryville, in Dudley, across the river, not inconsiderable in numbers, patronize its shops, its shows, its various societies, and attend its churches. The population of the town, which, at the time of its incorporation, was 1168, increased to 1403 in 1840, to 2371 in 1850, to 2912 in 1860, to 4763 in 1870, to 5696 in 1880, and to 6220 in 1885. The valuation, which was $277,118 at the time of the incorporation, increased to $2,466,428 in 1885.

According to the census of 1885, the agricultural products and valuations were as follows:

Animal products	$3,720
Dairy products	22,059
Food products	730
Green-house products	1,200
Hot-house products	445
Poultry products	3,332
Wood	10,163
Cereals	2,225
Fruits, berries and nuts	3,058
Hay, straw and fodder	14,532

Meats and game	2,476
Vegetables	6,089
Land	144,823
Buildings	92,145
Machines and implements	7,642
Domestic animals	16,985
Fruit-trees and vines	9,763

Two newspapers are published in Webster, *The Webster Times* and the *Worcester County News*, both published weekly in Webster and both are enterprising and successful journals. The former is edited by John Cort and the latter by John T. Miniter, and a job printing office is connected with each.

In concluding this sketch the following list of the present town officers is added: Selectmen, Charles A. Hodges, Patrick Condren, Austen C. Burnett; Town Clerk, Edward P. Carter; Treasurer, Oscar Shumway; Overseers of the Poor—for three years, John Flint; for two years, Elisha N. Bigelow; for one year, John F. Hinds; Assessors, William F. Gale, William Shanley, Monroe H. Corbin, Michael Scholfield, Russell B. Putnam; Auditors, James Maguire, James Cocks, John B. McQuaid; School Committee—for three years, Edward P. Carter; for two years, Henry F. Thompson; for one year, Charles B. Kendrick; Constables, Thomas Farrell, William Hanley, Joseph C. Spaulding, Patrick H. Grimley, O. W. Emerson, John J. Dwyer, Uzziel Gleason, Joseph P. Love, Daniel G. Blackman, Solomon Shumway, George D. Adams, John Sullivan, Collector, Charles E. Brown; Deputy Sheriff, Solomon Shumway.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

FREDERICK D. BROWN, M.D.

Frederick Davis Brown, M.D., was born in the town of Sutton, Mass., on September 5, 1824. His early life was in many respects similar to that of most country boys of the period, working on the farm in the summer and attending the district school in the winter. But, unlike many of his boyhood associates, he was not "bound out" for a term of years to the farmer or the blacksmith, but was given the opportunity of pursuing such course of study as best suited his inclination. He chose that of medicine, and at the age of seventeen entered the office of Dr. George Rawson, of Grafton. Reading with a country doctor of that time meant chiefly the care of the doctor's horse, doing the numerous chores about the premises, assisting his instructor in gathering and drying the herbs and simples so commonly used in those days, and in preparing the powders and pills, and on rare occasions helping the doctor in some minor surgical operations.

After two years of such training he removed to Worcester and entered the Baptist Academy. He did not, however, abandon his medical studies, but continued them with Dr. Samuel Green, until the doctor accepted the position of medical missionary to Ceylon, tendered him by the Board of Foreign Missions. Dr. Green placed his young charge in the care of his relative, Dr. John Green, at that time the most eminent physician in the county. After two years' reading with this learned preceptor he continued his studies at the University of Pennsylvania, and at Castleton (Vt.) Medical College, where he was graduated in 1849. He served for about a year at the Bloomingdale Asylum Hospital in New York, and in 1850 located in Webster, when he at once entered upon an active professional career, which he followed with unremitting energy for thirty-six years.

He was widely known throughout the southern part of Worcester County as a most devoted and successful practitioner, gaining the confidence and esteem of all with whom he came in contact. He was a zealous member of the Massachusetts and the Worcester District Medical Societies, at one time being president of the latter. His close application to his practice did not debar him from taking an active part in the affairs of his town, and he identified himself with many of its political and social organizations. For nearly twenty consecutive years he was elected to the office of School Committee. In 1864–65 he served on the Board of Selectmen; in 1863 he represented his district in the Legislature, and in 1868 was sent to the State Senate.

During his term of service in the latter body he was instrumental in securing the incorporation of the Webster Five Cent Savings Bank, of which he was president at the time of his death. To him work was never a hardship, but a pleasure; its perplexities only added to his zeal and stimulated his ambition. His ready willingness to do what was asked of him, and the liberality of his views, made him the counselor of many.

Probably no citizen devoted more time and work for the welfare of his town than he, or with less personal interests.

His death, sudden and unexpected, occurred November 8, 1886.

CHAPTER LIV.

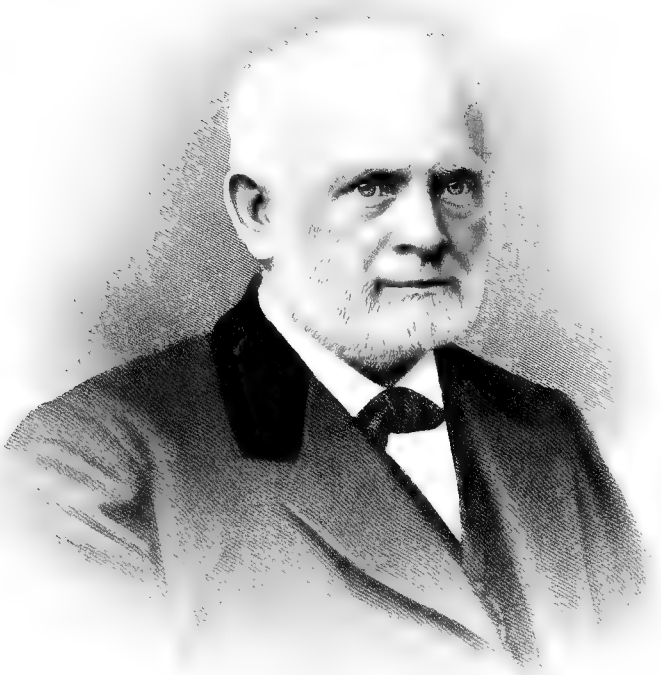
MENDON.

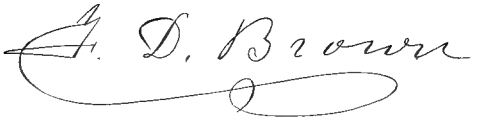
PIONEER LIFE.

BY G. B. WILLIAMS.

Mendon the Mother of Towns—Comparative Antiquity—Number of Towns once a Part of Mendon—The First Movement for a New Plantation—The Deed from the Indians—Division of Land—Names of Proprietors—The First Map—Incorporation—The Town in 1675—The Nipmucks' Attack—The Settlers' Return.

On the 15th day of May, 1867, in a small town in the southeastern part of Worcester County, "a vast assemblage," as one of those addressing it justly de-




J. D. Brown

scribed it, were gathered together. Orators, poets, distinguished jurists, clergymen, statesmen and men of military renown were present, or regretfully sent excuses for their absence. The inhabitants of Milford, Blackstone, Uxbridge, Northbridge, Upton and Bellingham, with hundreds from more remote parts of the State and nation, had met to celebrate the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of what they lovingly called the "Mother Town of Mendon." The distinguished speakers seemed to feel it a high privilege to recount the story of the ancient town, and found the day far too short for their purpose. Several of them had names borne by six generations of Mendon's inhabitants now passed away, as well as by many of its present citizens, and they felt they were telling the story of their ancestors as they narrated how the Aldrichs, Staples, Holbrooks, Thompsons, Chapins, Tafts and others painfully made their way from the coast to this fertile, hilly region, established homes, church, schools, and laid the foundation for all the abounding life of these busy towns of to-day.

Mendon, next to Lancaster in antiquity among Worcester County towns, was and is, well deserving of notice historically. Eighteen of these are at least a hundred years younger than she. The town of Worcester was incorporated sixteen years later than Mendon, and she is more than forty-five years older than any other town in the county, except Lancaster, and sixty-three years older than the county itself.

Her original territory is now held by eight Massachusetts towns, but she still retains the spot first settled on her ancient possessions, and her people believe it one of the most fertile and beautiful of all.

In 1659, eight years before Mendon's incorporation, the records of the General Court of Massachusetts show that the people of Braintree and Weymouth had expressed a desire for "a new plantation;" "whereupon the Court judgeth it meet to grant them liberty to seek out a place and present their desires, with the names of such persons as will carry out the work, unto the next session of this Court." Accordingly, in 1660, upon a petition by seven of the inhabitants of Braintree, a committee of five was empowered to accept persons for the settlement, which was to be eight miles square, and four commissioners were authorized "to make a valid act there." It was nearly two years later, May 22, 1662, before the commissioners reported their rules and regulations for the "Plantation at Netmocke," with the names of persons then accepted, viz.: thirteen of Braintree and ten of Weymouth. Moses Payne and Peter Brackett had already secured a deed of Netmocke from the Indians and a double allowance of land for themselves. They never settled there, but, after the incorporation, transferred their rights under the deed to the town by a writing dated December 9, 1669.

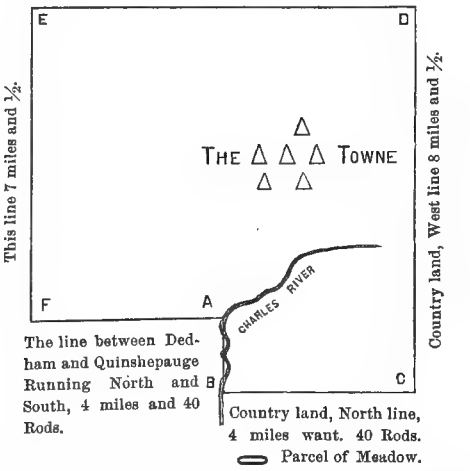
This deed was executed by five Indians designated both by Christian and Indian names, and the land was described as eight miles square, lying about fifteen miles from Medfield, "and is to lye to the south or southward of the Parth to Nipmugg Great Pond and five milles on the other side of that Parth north or northwards." The deed has always been supposed destroyed when the town was burned by the Indians in 1676.

By the committee's rules each settler was to have for "one hundred pounds estate" thirty acres "to the home lot," ten of meadow, five of swamp and one hundred and five for "greate lott." This was assigned by the committee, but later divisions, some eleven in all, proportioned to the amount of land first held, were made by lot and made up the "Doubling Lot."

Before July 7, 1663, John Moore, George Aldrich, Matthias Puffer, John Woodland, Ferdinando Thayer, Daniel Lovett and John Harber had settled at Nipmugg, Netmocke or Squinshepauge, for all these names written variously by different authors, were now applied to the plantation, probably the last most generally. Before March 24, 1664, John Gurney, Walter Cook, Joseph White, John Thompson, Abraham Staples, Joseph Aldridge, John Jepson and John Rockett had settled, making fifteen families in all. There are no means of knowing what took place from 1664 to 1667. Joshua Fisher's map was filed in April, 1667, in the General Court, a copy of which, with title and "explanation," are printed below.

SURVEY OF THE PLANTATION (1667).

The desire of the inhabitants to this Honered Courte is that they would accept of this Retourne of their Plott of theire Plantation wich is layd according to their Grainte of eight Miles square by Joshua ffisher.



An explanation of this Plott, being the Township of Squinshapauke as it was layd out according to the Grant of the Generall Courte by me, Joshua ffisher, Aprill 1667.

From A to B is bounded by Charles River, a white oake beinge marked on the south side of Charles River at A, a Black oake on the north side of Charles River at B, and a line of marked trees and heapes of stones to C, from C to D a line of marked trees and heapes of stones, to C, from C to D a line of marked trees and heapes of stones, and soe from D to E and from E to F, a line from F to A of Marked Trees; And from A to B is one mile Runninge according to the River East and West, from

B to C is fower Miles wantinge forty Rodd, Runninge from B North, from C to D eight miles and halfe west, from D to E eight miles South, from E to F seven miles and half East, from F to A ffower Milles and 40 Rods.

At O is a parcell of Meadow that the Towne Petitioned for of about thirty Acors by estimation upon the North line from Charles River.

This Courte Approves of this Plott as it is Returned.

as attest, EDW. RAWSON, *Secrty.*

The incorporation of the town of Mendon followed May 15, 1667. The name undoubtedly was taken from Mendham, the name of an ancient English town, and years after the incorporation the name Mendham was applied to Mendon in military reports and in various records. The Indian titles seem to have been seldom used later than 1667.

The town clerk of the new town, Colonel William Crowne, in the preamble to his records, sets forth the title of the inhabitants as based on the Indian deed as well as on the authority of the "Honoured Generalle Courte," and says the court had "adorned" the town "wth severall large Priviledges." It was indeed a goodly land. Meadows, springs, brooks, rivers and noble forests abounded. The Blackstone River, entering its northwest corner, crossed to its southeastern portion, now in Woonsocket, Rhode Island. The West River, the Mumford, with many smaller tributaries of the Blackstone, were largely or wholly within its limits, and the Charles crossed its eastern portion. High hills with commanding prospects—Wigwam, Misquoe, Calebs, Magormiscock, Goat Hlll and others—with the numerous meadows, upon whose grassy products the early settlers greatly relied, added their charms to the scene two hundred and twenty-one years ago. All was peace and hope. The records of 1667 and years following to 1675 are filled with interesting incidents of the settlers' pioneer life, so soon to be broken up by the Indian's torch and tomahawk.

The minister, Rev. John Rayner, had been secured, the meeting-house and parsonage built, land set off for the use of the ministry and for school purposes, roads had been laid out, some of them ten rods wide, provisions made for exterminating wolves, for establishing the town's boundaries, for compelling observance of the Lord's day, and the performance by each man of his share of the public works, for punishing the refractory, for procuring more meadow land with which, in their view, they were as yet but "meanly provided," and everything needful for securing Christian homes in an orderly, God-fearing community. In 1672 the fifteen families of five years before had become thirty-four, and in the list of proprietors receiving swamp lands at that date are found the names Hayward, Holbrook, Read, Bartlett, Tiler, Gurney, Juell (Jewell), Sprague and Peck. A few others came before 1675, but several best-known in the later history of the town not much, if any, earlier than 1680, among them, Josiah Chapin and the brothers Robert and Matthew Taft.

July 14, 1675, King Philip's War commenced with an attack on this peaceful settlement, in which four or five persons were slain. Later the Indians killed Matthias Puffer's wife and child, possibly others. Hostilities had been dreaded by the colonial authorities for some days preceding and scouting-parties ordered out. Mendon was located in the midst of the country of the Nipmuck Indians, and from the beginning had taken special precautions to secure friendly relations with them.

The labors of the apostle Eliot had been untiring, and bands of praying Indians had been organized at Wacantuck (now Uxbridge), Hassanamisco (Grafton) and elsewhere. One indication of Eliot's influence is probably seen in the Indians' signatures to the Mendon deed by such names as William, John and Jacob, to which signatures, indeed, the Eliots, senior and junior, are witnesses.

In 1668 the Nipmucks in the vicinity of Mendon and Marlborough had executed a formal submission in writing to the government of the colony, in which is found a solemn promise to obey God and do Christian duty. After the slaughter in July, the settlers exerted themselves to secure the removal of the Grafton Indians, with their weapons and supplies, to Mendon. The effort failed. The records show colonial soldiers attacking the Nipmucks at Grafton, in November, 1675. The Indians soon after abandoned Grafton, or Hassanamisco, and, doubtless with the Nipmucks generally, aided King Philip and the Narragansetts against the English. Immediately after the first attack, of which Cotton Mather is quoted as saying, "Blood was never shed in Massachusetts colony in a way of hostility before this day," many Mendon settlers fled. By November, we are told in military reports, those remaining had been "drawn into two houses." A fortified garrison had been established, from which raids upon the Indians were made. The Colonial Council, November 2, 1675, ordered "that the people of Mendon should not remove from the place without leave, and that those who had done so should immediately return;" but neither the presence of soldiers, nor the promises, orders nor threats of colonial authority, proved sufficient to overcome the dread of the Indians, and, probably before Christmas, 1675, the town was completely abandoned. During that winter the enemy burned all the buildings. The town records, though all preserved, so far as we know, make no mention of the war, but it is evident, from records of births, that soon after King Philip's death, in August, 1676, some of the fugitives returned, probably not, however, till the Nipmucks had at Boston again submitted formally to the English, and by their own hands, under colonial authority, executed Mattoonas, the Nipmuck leader of the July attack. We know that at least twenty out of the thirty-eight escaping families had returned to Mendon at the beginning of 1680.

CHAPTER LV.

MENDON—(*Continued.*)

TERRITORIAL AND POLITICAL CHANGES.

The Town's Poverty After the War—Claims of Rhode Island Territory—The "North Purchase"—Annexation of "The Farms"—Towns Claiming to be "Children of Mendon"—Mendon to-day.

FOR several years after 1680, Mendon was considered as a frontier town, and its poverty, even in comparison with other Massachusetts towns of the time, was notorious. The proprietors of nearly half its lands never returned after the war, and delayed or refused payment of taxes levied on their property. Repeated petitions were sent to the General Court asking for compulsory action against these absent owners, and for relief from colony taxes. Most of the petitions were granted. In spite of this poverty, within ten years from the close of the war about fifty families had settled in Mendon, and began to feel crowded and seek additional territory. The southern boundary was not well defined, and was later a subject of much controversy, which continued till 1725. The second map, made by Sergeant Ellis in 1683, and numerous records, show that Mendon claimed much of what was finally yielded to Rhode Island, including the "Falls," now in Woonsocket, and what is known as "The Branch." In 1692 about three square miles lying on the northern boundary, now in Milford, and still known as the "North Purchase," were bought from the Indians. In 1685 Edward Rawson, secretary of the colony, had become owner of about two thousand acres, now wholly or partly in Bellingham. He held title by deed from the Indians as well as a grant from the colony. Till 1710 he escaped taxation by town or county, paying tribute to the colonial treasury only, but in that year the Farm, as the tract was then called, was annexed to Mendon.

In 1719 thirteen families occupying this farm, or "The Farms," four dwelling on other land in Mendon, and twenty-three families of Dedham, asked the General Court for incorporation as a town. Their petition was granted, November 27, 1719, against the protest of Mendon, however, and Bellingham became a town.

As early as 1720 the settlers in Waentuck, or Wacantuck (now Uxbridge), agitated the question of separation. Their efforts were renewed in 1722, voted on and rejected in 1726, but Uxbridge was nevertheless incorporated in 1727, taking about four miles in width from the western portion of Mendon.

Upton, at its incorporation in February, 1735, took a small part of the remaining territory and the same year the inhabitants of what is now Milford and Hopedale sought separate town existence. All these attempts were resisted by dwellers in the original settlement, and in the last case successfully for about forty-five years, or till April 11, 1780, when Milford's existence as a town, by full agreement of all parties interested, began. She had formed a separate parish precinct in Mendon, known as the Easterly or Mill River Precinct for thirty-nine years.

Mendon also stoutly opposed her separation from Suffolk and assignment to Worcester County, which took place February 18, 1730. As late as 1734 she voted a petition to the court to be joined with Dedham in a new county, then in 1798 in favor of dividing Worcester County. It may be here noted that Mendon, during the first four years of town existence, was a part of Middlesex County. In 1671 she was decreed, evidently in harmony with her own wishes, "to be and belong to ye county of Suffolk."

After the incorporation of Milford no serious attempt to secure a further division of Mendon is known to have been made till 1816, when ten inhabitants of the South Parish (now Blackstone) petitioned the town, without avail, to vote that that precinct be set off as a town. It had continued in apparent content as a parish in Mendon since 1766, though in 1779 we find record of one feeble movement for division. In 1823, and during the four succeeding years, the South Parish sought for separate existence, appealing in vain to the town and to the Legislature. Again, in 1843, the vexed question arose and was discussed at brief intervals with great bitterness till the division was effected and Blackstone incorporated March 25, 1845. The petitioners therefor numbered seven hundred and sixty-seven, the remonstrants three hundred and fourteen, and they were divided on other than local or usual lines. In fact, strange to say, it appears that very probably a large majority living in what is now Mendon desired division, while divisionists were so unpopular in Blackstone as to be excluded from town office at the first town election. Closing the story of the construction of towns from Mendon's territory, it should be observed that the town of Northbridge was taken from Uxbridge in 1772, and Hopedale from Milford in 1886, and can both claim Mendon as their mother or, perhaps, with more accuracy, their grandmother town. By this course of disintegration, not, however, likely to be extended further, forty thousand acres and more, her original holding, with its substantial additions by annexation, have been reduced to eleven thousand three hundred and seventy-five acres.

Mill River alone is the only considerable stream which crosses the Mendon of to-day, but the Charles, as of old, forms a part of its eastern boundary and the lovely "Nipmuck Great Pond" is still retained within its limits, with shores now somewhat famous as a summer resort. Pond Hill remains, also Wigwam Hill in the south and Misquoe in the north, both distinguished for magnificent views. Mendon shares with Blackstone at the south a right in Daniels or Southwick Hill, and with Hopedale on the east it claims jurisdiction over Neck Hill. Muddy Brook flows between the elevation last named and the beau-

tiful summit on which is the principal village which stands, deeply shaded, just where the settlers had their house-lots in 1663.

The above glimpse of Mendon as it now is must suffice till its manufacturing, military, educational and ecclesiastical history have been outlined.

CHAPTER LVI.

MENDON—(*Continued.*)

MANUFACTURES.

The First Grist-Mill and Saw-Mill—The Successive Occupants of the Old Grist-Mill Site—Contracts with Millers and Blacksmiths—Torrey and Warfield Saw-Mills—Factories, Miscellaneous and Modern.

In Mendon's colonial life early efforts were made to utilize its water-power. In the beginning of 1664 the committee conditionally granted to Benjamin Albee twenty acres on the town site and fifty acres near the proposed mill, to encourage him to establish a "corne mill" on Mill River, near Hopedale's present town line. It was probably built in 1672, and till then the settlers ground their grain at Wrentham or Medfield, twelve or fifteen miles distant.

Ten years later Josiah Chapin had eighty acres granted him near the village and east of Muddy Brook, for his encouragement to build on that treacherous stream the first saw-mill. April 24, 1668, the town voted to build its first meeting-house "neere to Joseph White's saw-pit, in his house-lott." There can therefore be little doubt that for the first ten years, and till Chapin's mill was started, all boards were manufactured in the primitive manner of pit-sawing.

In 1684 Matthias Puffer's corn-mill was built on the site of Albee's, destroyed by the Indians. Three years later his son James occupied it; and we can trace an occupation of this place for the same purpose for more than one hundred and seventy-five years, and for more than a hundred years the town appears to have exercised control over it through conditions under which both Albee and Puffer and their successors held their rights. It is not important to name all the millers, but David How, 1724, Lieut. Wm. Sheffield, 1735–70, after him Jeremiah Kelley, 1779, then one Ellis and finally Nathan and Alvin Allen, occupied the place.

In 1727 there was a fulling-mill near the grist-mill, which was used many years.

The latter mill became a ruin about 1847, and the town claimed a forfeiture in consequence, under the contract of 1662. There was a vote to investigate, but the claims were never pressed in court.

James Bick's contract, made in 1686, somewhat resembled Albee's. He was "to doe the town's smithery work for the next ten years upon reasonable conditions, unless death or disablement hinder," otherwise the land granted was to revert or fifteen pounds to be paid. Long wrangling between Bick and the town followed; he would neither do the work, vacate the premises, nor pay the forfeiture; but finally, in 1695, he left the town, and some years after, 1713, it seems the eminent Quaker, Moses Aldrich, was the town blacksmith.

In 1691 Josiah and Angel Torrey were authorized to build a saw-mill dam upon the town's land, between School Meadow and Rock Meadow, and were granted necessary land therefor, so long as they maintained the mill. A mill on this spot, which is not far from P. W. Taft's residence, and two miles west from the village, was used till within a very few years.

In 1711 Samuel Warfield was granted land near the old saw-mill on "Fall Brook," an uncertain location, but probably on Mill River, in Hopedale, near Spindleville Shop.

There were "Iron-works" (probably a smelting furnace) and a saw-mill at or near "The Falls" (Woonsocket) in 1698, and iron-ore had been found at or near East Blackstone.

A saw-mill and a grist-mill had been started, in 1712, on the Charles River, and one in Uxbridge, on the Mumford, many years prior to the incorporation in 1727.

Samuel Thompson's grist-mill, on the Blackstone, where Millville village now is, was begun about the same time; as also iron-works and perhaps mills at Whitinsville.

Before 1800, within the present limits of the town, there were two or more establishments for making potash, several small distilleries and some brick-kilns. One of the last-named, near Albeeville, was used within forty or fifty years. All the others were abandoned many years before.

Manufacturing, as the term is generally understood and applied, never long flourished here and is now almost extinct. From 1845 to 1878 there were important boot-factories in operation. One Leland, W. H. Comstock and Dennis Eames each had a factory before 1850. Enos T. Albee and Edward Davenport were not much behind these. After them came J. R. Wheelock & Co., who for a year or two produced in their large shop, then new, some three or four hundred cases of boots weekly.

Albee maintained his business, averaging about sixty cases a week, for twenty years or over, ending in 1870. N. R. & J. A. George began boot manufacturing in the Wheelock shop in 1863, but the partnership was brief. J. A. George continued the business till 1879. Charles H. Albee has within a few years been engaged in making boots and shoes in the building occupied by his father, which is in Albeeville, about two miles southwesterly from the Centre Village, where all the other boot-makers named had

their factories. Those factories have one by one been removed or converted to other uses, and no boots nor shoes have been made in Mendon for several years. The largest factory built by the Wheelocks was torn down the present year (1888).

George R. Whiting in 1873 bought the ancient Albee "privilege," erected a new dam and a mill near the one first built in 1682, remains of which still exist, and with some interruptions has ever since utilized the property for shoddy-making. His buildings, burnt in 1887, have been replaced by improved ones made of brick.

W. H. Swan has made shoddy on Muddy Brook for about twenty years. He has a steam-engine as well as water-power, and formerly sawed lumber and made boxes—and for a time boats.

Samuel G. Wilcox made boot and shoe-boxes at the junction of Muddy Brook and Mill River, using water-power from both, for over forty years, and since his death, in 1882, his son, Hamilton C. Wilcox, has carried on the business at the old stand.

Samuel W. Wilcox, another son of S. G. Wilcox, has a steam-mill near the last-named, where for ten years he has made cigar-boxes.

All these manufacturing establishments now in operation are near each other in the southeasterly part of the town, and their production is small.

CHAPTER LVII.

MENDON—(*Continued.*)

MILITARY HISTORY.

Mendon in the French and Indian War—The Revolution—Shays' Rebellion—War of 1812—The Rebellion.

In the French War, 1755–63, Mendon furnished her full quota of soldiers. There were forty-one in one company, serving in 1759 in the expedition to Ticonderoga and Crown Point; many more served during the war, but the town records do not reveal much concerning the popular feeling nor town action on military matters. The lists of soldiers contain many names familiarly known all through the town's history. We only know the people did their part well and loyally, scant though the record may be.

There is much more known of the Revolutionary period. The first mutterings of discontent with British rule found an echo in Mendon. Its inhabitants approved the action of those who were willing to pay the damage done by the mob to Governor Hutchinson's property in 1765, but were eager to pardon the rioters, although later, in general terms, they denounced such riots. They voted, in 1767, to concur with the men of Boston in their famous agreement not to sell or use any article, tea in particular, on which Parliament should lay a tax; indeed, their records are crowded with patriotic utterances; nineteen resolutions denouncing British wrongs to the Provinces, and declaring in sounding terms their "Rights and Liberties," "The gift of God Almighty," were discussed and passed March 1, 1773. About a year later three more stirring resolutions were passed, suspending intercourse with Great Britain, and refusing to buy or use her goods while Boston is blockaded, and until a "Restoration of our charter-rights be obtained," and denouncing as "inimical to their country" all persons acting otherwise. A Committee of Correspondence was chosen to confer with similar committees in other towns, and the selectmen were authorized, in their discretion, to add to the town's stock of arms and ammunition. September 28, 1774, Joseph Dorr, Esq., was chosen delegate to the Provincial Congress, to be held in Concord, October 11th.

Dr. William Jennison gave the town a six-pounder field-piece about the same time, and two more, with other arms, were purchased by the town. One-third of the soldiers on the military list were enlisted as minute-men, and made ready to march at a moment's notice.

In common with other towns, Mendon contributed in aid of blockaded Boston and Charlestown, and promptly sent delegates to every convention called to organize colonial strength, or declare or guide colonial sentiment.

In 1775 the town was ready with arms and men. Promptly following the battle of Lexington, one hundred and sixty-two men in four companies were in arms, and one hundred and sixteen men appear to have enlisted for the three months ending August, 1775. Mendon, with Concord and other towns, had been designated as a place of deposit for army supplies.

Till the spring of 1776 every town-meeting since 1667 had been loyally called in His Majesty's name; but now Mendon's liberty-loving people openly discarded his authority, and met "in the name of the Government and People of the Massachusetts Bay," and thereupon voted "that the town advise and instruct their Representatives to acquaint the General Assembly, that if the Honorable the Continental Congress shall think it for the benefit and safety of the United American Colonies to Declare them independent of Great Britain, said Town will approve the measure and with their lives and fortunes support them therein." The immortal Declaration of Independence passed soon after and appears in full with the town's approval upon its records. Through all the years of the great contest, all testimony goes to show that no community surpassed this in devotion to liberty, influence in the colony or in patriotic service. Men of Mendon fought at Bunker Hill, marched to Canada with Arnold and were at Long Island, Valley Forge, Bennington, Saratoga and Yorktown.

Edward Rawson, a descendant of Secretary Raw-

son, Judge Joseph Dorr, Jr., the son of the minister, Thomas Wiswell, Lieutenant Benoni Benson and several others appear to have enjoyed the confidence of the colonial authorities in a high degree. Judge Dorr was especially prominent, and from his pen came many of the patriotic utterances on the records.

We note some miscellaneous matters apparently worth recording as illuminating somewhat the history of the period. A few years before the Revolution the town had been compelled to receive several of the French neutrals cruelly driven from Nova Scotia in 1755 by English authority represented by General John Winslow, descendant of the Pilgrim Governor. The same British power in 1775 turned its cruelty against Charlestown, and by order of the Provincial Congress, Mendon was "to take thirty of the people of Charlestown," made homeless by the burning of their town. Eleven years before, five of the banished Acadian French were still living in Mendon. If they saw the thirty homeless Charlestown people entering Mendon, and we have no reason to suppose they did not, they must have thought it savored of retribution.

In 1776 seven officers of the Seventy-first British Regiment Highlanders, supposed taken prisoners at sea, were quartered in Mendon. They forwarded many complaints to the Colonial Council of abusive treatment from the inhabitants, especially of language reflecting on the prowess of British soldiers generally and that of the prisoners in particular. There was also complaint of tyrannical treatment in many respects, and the citizens complained on their part of being obliged to keep the officers' servants, and expressed suspicions of the prisoners conspiring with Tories. Captain Colon McKenzie was the chief officer. How long they remained is not known—perhaps till exchanged.

A bitter quarrel arose between Uxbridge and Mendon members of the Third Massachusetts Regiment concerning the election of field officers. It could only be settled by a committee from the Colonial Council and an order on their report for a new election and an assignment of the Uxbridge soldiers, who were from the first in a minority, to another regiment. This was in 1776.

A census, taken January 1, 1777, gives Mendon five hundred and seventy-two male inhabitants, sixteen years old and upwards. She had seventy-five soldiers in the field in March, 1778. During the year 1776 twenty-eight had enlisted for three years. In 1779 there is a list of thirty-three nine-months' men in the Rhode Island service, but neither State nor town records enable us to make complete military lists or give the town exact credit for its labors and losses in the cause of liberty. Tradition has brought down the names of but one or two Tories in the whole town. Some were suspected of disloyalty, and petitions for stringent laws against them went from Mendon, whose Committee of Safety never relaxed in vigilance, if we may trust the records.

Those records also show with what wise adjustments of business the evils of the depreciated currency were met, and the careful attention given to their regular municipal affairs. Throwing aside the old-time local strifes, Mendon voted at last that the East Precinct, Milford, might become a town. The new Constitution of Massachusetts was laboriously and fully discussed, article by article, the voters amending, rejecting or adopting, as if on them alone depended the making of the organic law of the Commonwealth, and, finally, as the clouds of war rolled away, they set themselves resolutely at work to do their part as an important town in the new State of Massachusetts.

No proof is found of any Mendon citizens taking part with Shays in his rebellion, in 1786, though petitions with lists of grievances uncounted went to the General Court. Among the complaints were named the sitting of the General Court in Boston, the want of a circulating medium, the exorbitance of the lawyers' "fee-table," the doings of the Court of Common Pleas, "too many office-holders, and their salaries too large," etc.

But the town, nevertheless, furnished its quota of men, sixty in all, to march against Shays, and seems to have had no thought of resisting the government, imperfect as it was, which had cost so much.

In 1797 fears of a war with France arose. While Milford was plainly of a martial spirit, Mendon appears memorializing Congress against arming ships, and expressing its dread of the horrors of war.

There is nothing to show the town's zeal in the War of 1812, unless it be that it voted seven dollars per month extra pay to such of its militia as should be called into actual service. Six officers and twenty-six enlisted men of Mendon were paid by the United States in 1814 for service in the army. According to "Ballou's History," Milford was earnestly in favor of the war, and furnished many men.

Nothing has been found showing any popular interest in the Mexican War, or any men from Mendon serving therein.

When the great Rebellion broke out this town took its stand promptly, and, with a spirit which never faltered, sent men and expended money most freely to crush out traitors. In 1861, after a preamble declaring loyalty, and their duty and purpose to sustain the government, the voters unanimously passed resolutions appropriating five thousand dollars in aid of the families of volunteers. In 1862, while adopting patriotic resolutions, they voted to pay a bounty of one hundred and fifty dollars to each soldier volunteering, and later they increased it to two hundred dollars. This action was in harmony with their course to the end of the war, and when President Lincoln was assassinated, the town records show the horror of the citizens. The votes and resolutions passed in relation to the Rebellion were generally passed unanimously. Aside from town action, the

people called meeting after meeting to encourage enlistments, volunteers were honored, their families aided, and, if a word in defence of the rebels was ventured, the overwhelming popular sentiment in opposition prevented its repetition. In Mendon, from 1861 to 1888, traitors and copperheads have always been odious, as Tories were to the fathers.

The town's ordinary appropriations were little over five thousand dollars a year, but it paid in bounties over sixteen thousand dollars, of which the town furnished all but about twenty-five hundred dollars, which was raised by subscription. The State's records show one hundred and fifty-six residents of Mendon who served in the army or navy from 1861 to 1865, and one hundred and thirty-two are credited on her quotas, being sixteen over all calls to which she was required to respond. Nineteen were killed or died in service, namely,—Franklin B. Wilcox, Charles H. Wheelock, Juba F. Pickering, Alanson E. Bathrick, Samuel Hall, John B. Rockwood, Martin S. Howe, George W. Wilcox, David S. Thurber, Lawrence B. Doggett, William Cosgrove, Albert Cook, Patrick Wallace, Robert Wallace, Samuel Everton, Franklin Freeman, Anthon C. Taft, Benjamin H. Smith and James Burns.

CHAPTER LVIII.

MENDON—(*Continued.*)

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY.

Ministers and Meeting-Houses, 1663 *to* 1818—*The Change to Unitarianism—The Meeting-House of* 1820—*Pastors to* 1888—*The North Congregational Church and Pastors—The Methodists in Mendon—The Quakers.*

LIKE every New England settlement of its time, Mendon was founded on the idea that religious worship and religious life should be established and maintained at every sacrifice. Grants of privileges to establish a plantation or incorporate a town or precinct were made on the express condition that the inhabitants settle and support "a learned Orthodox Minister of good conversation," which, indeed, in every case they promptly did.

Rev. John Rayner was accepted as a settler by the committee on the Mendon plantation May 22, 1662, and in 1667 is recorded as having an allotment of meadow land. In 1669, in a petition to the General Court, he is named in terms showing plainly that he was the minister then preaching in Mendon.

Mr. Benjamin Eliot, son of the apostle Eliot, received a call in 1668 to settle there, but it was not accepted. Late in 1669 the church appears to have been fully organized and the Rev. Joseph Emerson made the first settled minister of the place.

At the beginning land had been set apart for the ministry and for schools, and when divisions of the common lands were made, the same allotment was made to them as to individual proprietors. Before Mr. Emerson came, the minister's house was advanced towards completion. It evidently, as well as the early meeting-houses, was built by the combined labor and gifts of the settlers. The town voted to build, and the selectmen employed a master workman who supervised the labors of the workers. Several records concerning the obstinate and sometimes insulting refusal of one Job Tiler to work on Mr. Emerson's house at the summons of the selectmen, their threats to report him to the Colonial magistrates, and his final surrender and giving satisfaction "for that offence" with others, make up a curious comment on the management of an early New England town.

Mr. Emerson fled with his people from the Indians in 1675, and died in Concord June, 1680. He was the ancestor of Ralph Waldo Emerson. His house and the first meeting-house were burned with the rest. It is supposed his house stood on the Caleb Hayward place. The first meeting-house, which stood near the building now occupied by the Taft Public Library, is described in the quaint language of the time as "the breadth 22 foote square, 12 foote studd, the Ruffe gathered to A 7 foote square wth A Turrett." It was built under the direction of Deacon Job Hide in 1668.

The first town-meeting after the settlers' return was held January 3, 1680, and at the second, held ten days later, it was voted to build for the minister "A house 26 foot in length 18 foot In bredth, 14 foot between joynts a girt house and a gabell end In the Roofe and a Leantowe att one end of the house the breadth of it."

January 17, 1680, Samuel Hayward had agreed with the selectmen to "begine and manige the frame of a meeting-house, 26 feet in length and 24 foot in breadth, a girt house 14 foot between joynts."

October 4, 1680, "the towne Agreed, and it pased by a clere vote, that they would give Mr. Grindall Rawson a call to the work of the ministry for this yere In order to his further settlement; for £20 in money, his bord and a hors to be kept for his servis." After three years of preaching, he was settled April 7, 1684, at £55 a year, with house and forty-acre lot.

The third meeting-house, thirty feet square, with sixteen-foot posts, was built 1690, "by subscription," doubtless under town control, at a point not now known. Four years later the old one was sold. None of these meeting-houses had pews, seats being assigned by a committee, of whom the pastor was one. In 1709 the town voted to enlarge the meeting-house by an addition of ten feet at each end, with changes in the galleries, new floors and seats, and it appears the minister and a few others had pews therein built by themselves. In 1737 "Pew Room" was sold, the elderly men paying most for church matters to have first choice.

Mr. Rawson died in 1715, aged fifty-seven, after

preaching in Mendon thirty-five years. He was twelfth son of Secretary Rawson. His body, with that of his widow, who died in 1748, lies in the town's ancient burial-place. In 1744 the town made provision for the memorial stone at his grave. He was a class-mate and friend of Cotton Mather, and renowned in the Colony for his learning. He knew the Indian language well, and preached regularly in different parts of the town week-days as well as on the Sabbath, to Indians and whites with equal fidelity.

Rev. Joseph Dorr was settled in 1716 at a salary of seventy pounds for the first year, and seventy-five pounds after; "and for settlement or encouragement, the sum of one hundred and sixty pounds,—one hundred pounds in money." He also was a distinguished divine of great discretion, and during the controversies with the East Precinct, which long agitated the town and forced him to self-defence in the town-meetings, he appears to have behaved with great wisdom, and finally to have won general approval. His wife was Mr. Rawson's daughter. His son, Judge Joseph Dorr, Jr., widely esteemed during the Revolution, has been already mentioned. His pastorate continued fifty-two years, till his death, March 9, 1768, and his body lies near that of Mr. Rawson. In 1730 the fourth meeting-house was begun. "Towards the raising," the town voted to "provide a barrel of Rhum." This house was fifty feet long, forty-five feet wide, twenty-four feet high, and remained till 1846. Controversies about its location lasted for years, and even after its erection. The opponents to the location, finally established near the old burying-ground, even tried to cut down the frame, and a hundred and sixteen years later the marks of their axes on the southwest corner-post were plainly seen. It was seven years before its final completion, and soon after, in 1741, the East Precinct, doubtless in consequence of differences concerning the new meeting-house, was organized. November 8, 1751, the four pastors, respectively settled in Milford, Upton, Uxbridge and Mendon, united in an association which has ever since continued. Mr. Dorr was long its moderator, and apparently its master-spirit. It gradually enlarged its field of work and membership, and is now called the Mendon Conference, instead of the Mendon Association, as at first. Toward the close of Mr. Dorr's life, Rev. Benjamin Balch preached in Mendon for a few months on account of Mr. Dorr's disability, but before the end of 1768 he was ordained at the South Parish, "Chestnut Hill," where a new meeting-house, still standing, was erected the next year. He was followed in Mendon by Mr. Penniman, Mr. Messenger and perhaps others.

April 17, 1769, Rev. Joseph Willard was settled. He proved to be an earnest, out-spoken man and a zealous patriot during the war, but difficulties arose between him and his people, and he was dismissed in 1782. Rev. Caleb Alexander was settled from 1786 to 1802. He afterwards became a distinguished writer and teacher in Onondaga, New York. Mr. Alexander disciplined the Mendon Church much more than former pastors, and had many contests in consequence. He died in Onondaga in 1828.

In 1805 Rev. Preserved Smith became pastor over the Mendon First and Third (South) Parishes, and labored till 1812. He had formerly preached in Rowe, Mass., and returned thither, preaching in that place thirty-five years in all. He died 1834 in Warwick, Mass. In his youth he served five campaigns in the Continental Army, and was present at Burgoyne's surrender. As a minister he was popular and influential, with liberal tendencies in his religious thought.

Rev. Simeon Doggett succeeded him in 1814, and in 1818, after much controversy, led a majority of his people to adopt Unitarian views. Mr. Doggett was dismissed in 1837, and died in Raynham in 1852, aged eighty-seven. He was much esteemed as a teacher, and maintained an academy in Mendon many years. In 1820 the First Parish Church, still used as a house of worship, was built on land given by Seth Hastings, Esq. It was then considered one of the finest in the county.

Rev. Adin Ballou, the venerable pastor, so long settled in Hopedale, was the minister in Mendon from 1831 to 1842. Since his service, with the single exception of Rev. George F. Clark, preacher from 1871 to 1883, all the ministers in Mendon have officiated for only brief periods, which, as regards the First Parish, are as follows: Revs. Linus B. Shaw, 1842 to 1844; George M. Rice, 1845 to 1847; George G. Channing, 1847 to 1849; William H. Kinsley, 1850 to 1851; Robert Hassall, 1852 to 1856; Stillman Barber, 1856 to 1860; William T. Phelan, 1863 to 1866; Richard Coleman, 1866 to 1868; David P. Lindsley, 1868 to 1871; George F. Clarke, 1871 to 1883; Aaron Porter, 1883 to 1885; James Sallaway, 1885 to 1887; Walter C. Pierce, 1888.

It is noticeable that since Rev. Joseph Dorr's death, in 1768, out of the very long list of his successors, no minister of the parish has died in Mendon except Rev. William H. Kinsley, who died in 1851.

With the diminution of population the attendance on religious worship has steadily diminished, and few now congregate where so many generations have successively assembled; but the parish, incorporated separate from the town in 1784 and perfected 1792, still exercises its corporate powers and retains its property.

There were many who did not accept the Unitarian views adopted by Mr. Doggett's followers, and in 1828 they organized the "North Congregational Church," adopting in substance the creed and covenant discarded or modified by the First Church. A meeting-house was built in 1830 on Main Street, and Rev. John M. Perry was ordained 1831. Rev. Thomas Riggs had preached prior to this. Mr. Perry resigned in 1835 to become a missionary, and soon after

he and his wife died in Ceylon of cholera. Rev. Thomas Edwards was ordained 1836 and dismissed 1840. Rev. Andrew H. Reed preached from 1841 to 1848, followed for about three months by Rev. Dwight. Rev. Charles Chamberlin was pastor from 1848 to 1851, when Methodist pastors were employed till 1853, followed by Rev. Demis for a brief period, and the last pastor, Rev. E. Demond, closed his labors October 31, 1858, after about three years of labor. The last two were Congregationalists.

The records of this church and society are very few. It was always feeble. Their meeting-house was sold in 1865 to the Methodist Episcopal Society, which many of the North Church members had already joined.

The weakness of the North Church was so apparent in 1851, that the hiring of a Methodist preacher was generally approved by the society, and thereby much support was gained. In 1853 this plan was abandoned and the Methodists forced to leave. They accordingly held their first meeting June 2, 1853, in the town hall, organizing as a society June 9th. Immediate efforts were made to raise funds to build a meeting-house, and land had been bought and foundations laid before 1855. During that year the walls were raised seven feet, but the material was such that during the winter following, it was greatly injured by the weather.

Financial misfortunes to the manufacturing interests of the place followed, resulting in a loss of population and confidence severely felt by this society, which had but from thirty-five to forty members from the first—and in 1859 its creditors brought a suit, settled only by a sale of its property.

From this misfortune recovery was slow, and it was not till 1865 that they were able to buy the old North meeting-house, which was repaired, remodeled and dedicated in 1866. The church and society did not continue to flourish, though preachers were regularly sent for many years, closing in 1879. The pastors in adjoining towns have, however, from time to time for a few weeks, held services in the church, but not since 1886. The list of Methodist preachers is as follows. Rev. C. S. McReading, located in 1851; Rev. G. L. Hanaford, 1852; Rev. John L. Day, 1853; Rev. Wm. Pentecost, 1854; Rev. G. R. Bent, 1856; Rev. J. Emory Round, 1858; Rev. W. A. Clapp, 1860; Rev. L. B. Sweetser, 1861; Rev. W. M. Ayers, 1862; Rev. Augustine Caldwell, 1866; Rev. J. Mosely Dwight, 1868; Rev. J. W. Coolidge, 1869; Rev. John L. Locke, 1871; Rev. Joseph Williams, 1872; Rev. Elisha Brown, 1873; Rev. Phineas C. Sloper, 1876; Rev. George E. Hill, 1879. There was no pastor for a part of 1862, and none during most of the time between April, 1874, and April, 1876.

Each of the religious societies organized a Sunday-school in connection with its other work, and some have been formed in different school districts. That of the First Parish is still doing its work, but there has been no other in town for several years.

The Quakers maintained a meeting in Mendon village from 1729, when their house was built, till 1841. It is indeed likely they had meetings some years prior to 1729. The East Blackstone Friends' Meeting-House, at first known as the South Mendon Meeting-House, was built in 1812. If Quakers were ever persecuted in Mendon, of which there are a few traditions of doubtful authenticity, they appear to have been generally well esteemed and their scruples duly regarded. In 1758 thirty-two were exempted from military duty, in which list we find, among other names well known, Aldrichs, Buffums, Farnums and Southwicks. In 1742 the town voted to grant the Quakers, for the enlargement of their meeting-house yard, a strip of land two rods wide, to be taken from the ten-rod road, and there are other instances on record showing similar regard for them. Moses Aldrich, 1690–1761, was one of their noteworthy preachers laboring at home and abroad. He was a descendant of one of the early settlers and lived and died in Mendon. The old meeting-house was sold, taken down and removed in 1850.

CHAPTER LIX.

MENDON—(*Continued.*)

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY AND CLOSING REMARKS.

Early Records and Tradition Concerning Schools—Notices of the Earliest Teachers and School-Houses—School-Dames—The District System—The High-School—Some Noteworthy Events in Mendon's Recent History and its Present Status.

THE early records in regard to schools are scanty. The first is as follows:

1667, July 14th. At A Generall Town Meetinge Grainted then to Coll. William Crowne and to his assigns and the present Minister there shares of meadow in that wh is called the Rocke Meadow, if they will hould out, and wh is beyond Goodman Moore's Lott; And the Scoole Meadow is Reserved and soe ordered pte for A Scoole when ye Place is able to Mayntaine one, as alsoe that pte wh is to be sott out for the Gleeb Lott is to be there, but that pte of Meadow wch is for the scool is Lieft to be agreed on for ye quantity, and then if ye Coll. and Minister's shares in the Rock Meadow want is to be made up here or In the North Meado not exceeding 10 Acors.

In 1672 the town voted that a twenty-acre lot, "with all the privileges that other lots of that size have," be laid out near the ministry lot for the school. In 1674 the school-master's home lot was "laid out between John Aldrich's house lot and the ten-rod highway that leads to the mill." The fatal Indian attack soon followed, and no record of importance of the year 1675 is found nor any at all after that date till 1680. Even before 1675 there may have been public school instruction, and it is hard to believe, as some do, there was none in Mendon till 1701.

There is, however, no definite record till the following in that year, which shows that March 3, 1701, the town passed a vote directing the selectmen, with Mr. Grindal Rawson, the minister, "to treat with Dea-

con Warfield, upon his refusal, with some other person whom they shall judge suitable, to be a Schoole Master to teach the children of the towne to read, and for this or any other person's encouragement in said work the town shall pay ten pounds in good current pay at money price, and each person sending children to schoole to pay one penny a week." Thereupon agreement was made with Deacon Warfield and recorded. He was "to keep scool half a yeare and to begin on Munday ye 14th of April next, and for his pains to have five pounds in good current pay at money price, and one penny a week for every child that coms to scoolle." John Warfield, Sr., and John Warfield, Jr., are both named in list of 1685, and at a later date we know they occupied the lot called in 1774 the "Schoolmaster's home lot." The elder Warfield died April 12, 1692.

Deacon Warfield, the schoolmaster of 1701 and the first known as such with certainty, held the position till 1709 at least, and, perhaps, till 1712. January, 1709, the town voted to build its first school-house twenty feet by sixteen and seven feet between joints. It stood near Deacon Warfield's home lot, and most likely where is now the George family cemetery. In March of that year Rev. Grindal Rawson offered to board A Latin scoolle master for four years" if the town "would retain him," upon which the town voted "that the towne accept of sd offer" and "to give twenty pounds a year for that service." Whether one was employed or not is not known.

November 12, 1712, the selectmen met in order to procure a "Scoole Master, the Towne being destitute of one," and met again December 13th, when Robert Husse, from Boston, was hired. He came to Mendon December 12th, and was to teach till May 1, 1713, for which "he shall have," says the record, "five pound paid him for his service and his Diet the s^{d} time, and to begin" (boarding?) "at John Farnum's and ther continue untill the 28th of January."

Martin Pearse was hired by the selectmen, in 1714, to keep school at seventeen pounds for one year, with "board and Dyett."

William Boyce followed in 1717, at twenty-eight pounds a year. He continued till 1728. In 1721 his contract contained the curious provision that he was to keep a "Reading and Wrighting school during the year, unless the Town should be presented for want of a Grammar School," when he was to "cease keeping at ye Selectmen's order."[1] A year later and doubtless thereafter, the town apparently not having been summoned before the grand jury, he continued teaching at four places alternately, viz.: "At the school-house, over the Mill River, at ye south end of the town, and about the Great River."

[1] The Province Acts of 1692-93 fined towns with fifty householders twenty pounds for failure to employ a master to teach reading and writing. Those having one hundred householders were required to employ a "grammar-school master," "well-instructed in the tongues." In 1721 undoubtedly the selectmen believed there were in Mendon one hundred householders.

Mr. Grindal Rawson, perhaps the first resident in Mendon to graduate from Harvard College, was engaged for six months after October 24, 1728, for a salary of twenty-two pounds ten shillings. He was the eleventh child of Rev. Grindal Rawson, had recently left college and taught in 1729 and 1730. It is probable he was the first to teach more than reading and writing. He was afterwards minister at East Haddam, Conn., dying there in 1777. His cousin, Capt. William Rawson, an earlier graduate of Harvard, taught the Mendon school in the winter of 1729–30, at the rate of forty-five pounds per year salary.

Samuel Terry taught a grammar school in 1733. May 15, 1732, "School Dames" were authorized "to keep school in the Outskirts of the Town," and thirty pounds were appropriated for the purpose. These were the first of the long list of women who have adorned and elevated Mendon's public schools.

John Field followed Mr. Terry, teaching from 1735 to 1737; salary, forty-five pounds per year. He was succeeded by Capt. William Rawson, 1735 to 1742, at fifty pounds; but after him Josiah Marshall taught at nineteen pounds a year in bills of the "last emission." The fluctuations of the colonial currency, or bills of credit, make the rates of wages misleading.

By vote of the town, no schoolmaster was hired in 1743; but Mr. Marshall taught again in 1744, and it would appear continuously till the spring of 1747, when the town voted not to employ him, and sold their school-house for fourteen pounds, "old tenor." In the autumn they voted to build a new one, the same size as the first, at the north end of the Training Field. This house stood near the present location of A. W. Gaskill's barn, and was completed in 1749.

Mr. Marshall taught but four months in 1748, and that in the old school-house.

In 1749 there was also a vote that the Grammar School should not be kept in the new school-house, and the next year there was a nearly unanimous vote not to have Mr. Foster for their teacher, and to have Mr. Dorr's son, Joseph, and Capt. Eleazer Taft s son, Moses, "Keep school by Spells, as they can agree." The same arrangement in substance continued the next year, but with an added declaration in favor of having Joseph Dorr when possible. Both these teachers were Harvard graduates.

Between 1757 and 1760 the town's control of the schools seems relaxed, and signs of a new system appear. The town left the settlement of school matters, heretofore controlled by direct vote, to the selectmen, and in 1760 we discover the existence of eleven school districts, drawing, and doubtless expending, the money they raised for schools under town authority.

As late as 1751 there were but two school-houses, that in the East Precinct (Milford) having been built in that year. But it is clear that the several districts took complete control of their schools after 1771, perhaps a little earlier. Little is to be learned

of their progress from that time to 1790. In 1789 a statute made it the duty of the ministers and selectmen to visit schools and advise and examine the scholars. Their authority was not well defined, and though they were doubtless interested and useful, their position was one of honor and dignity rather than of direct responsibility. From forty to one hundred pounds were annually raised for schools, and it is quite probable most of the schools were taught in private dwellings. In 1789 the town voted to sell the old school-house on the "Training Field," and in 1794 voted to raise six hundred pounds to build a school-house in each district. Later this was reduced to a grant of three hundred pounds, for building and repairing school-houses. This was increased by one hundred and fifty pounds in 1795, and that in turn voted down, but finally, in 1797, six hundred and sixty-six pounds were granted for building and furnishing school-houses, committees meanwhile having been chosen to supervise the work, all of which shows a strong probability that before 1800 each district had a school-house. In 1796 the first School Committee was chosen, but it is not plain that the town did this every year after. It was probably preferable for the most part to have the ministers act. They generally had students fitting for college or studying theology under their tuition from 1700 to 1830, sometimes, as in Mr. Doggett's case, maintaining an academy; and their approval of students and teachers, too, was much desired. Indeed, after 1789, teachers not college graduates must have it before they could lawfully teach.

From 1800 to 1827 from $600 to $800 was annually raised for schools, and from $1200 to $1800 from 1827 to 1844. The income of proceeds of sales of school lands made prior to 1727 had been applied to the support of schools for a period not now known, but it must have been an insignificant sum. After 1837 the income of $6927.64, received from the United States out of the "surplus revenue," was also thus applied till Blackstone was incorporated, in 1845, when only $2118.19 was left for Mendon, and in 1880 this was used to reduce the town's general indebtedness.

The statute of 1826 introduced the effectual control of public schools by the School Committee. They were first paid in Mendon in 1832, when $10.00 was voted them, "providing they are prompt and regular in visiting the schools." The people clung tenaciously to the district system, and jealously reserved all possible control of the schools to the district or prudential committees down to 1869, when the system was abolished by law. Any fancied assumption of undue control on the part of the town committee was likely to be followed by the election of a new board at the next town-meeting.

The schools, however, progressed steadily, and from the time of Grindal Rawson's graduation, in 1728, Mendon has sent out students who have won scholarly fame from New England colleges. Dr. Metcalf, in his "Annals," gives us the names of ten such graduates, all from Harvard before 1800, and twenty-three graduates of colleges or professional schools between 1800 and 1860. After an apparent lull in educational interest, a new zeal appeared to arise in the winter of 1867–68. It manifested itself in a school, gathered by consent of the school authorities, in the smallest school-house and one of the most remote in situation in town, where some of the more advanced pupils of various and distant schools assembled, and where they enjoyed instruction in studies more advanced than usual in such schools. In view of the progress thus made and the ambition aroused, the town voted in 1868 "to establish a high school for the benefit of all the inhabitants" to be kept in the town hall during the fall and winter following.

Mr. Henry Whittemore, afterwards a successful teacher and superintendent of schools in other towns, achieved such a success here that the school was continued and has been ever since, though sustained by a voluntary expenditure on the part of the town and often suffering from insufficient support and the errors of inexperienced or ignorant instructors. But the influence of the school, imperfect though it be, has been very great and has decidedly elevated educational standards throughout the town. It may be worth noting that the "Grammar School" of 1729–69, with its instruction in mathematics and "the tongues," outranked the common and "Dame" schools, was for the benefit of the townspeople generally, and ended with or about the time of the advent of the district system. As that disappeared the town again assumed full control, and in its High School restored the ancient Grammar School in a modernized form. The tenth anniversary of the High School was celebrated in 1878, when the public testimony of its former members was strongly in its praise as a power for good in their lives; later evidence is to the same effect. For the last fifteen years a majority of the town's teachers have been taken from its High School. It is doubtful if, during the ten years prior to its establishment ten of the Mendon pupils of the common schools sought any education in schools of higher grade, while in twenty years since 1868 more than forty entered such higher schools or colleges after taking the opportunities offered in the Mendon High school. Of these at least twenty have taken or will soon take diplomas from such institutions. Among them are graduates from Harvard, Dartmouth, Amherst, the Worcester Polytechnic School, the State Normal Schools and schools of law and medicine.

Such a record shows the town has not fallen back in ambition or achievement in the line of educating its children.

The names of teachers of Mendon High School and time of service are: Henry Whittemore, 1868–70; Daniel N. Lane, Jr., 1870–74; Benjamin F. Harmon, 1872: Ernest L. Scott, 1874–75; Parker P. Simmons,

1875–76; Frank C. Meserve, 1877–78; F. A. Holden, 1878–79; Walter M. Wheelock, 1879–80; J. A. Joy, 1880–81; John C. Worcester, 1881–82; Walter S. Bosworth, 1882–83; S. W. Ferguson, 1883–84; N. Currier, 1884–85; O. C. B. Nason, 1885; Volney B. Skinner, 1886; J. Q. Hayward, 1886–87; Hill Williams, 1887–88; Wendel Williams, 1888.

Closely allied to the educational history of Mendon is the story of the founding of the Taft Public Library in 1881, by Mrs. Susan E. (Lee) Huston, late of Providence, Rhode Island. Born in Mendon, July 17, 1824, and early orphaned, Mrs. Huston had exceedingly limited opportunities for reading and but little school education. Whatever advance she made in learning she was wont to attribute to the influence and aid of her older half-brother, Putnam W. Taft, late of Worcester, but also a native of Mendon. At his death Mrs. Huston received a share of his estate and unselfishly determined to apply a large portion thereof so that the people of her native town might ever after enjoy what in her early days had been denied to her,—an abundance of good books. To this end she gave the town one thousand dollars to establish a free public library to be at once useful to the living and a memorial of her brother, whose name it bears, and who, in his lifetime, had expressed a desire to do something of the kind. By the terms of the gift the town is to provide a place for the library and yearly add new books to the value of seventy-five dollars, at least. This it has done, and after Mrs. Huston's death, July 4, 1884, unanimously voted to erect a tablet to her memory in its library building, already adorned with her portrait and that of her brother. The library has received gifts from time to time, and now has over twenty-five hundred volumes, largely standard works. It is very freely used, is greatly valued and its founder held in grateful and loving remembrance.

No sketch of Mendon's history would be complete which did not notice a few events of minor importance perhaps, but which, at the time of their occurrence, attracted great and general interest.

Such was the erection in 1840 of Harrison Hall and school-rooms beneath, and its purchase in 1849 by the town, connected with which many acrimonious contests and more than one lawsuit arose. Happily, though in constant use ever since, the building, with its lot recently enlarged, still remains, is in good repair and useful as ever, while the bitter strifes of which it was the occasion exist as faint memories alone.

Pleasanter recollections follow the town's bi-centennial celebration in 1867, of which mention has been made. Rev. Carleton A. Staples, one of the town's favorite sons, now of Lexington, was orator of the day, and Judge Henry Chapin, of Worcester, the poet; General John M. Thayer, of Nebraska; Rev. Adin Ballou, of Hopedale; Putnam W. Taft, Hons. Ira M. Barton, E. B. Stoddard, Judge H. B. Staples, of Worcester; Francis Deane, Esq., of Uxbridge; Rev. Lewis F. Clarke, of Northbridge; Dr. M. D. Southwick, of Blackstone; Hon. George B. Loring, of Salem, and others, delivered addresses or read poems. There were letters of regret read from Governor A. H. Bullock, General B. F. Butler, Hons. Levi Lincoln, John H. Clifford, George S. Boutwell, Emory Washburn, Stephen Salisbury, Judge Charles Devens and others.

October 31, 1877, some hundreds of people assembled to commemorate the one hundred and seventy-fourth anniversary of the death of the pioneer, Sergeant Abraham Staples. Two of his descendants, Rev. C. A. Staples and Judge H. B. Staples, on this occasion dedicated a granite monument to his memory and, with others of this well-known family, delivered appropriate addresses.

There is in Mendon's old burying-ground, where this Staples' monument stands, a stone bearing the name of Deborah Read, and the date 1702, and one with the name of Abraham Staples, and the date October 20, 1704, is next in antiquity. On the authority of Judge Staples there are but five older ones known in the county, all in Lancaster.

Another memorial stone, and very useful, also, in the form of a large watering basin, highly finished, and suitably inscribed in memory of Hon. David Joy, originally from Nantucket, was given to the town by his widow. It stands at the junction of Main and Hastings Streets. Mr. Joy lived in Mendon, for several years and died abroad in 1876. The basin was not fully made over to the town till 1884, since which date the town has kept it supplied. It was set up in 1877.

It is apparent that from the beginning what is now Mendon always had a moderate growth in population. From 1840 to 1875 it was probably about stationary, having not far from twelve hundred inhabitants.

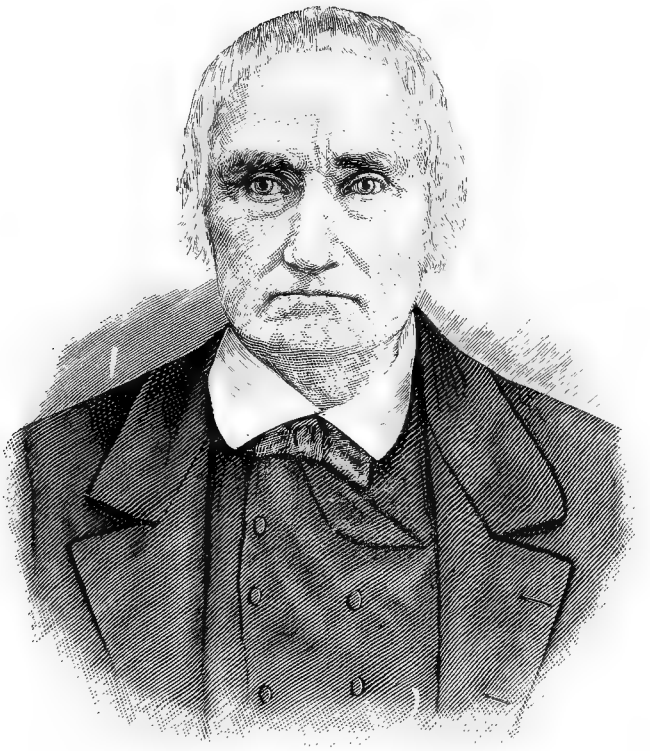
Compelled to rely upon its fertile farms, like similar Massachusetts towns, it has long seen its sons going to swell the population of larger places, but it is still strong in self-respect and is evidently as much respected as ever. Surrounded by the busy towns formerly within its limits, it seems content, in some measure, with the traditions of its past, and to look on the turmoil around something as a mother on her children at play, without taking much part in their restless activity. Its population in 1885, numbering only nine hundred and forty-five, is largely of pure New England stock, and it may be doubted if, in any town in Worcester County, the people retain more of the habits and sterling character of their New England ancestors.[1]

BIOGRAPHICAL.

OBADIAH WOOD.

Mr. Wood was born in Uxbridge, Mass., March 16, 1773. He was the son of Solomon and grandson of

[1] In the preparation of the foregoing, the "Annals of Mendon," compiled by Dr. John G. Metcalf, and published by the town of Mendon, 1880, also the published historical discourses of Rev. C. A. Staples, have been freely used.



Obadiah Wood

Obadiah. The subject of this sketch married Abey, daughter of Israel Mowry, of Rhode Island, by whom he had nine children. The early life of Mr. Wood was spent as a farmer in the towns of Uxbridge and Mendon. He then learned the trade of a mechanic, that of a wood-workman. The first of his work in this line was the manufacture of chairs and spinning-wheels. After the establishment of factories along our streams, Mr. Wood found his occupation partly gone. He was next employed in some of these factories in the region where he lived in other lines of wood-work. It is claimed for him that he was the first bobbin-maker in this country, his orders coming from all parts of the United States as time rolled on. His bobbins also found their way to the South American States,—he was quite successful in this business. While a resident of the town of Mendon he was honored by being chosen to fill all of the important offices in the place. He was elected to the Legislature from Mendon in 1835, and again in 1836. While a member of that body he introduced a bill to reduce the number of members to be chosen annually as members of the House of Representatives. The bill was favorably received, and became a law. He was at one time chosen one of the State directors of what is now the Boston and Albany Railroad. Mr. Wood was a man of strong will-power, earnest in what he thought to be right. In politics he was originally a Jacksonian Democrat, but, with the rise of the Republican party, he saw the opportunity to do something to check the advance of the slave power. Believing in equal rights for all men, he united himself with the new party, as the best means to accomplish the end desired.

He was a man of sterling integrity, ever laboring for the public good. All matters brought to his notice were carefully weighed, and his decisions were generally found to be correct, and in accordance with right and justice. He is remembered as a lover of books and as a skillful mechanic, who did much in those early days of our history to advance the prosperity of the towns and county in which he lived, leaving behind footprints not yet effaced.

He died July 29, 1852, at the ripe old age of seventy-nine, respected by all who knew him.

CHAPTER LX.

BERLIN.

BY REV. W. A. HOUGHTON.

In introducing our modest little town to Worcester County we have to say that we ought to have been much larger. A line on the map touching Boston and Albany justifies the scheme of some shrewd capitalists of sixty years ago, of connecting the two cities by canal (*á la* Erie), which would have divided our town in halves. A speaker of our House of Representatives lately said that had the project been consummated, Boston would have been the metropolis instead of New York. The Central Massachusetts Railroad has, by nature, the pre-eminent "right of way," which it has taken through Worcester County. But other considerations besides directness determine such issues. So, too, had Lancaster, when we were a part of it, only accepted the county-seat, how different would we have been, and all the northern Worcester County towns; great results follow inconsiderate action!

As it is, Berlin is one of the eight towns of the county having less than a thousand in population, and two of these towns join us. Berlin, now bounded north by Bolton, east by Hudson and Marlboro', south by Northboro' and west by Boylston and Clinton, is, territorially, a section of the original "ten miles square" of Lancaster, and the southeast corner of it.

From 1643 to 1738 we were of Lancaster,—almost a century. We had two or three houses on Berlin soil before the massacre of 1676,—one as early as 1665. That was John Moore's, who located southeast of Wataquadock Hill. In the re-settlement of Lancaster, the families clung to the Nashua River. Berlin territory was not inhabited again probably till about 1700. Garrisons were maintained up to 1720. Bolton had two or three. Our territory had none; but several families had ventured within our present bounds about 1700.

Of early landholders of Berlin, of noticeable extent, were the Johnsons, of Woburn, who settled on the south. Captain Edward Johnson, famous in Woburn as one of its founders, was virtually court surveyor under Governor Winthrop. With two others, he was appointed to supervise the affairs of Lancaster, when not enough "freemen" could be enrolled to do it, not being church members. Hence, probably, his acquaintance with Lancaster lands.

A great-grandson of his settled three sons, Edward, Joshua and Eleazer, on farms which included most of what is now South Berlin. Of these three brothers, two of them married two sisters, daughters of James Ball, of "Ball Hill," and sisters of the first of the three celebrated doctors Stephen Ball, of Northboro'. The other brother married a cousin of theirs, daughter of Nathan Ball, brother to James, on the same hill, Westboro' then, Northboro' now. The Johnsons were prominent in the early history of Bolton and Berlin. They came upon the stage about the time of the separation of Bolton from Lancaster, 1738. Dr. Joshua Johnson, late of Northboro', was one of the last of this family line in this vicinity. The name stood strong in Berlin for a hundred and fifty years. Another branch settled in Leominster. The Lancaster Johnsons were from Watertown. Our line stands Edward, William, Edward, Edward, Jr., who located here his sons.

Samuel Jones, Jr., a grandson of Josiah Jones, of Watertown, progenitor, according to Bond, of the American families of the name, was connected with the Johnsons in Woburn by marriage, and settled near them on the Assabet River, near our Marlboro' and Northboro' lines. The Joneses were a family of like standing, apparently, with the Johnsons. Here the Joneses became more numerous for many years than any other family. Samuel (2d), and third of the line, bought of Benjamin Bailey one hundred and forty-seven acres, 1748, covering all our present centre. One single dwelling of account seems to have been included. This became a hotel, an "inn" in those days. Children and children's children came upon the stage. They established homes mainly upon the first purchase. The third and fourth Samuels raised here their families. The third Samuel was "senior" as to Berlin. The first two were of Concord and Woburn.

Two large families, Samuel (5th) and William, removed to Marlboro', N. H., 1810 and 1825. They have well maintained the family name and character. At present Mr. Ira Jones is sole male representative of the several energetic founders of Berlin.

Our Samuel, Sr., gave to the town its parish common and ground for cemetery. He was a valiant patriot and "militant" in any good cause. In the ecclesiastical conflict between Rev. Mr. Goss and the town, who desired to settle Mr. Walley, "Land'rd Jones" was reported as praying that the Lord would "overturn and overturn

Till Goss should lose his case
And Walley have his place."

In some way "Constable Jones" served in the execution of Mrs. Spooner, in Worcester, 1778. So tradition has it.

On the east of the town Stephen Gates and sons held several hundred acres, including our principal pond, bearing his name. Gates came from England, 1638, by way of Hingham and Cambridge to Lancaster. Our Lancaster historians represent the family as decidedly "tropical" in blood. Daughter Mary confronted the minister in the public assembly. Prosecuted, she shook off the dust of her feet and married John Maynard, of Sudbury, and from them came several good-blooded Maynard families to Berlin. But the Gates name subsided. Some settled in Stow. The Gateses were patriots in the wars.

Between the Gates lands on the east of the town and Johnsons on the south came in John Wheeler and John, Jr,, from the Concord Wheeler hive. They have multiplied, "and still increase." The name, of late years, has represented more families and persons than any other. Their first home was on the south of Sawyer Hill. Now they have a hill of their own in the north part of the town. They have been connected mostly with the Quakers, whose meeting-house stands just over the Bolton line in Fryville.

The original Wheeler purchase was three hundred and sixty-two acres in Marlboro'. The Assabet Meadow is named. This of Thomas Henchman, by "John Wheeler, of Concord, son of Obadiah Wheeler, late of Concord, deceased." This John Wheeler died in Marlboro', 1721. His son, John, about that time moved on into Shrewsbury (now Boylston), where he died, leaving estate to his son John.

On the Marlboro' homestead, now in Berlin, Jonathan, son of John, Jr., appears with family, 1752. He is the head of the Berlin families. George Tolman, of Concord, has made a thorough development of the Concord Wheelers from their immigration, correcting many errors.

Sons Jonathan, Jr., Stephen and Levi settled in Berlin; Perigrine in Richmond, N. H.; Jonathan, Jr. married Mary Buffum, of which blood all her descendants think very much; they hold a yearly picnic the day after the August "Quarterly Meeting."

Berlin on the west was peopled by Lancaster inhabitants from the Nashua. Philip Larkin, of Irish descent, established our "Larkindale." Singularly there gathered round him other nationalities till the region was known as the "Six Nations." Philip left a vigorous posterity, well represented as yet. But he disappeared in early old age, leaving for Baltimore. No further trace of him from about 1750 till a Berlin soldier came across his grave and tablet in Poolesville, Md., 1862. He owned here several hundred acres of land, which he distributed mostly among his sons. His neighbors suggested that he left to have, at last, the offices of the Catholic Church. There was no such church nearer at that date. The suggestion has reason in it. Tradition has it that Philip, by collusion with the captain of the ship, evaded his military enrollment in the King's army. He found employment with Rev. John Prentice, of Lancaster. On the north, almost the entire section of the town was owned by the Lancaster Houghtons. John Houghton, born in England, was among the first proprietors of the "ten miles square" of Lancaster. Before the Rowlandson massacre, 1675, he had land three miles from the home settlements. His sons succeeded to the same after his death, 1684. Two of the sons settled on Berlin territory. Some of that land was in the same name for six generations, 1675–1825. The writer of this now alone represents that name in Berlin. The Houghtons vied with the Wilders and Willards in Lancaster as to numbers. John Houghton, second born, 1650, died 1737, was one of Lancaster's most noted citizens. A majority, perhaps, of the Lancaster Houghtons fell into Bolton, 1738. Robert, son of John, Sr., was the progenitor of the principal Berlin line. The foregoing were our earliest settlers.

Some other names will appear in their special localities. In point of time as to settlement, Sawyer Hill is first. Gates Pond lies at its eastern base. Josiah Sawyer, grandson of the famous Thomas Sawyer, Jr., of Indian fame and captivity, who redeemed

himself and son by introducing into Canada the first saw-mill, settled on Gates Hill, now Sawyer Hill, about 1740.

Here he reared, and nurtured in all good training, a large family. He was first deacon of the Berlin Church. At last he divided his estate among his four sons, William, Aholiab, Josiah and Silas. The hill is still represented by a great-grandson, Jonas Sawyer. One of the homesteads has of late been the residence of Madam Rudersdorf, the famous teacher of music and voice culture. "Lake Side" she called it, for its view of the lake and many distant mountains. Berlin Centre lies in the valley on the west of the hill. The Sawyer name has ever been largely represented in Berlin, socially and religiously.

William Sawyer, son of Deacon Josiah, was a thorough patriot. He married into the prominent Barrett family, of Bolton. William Sawyer Newton, town clerk of Brattleboro', grandson of Cotton Newton, of the Marlboro' and Northboro' line, an early settler here, represents the Sawyer and Barrett families in Vermont.

Major Oliver Sawyer, deacon of the Orthodox Church in Berlin, and Amos, his brother, deacon of the Unitarian Church, both reared here influential families. They were sons of William Sawyer and Hannah Barrett. Amos, Jr., was thirty years chorister in the same house of worship, also several years a Representative in the Legislature. Two sons of Dea. Oliver also repeatedly served the town in this capacity.

Hon. Henry O. Sawyer, merchant, of West Boylston, and his partner, Walter Barrett Sawyer, are grandsons of Dea. Oliver. Their father, Oliver Barrett Sawyer, was their predecessor in their business.

Wheeler Hill, named from early settlers and continued occupancy, is an offshoot from the Bolton and Indian Wataquadock. It is within bugle-sound of Sawyer Hill and several others partially encircling it. Jonathan Wheeler, Jr., of the fourth generation, was its first occupant, 1778.

Baker Hill is another spur of Wataquadock, more westerly. Hon. Samuel Baker, associate judge of the Court of Common Pleas and fourteen years a Senator, settled on the hill in 1765. The hill is now in occupancy of a great-grandson, Alden Sawyer. Samuel Baker is the only family name in Berlin which we cannot trace back a single link. To us he is a genuine Melchisedec. We can do something with John Smith, but Samuel Baker we surrender; yet his name has honored the town more, perhaps, than any other.

Barnes Hill is our western outlook. A finer view is seldom obtained. Doubtful if any other such fine view of Wachusett and intervening hills can be named. Fortunatus Barnes, of Marlboro', settled on this outlook, 1765. He cleaned up the hill of all squatters, settlers and owners, save one, Phineas Howe, whose great-grandson still "holds the fort," Silas Sawyer Greenleaf. None but these two homesteads have ever had a footing on this most sightly crest. In 1865 the Centennial was pleasingly observed. The Barnes' hospitality was abundant and fully appreciated.

Hon. Charles Hudson, whose father had lived within musket range, on Ball Hill, partly in Berlin and partly in Northboro', honored the occasion by an address.

Berlin cherishes the names of Fortunatus Barnes of Marlboro' and Persis Hosmer of Concord, both of historic families. They have largely contributed to our character and standing. Their son, Capt. William Barnes, married into the vigorous Goddard stock, then already established on the eastern slope of Barnes Hill. The son did honor to the family name, and maintained the paternal acres in the best order of husbandry till his death, 1851. No fruit to-day excels the product of Barnes Hill.

Artemas Barnes, only son of Captain William and Hannah (Goddard) Barnes, generously erected, 1876, a costly monument to the memory of Rev. Dr. Puffer; also to Lieut. Timothy Bailey, who died in the Revolutionary service. He gave also the site on which our town-house stands. His life-size portrait adorns the Town Hall. He married Nancy Meriam, a lateral branch of the Lexington and Berlin stock. He died in Worcester, 1877, aged eighty years.

Before naming other families, a view from Barnes Hill may give us the best idea of the town territorially. On the west the land rises from the Nashua River, in Clinton, so that it sheds its water not into the river near by, but carries it across the township into the Assabet. The surface is generally uneven, but of a more than ordinary fertility.

Berlin streams are small, except the Assabet, which flows through the southeast border and receives affluents from other towns. The Centre and the South village are not an intervale proper, but from Barnes Hill seem bounded by it and Baker Hill, Wheeler Hill and Sawyer Hill. North Brook, formed by streams from the north part of the town, and Larkindale, divides the lower area, tending to the Assabet. The Centre contains three churches, town-house, school-house, post-office and a store of common variety. A hotel was burned 1883.

This valley, to the Assabet, is dotted with farms, farm-houses and Old Colony Railroad station. South Berlin village, at the south end of the valley, is quite a flourishing part of the town. West Berlin, at the northeastern foot of Barnes Hill, is the most active business point of the town. The Old Colony Railroad has given it life and energy. The C. M. Railroad makes there a junction with it. The iron bridge of the latter, spanning Felton's mill-pond and the O. C. Railroad, is a very fine structure.

Carterville is a cluster of a score of houses, store, &c., just north of the churches. Here, too, is the C. M. Railroad station. Very few localities present such a horizon-view as Barnes Hill in Berlin.

We waited long for the *Rail*, but it came at last. Four trains for Boston daily and return on the O. C. and three on the C. M. On the latter one hour plus

by way of Hudson, Wayland, Waltham, &c. By the same road, within one hour of Worcester, by way of Oakdale and the Nashua, three times daily. The O. C. Northern Division embraces Fitchburg, Leominster, Clinton, Berlin, Northboro', Marlboro', Southboro', Framingham, &c. We look for "Berlin Junction," now partial, at West Berlin. Few towns have better railroad facilities. Very few, within thirty miles of Boston, have more enjoyable scenery. We have also daily stage express to Hudson Station on the Fitchburg.

Returning to family names, Benjamin Bailey, adjoining the Johnsons, and of whom Samuel Jones bought what is now Berlin Centre, owned much besides; six hundred acres at least. He bought "rights," exchanged and consolidated, till he held in one solid block, apparently, a third part of our present township, and that nearly in the centre. He came in from Marlboro', 1718; was a descendant, probably, of Rev. Thomas Bailey, of Watertown. Rev. Benjamin Bailay, of Portland, Marblehead, now of Malden, is of the fourth generation from Benjamin, of Berlin, "The places that know them shall know them no more." Sons and sons' sons were many years leading citizens here. For forty years the name has not been enrolled in Berlin, save as adopted by a lateral descendant to keep it up. A brother of Benjamin, Barnabas Bailey, had a large farm, including, at his door, what is now the Old Colony Railroad Station for Berlin Centre and South Berlin. Col. Silas Bailey was a younger brother. His son, Lieutenant Timothy, died in the Revolutionary service. The colonel got somewhat into sympathy with the Shays' Rebellion.

William Babcock, of the Dedham and Marlboro' line, settled here about 1770. He was our only *Cincinnatus*, so far as we can affirm, who left his plough in the furrow, and hastened to Lexington at the alarm gun fired from the "Jones tavern." The Babcock name has ever headed our list of citizens, the letter A refusing, almost wholly, to serve us till lately. Five generations from William, inclusive, are on our records and still well represented. Reuben Babcock, father of William, lived in Marlboro', Westboro' and Northboro', without moving, near the present Corey farms.

Adam Bartlett, of Marlboro', with wife, Persis Babcock, sister of William, of Northboro', took possession of the "Stone-house," Baker Hill, about 1808. Sons and daughters were born to them, ten in number, but the one destroyer has left us but one representative, Amory Adam, of the fourth generation. A Sawyer and Bartlett Association hold annual picnic meetings at the Stone-house about the 1st of September.

The name Bassett is modern in Berlin, but honorably represented. Three brothers came from Richmond, N. H., 1856, with their venerable parents, of the Society of Friends. Elisha settled on one of our best farms, on the Assabet; William, in the same vicinity; Ahaz settled in Hudson. Hon. William Bassett is the author of a comprehensive history of his native town, Richmond, N. H. He was Senator of his district, 1864.

Thomas and Samuel Brigham came in from that most numerous stock of Marlboro', and traceable to Thomas, of Watertown, 1635. Samuel left no son. Thomas and wife, Asuba Babcock, left Thomas and Paul. No son succeeded these. They both lived by the present central station of the Old Colony Railroad.

The Barber mills (Nathan) were a focus of prominent interest from 1777–1812. Later they were the Carter mills, Polland mills, now Felton's, West Berlin. Whence Barber came is not indicated. The family ceased from our records sixty years ago.

Bride, formerly McBride, is a name first represented here by Alexander, from Ireland and Charlestown, 1745–50. The families were numerous fifty years ago. Only two at present in Berlin. All the sons—John, James and Thomas—were more or less in the colonial armies.

Bruce is Scotch. Our records have borne the name a hundred and fifty years. They were a family of soldiers, in the French and Indian Wars, also in the Revolution. They came from Sudbury. John and Roger, of Marlboro', preceded Daniel, the head of Berlin families. We cannot give the date of immigration.

James Butler was of Woburn and Lancaster. James, Jr., without moving, was of Lancaster, Bolton and Berlin. The name was but a few years on Berlin records till recently. Lancaster, Bolton and Leominster took in most of them. Their Lancaster homes were west of Clam-shell Pond.

Christopher Banister Bigelow, of the Marlboro' line, so ancient, reared a large family, five or six of whom have reared other families within our borders. One only on our records at present. Abraham Bigelow, of Northboro', is son of Christopher.

The Carter families of Berlin, always relatively numerous, are of the Woburn stock. Rev. Thomas Carter was first minister of that enterprising town. The Carters were early settlers in Lancaster, and of the most vigorous blood. A full score of the families have made their homes on Berlin territory down to the ninth generation from Rev. Thomas. Chandler Carter, late benefactor of the town, has a personal record on another page.

Cartwright, Francis James, came from England about 1840, with sons Daniel and Algernon, and daughter Elizabeth. Parents and daughter have deceased.

Carley, Job and Silas, were transferred to Berlin from Marlboro' in the construction of the town. *Kerley* was the original form of the family name, pronounced Karley,—hence Carley. Their home was on the Assabet. The progenitor was William, of Watertown, 1642. He was an original proprietor of lands both in Marlboro' and Lancaster. In Lancaster he married, second wife, the mother of Minister

Rowlandson. His brother Henry's family were killed in the Rowlandson massacre. This brought Henry back to the Assabet, where he settled. The Berlin Carleys were his descendants. Their early connections were in the best families of Marlboro' and Lancaster. Job Carley, the last on our records, died here 1856, not of "small-pox," as put on record. That visitation of the family was fifty years earlier.

Cotting, George A., resident in Berlin, Boylston, now of Hudson, has honored his ancestry in erecting in Berlin's new cemetery a sightly and impressive granite monument bearing the Cotting genealogy of his line from the immigration. Josiah, of Roxbury, 1637, heads the line, later of Lancaster. Others of kin settled in New York City, and appeared under the name of Cutting. Cotting is the original. Josiah, Jr., was a Revolutionary soldier of Sterling; Josiah (3d) was physician of Southboro'; Josiah (4th) married daughter of Capt. William Barnes, of Berlin; George A. is their son.

Coolidge: Many in the region, Bolton and Hudson. John, of Watertown, 1636, is counted as head of the American families. His wife was Mary ———. Had Mary, Sarah, Stephen and Jonathan, and John, Jr., who settled in Sherborn. Berlin families have been Stephen, Moses, Josiah, Caleb.

A branch of the Northboro' Fays, descendants of John, of Boston, 1656, settled in Berlin, 1804. Dexter was deacon of the church. His children and children's children still abide. He owned a fine farm on the height of land next to Northboro' line, till of late in the family name. It is now a "gilt edge" butter dairy. The Morse family has been represented in Berlin for fifty years. Aaron Ward, of Marlboro', descendant of Joseph, of Watertown, 1635, settled here 1837; was succeeded by his son Symon on the Assabet, one of the best farms of the region. Winslow B. Morse, on the old "Brigham place," Old Colony Station, is of a collateral branch. Amory C., deceased, was his brother.

Feltons in Berlin are modern and came from Marlboro' 1830–40. Jacob and sons, Otis and Merrick. Two brothers from Scotland by the name of Fife came over about 1730. They located as neighbors in Lancaster, but territorial divisions left one family in Bolton the other in Berlin. The Berlin branch, by James, became numerous. They were enterprising and scattered themselves in several States. Dr. John William Fyfe, of Saugatuck, Conn., is their genealogist. The William Fyfe line, much esteemed, is represented solely by William E. Fyfe, of Clinton, Mass., the fourth William and fourth generation.

The Fosgates for a hundred and fifty years have clung to Gates Pond, in East Berlin. We trace to Robert, sometimes of Marlboro', sometimes of Bolton. Back of Robert the ancestry is obscure. It is the only ancient family among us who still hold their own in a half-score of families.

Five generations of the well-known Goddard family have dwelt among us; all descended from Edward, a stanch old Puritan in days of the hated Charles I. Edward "lost all things" for his religion. William, his son, lost all by the London fire and speculation in New England investments. Josiah, son of William, made a good farmer in Watertown, and William, his son, made a good miller on North Brook, now South Berlin. One name alone, Marcus Morton Goddard, represents, to-day, in Berlin, all these generations. They were among our earliest and most vigorous families.

A family of genuine vigor were the Fairbanks. Jonas was a first proprietor of Lancaster. His son Jabez become a terror to all Indians within scouting distance. Jabez, Jr., and a son of his settled on Berlin premises. The Goddards and Fairbanks joined hands in the marriage of James Goddard, Jr., of the sixth generation, and Keziah Fairbanks, great-granddaughter of Jabez, Sr., in 1785.

Hartshorn was a name unknown in Berlin up to 1840. Dr. Edward, son of Rev. Levi Hartshorn, who died at Gloucester in early prime, came to Berlin after his graduation at Harvard Medical College. He was then the youngest practicing physician in Worcester County. He married a daughter of Solomon Howe, Esq., and settled in professional life. Besides laborious practice, he did much to improve the town by various enterprises. He was chairman in committee for building the present tasteful and becoming town-house, 1869.

Dr. Hartshorn was for seventeen years superintendent of the Congregational Sunday-school. He sold his professional interests in the town, 1854, and with his two sons engaged in the manufacture of family medicines, which business he removed to Boston and followed with his family, 1871.

Edward Howe, son of Dr. Hartshorn, retained his home in Berlin and succeeded his father as superintendent of the Sabbath-school sixteen years. Death severed the connection. He married the daughter of Rev. Wm. A. Houghton, 1869. She died 1876. Second, he married a daughter of R. S. Hastings. He died June 8, 1887, at forty-four years. He represented his district, embracing Berlin, Clinton and Bolton, in Legislature, 1869; was the youngest member, save one, in the House. The first marriage of Edward H. Hartshorn and that of his only brother to only daughter of James Maynard, of Clinton, were on the same day; being the silver wedding of Rev. W. A. Houghton and wife. A great concourse of people were present. The elder brother and the mother of his first two children now lie side by side in the silence of the grave, under the national flag.

Hastings: Four branches of this family of ancient history have given character to Berlin. It is pleasant to know that we have some early blood in America besides the British and the Irish. No doubt the Hastings are true Danes. Mrs. Lydia Nelson (Hastings) Buckminster, of Framingham, the family gene-

alogist, gives us—1664–1864—about one thousand of the name and three times as many of the blood, having "homes from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean, and from the Gulf of the St. Lawrence to the tropical regions of South America." Thomas, born in England, 1605, and Margaret Cheney, of Roxbury, are the progenitors. Nathaniel, Jr., of the fourth generation, was first on Berlin territory about 1765. He had a large family. His wife was Elizabeth Goodnow. He was a soldier in the French War—1755–62—also in Revolutionary service.

Ephraim Hastings, of the fifth generation, married Achsah Sawyer, of Lancaster, and settled in Boylston, where his children were born, and where his wife, Achsah, died. He married (2d) Almira, daughter of Rev. Dr. Puffer, of Berlin. He bought the Edward Johnson homestead, where he died, 1855. His only son, Captain Christopher Sawyer, at the outbreak of the Rebellion, though exempt by age from military service, voluntarily organized a company and offered himself for service. He was in the battle of Fredericksburg, Vicksburg and at the capture of Jackson, Miss. Smitten by the small-pox, he rallied and reached Mound City Hospital, Ill., where he died of malarial fever, September 8, 1863. He was buried with civic and military honors beside his own homestead, in our new cemetery, which he had done much to adorn.

Captain Hastings was a man of public enterprise, and executed many important trusts of the town. The trees of the highway, from his own domicile to his final resting-place, bear witness to his public spirit. His farm of generous acres, in the hands of his sons, represents, perhaps, the best specimen of modern agriculture and gardening of this vicinity. The family have presented to the G. A. R. Post his life-size likeness in crayon.

Rufus S. Hastings, twenty-five years merchant and postmaster in Berlin, was separated from the other Berlin Hastings families in the third generation. His father, Major Rufus, and grandfather, Colonel Stephen, were of the most prominent farmers of Sterling, and just south of Washacum Ponds. Their line connected them with the Northboro' Balls of Ball Hill, from Watertown, and with Deacon Jona. Livermore, the centenarian, who lived in three centuries—died 1801. Samuel Hastings, of the second generation, and Sarah Coolidge were their progenitors. Thomas and Margaret (Cheney) Hastings were before these.

Thomas Holder, son of Thomas, direct from England, married, in Mendon, Sarah Gaskill, 1777, and came to Berlin. Both were effective preachers, of the Quaker persuasion. Four sons honored their name and Christian faith: Daniel and Thomas, of Berlin, Joseph, of Bolton, and David, of Clinton. All are deceased. I find the names Gaskill and Holder among the Quakers in their persecutions in the old Bay Colony. Samuel Gaskill, 1662, married Provided Southwick, daughter of Lawrence and Cassandra.

John Hudson, father of Hon. Charles, preacher and legislator, was a member of Berlin Church, and died here 1799. The Hudsons were a family of patriots, and soldiers as well.

Phineas Howe, of the Marlboro' John Howe line, came in by way of Shrewsbury, then Boylston, about 1760. His daughter Polly, who married Abel Baker, son of Judge Baker, raised, in Concord, N. H., a family remarkable for physical development. One son measured six feet, nine and one-half inches in his stockings. At a recent silver wedding of Silas Greenleaf, a great-grandson of Phineas, on the ancestral spot, the trait was observable in the sixth generation, grandsons of Mr. Greenleaf.

Solomon Howe, also of Marlboro', came much later, 1803; bought of the Joneses most of what is now Berlin Centre. He kept a store, also a public "Inn." It was the dining-place for stage passengers between New Braintree, Barre, Rutland and Boston, 1827–40.

Berlin Howards are of Shrewsbury—Timothy, Timothy, Jr., and sons.

The name Jewett has an abiding-place in Berlin records for a hundred years. Jesse, probably from Rowley, with the Spaffords, settled here 1779; married into the Johnson family. The third and fourth generations survive. A son of Jesse, Jr., was major in the New Jersey militia in the late war, suffered a severe wound in the "sword-arm," as he was leading his men in battle.

The Keyes name is modern in Berlin, represented by David, Ziba and their children. Their remotest American ancestor was Robert, of Watertown, 1633. Several of the family name settled in Shrewsbury and Boylston. The Berlin families are of the Shrewsbury branch, Dea. John Keyes. His son Thomas married into the Livermore family, of Ball Hill. Thomas, Jr., was father to David and Ziba.

The Maynards are of most ancient lineage. Our families are traceable to John, of Sudbury, 1638, and Mary Gates, of Lancaster, who confronted the minister. Barnabas, Jotham and Jotham, Jr., were lifelong citizens. Two other Maynard families succeeded them,—George, of Marlboro,' and George W., from Great Bend, Pa. George W. represented his district in the Legislature, 1859.

The Meriams were influential here from 1765 to 1845–50. Amos, from Lexington, of the well-known Concord family, married into the Danforth family, of "Cambridge Farms." Joseph Meriam, Esq., of New York City, is their genealogist (manuscript).

Jonathan Moore, of the John Moore line, of Sudbury, 1650, has been followed in Bolton and Berlin by seven generations. Warren E. Moore and brothers, of Northboro', are the later representatives of Berlin origin.

James R. Park, of Holliston, descended of Richard, of Watertown, 1636, became the owner of the Goddard mills and other estate in South Berlin, 1790,—a family of respectability and good influence in Berlin

for three generations. His son, Colonel Joseph, several years Representative to the Legislature, and his only son, Russell, returned to Holliston, where the father died.

The Berlin Pollards were of Billerica, and descendants of William and Anna, from Coventry, England, 1638. The Berlin families appear about 1720–30, then a part of Bolton, where a majority have since lived. Anna Pollard, wife of William, was the first female who set foot on Boston soil. She lived to her hundred and fifth year. Her portrait is in the Old South Church, Boston.

Joseph Priest and wife Hannah, born 1684, are the eldest born of any in Berlin Cemetery—just two hundred years before our incorporation as a precinct. He was from Woburn, and came by way of Lancaster. Had a large family, which was represented in three or four succeeding generations. A son of his, Joseph, Jr., gave the town, by will, five hundred dollars, our first school fund, to be appropriated to schools alone.

Captain Henry Powers, of unknown lineage, was an early settler on Baker Hill, about 1770. Had a large family, but they did not tarry after the second generation. A grandson of his was killed by murderous assault in Grafton, 1840.

Solomon Rathburn, from Rhode Island, settled in Berlin about 1840. His son, Thomas, was the first enrolled soldier of Berlin in the late war; the first also of Berlin soldiers to die in the high calling. Another son, James, also entered the service. Charles B. is of our progressive farmers on Baker Hill.

Of Southwicks—historic name of Puritan days—we have several families, veritable descendants of Lawrence and Cassandra, the first to suffer persecution here for opinion's sake; more accurately, perhaps, for opposing others' opinions and refusing to conform to the arbitrary laws on religious matters. Lawrence and Cassandra were certainly inoffensive, except in non-conformity. Had the defiers of martyrdom been like them, none would have been hung, defiling the history of the Colony and shaming the Puritan posterity. It is humiliating to read the atrocities inflicted in the name of the law, and sad to know the frenzy of honest souls in the name of religion.

One of the fifth generation—David—and Mary Sweet located on Berlin soil about 1780. They had a most worthy family of thirteen children. Three families of grandchildren of like character abide with us.

The Spafford name has stood by us from the first up to date. The name is the oldest, historically, of any on our records. Our Lancaster "Book of Lands" seems to us quite ancient. But the veritable Spafford name is in the "Doomsday Book" of William the Conqueror, of England, 1066. (See Spafford Memorial, Aphia T. Spofford, Groveland, Mass., 1888.) Rowley was the American family hive, then comprising Georgetown, Groveland and other places. From 1638 to 1888 about fifty-five hundred names are registered. The Berlin line stands,—John, John (2d), Samuel of Lancaster (now Boylston), his two sons, Job and Samuel, settling here in our early town life. Samuel is still represented in grandchildren.

Shattuck, Elijah C., representative 1875, is our only citizen of the name.

Young is a name duly cherished in Berlin. The Berlin family originated in Phillipston, children of Oliver and Grace (Kelly) Young. Miss Nancy Young, of her own earnings and frugality, bequeathed to our town fifteen hundred dollars as a school fund. She and an unmarried brother died on the old Southwick homestead, now Paul Randall's, who came in from Bolton.

The name of Tyler is among the more recent in Berlin. They were of Warwick, and connected with the Bassetts. They represent our best stock-raisers and dairying. Their brother-in-law, William Lawson, has erected the finest mansion in the town, on Sawyer Hill, the "Lakeside" home of the late Madam Rudersdorf.

The geology of Berlin has never been scientifically stated. We surrender, for prudential reasons.

The Central Massachusetts Railroad opened interesting specimens. One was a large vein of graphite. The northwest part of the town is unequaled in boulders short of Cape Ann. A single rocker of many tons lies on a ledge by Clam-shell Pond. Some years ago a woman could put it in motion. Too much rocking has worn it down till only a slight motion can be easily effected. About the pond, on the Larkin lands, numerous Indian relics indicate that some tribe dwelt on the pond borders. Perhaps it was a resort of the Nashaways.

WATER-WAYS.—Of water-ways we can claim about a mile of the Assabet River. This we got by grant of the Great and General Court. Marlborough had swooped in seven miles of that stream and its intervales. Lancaster surveyors set their starting-stake too far east, and so run against Marlborough. That made the Lancaster "Square" a trapezoid. Lancaster settlements began ten years earlier than Marlborough, but Marlborough was awake and got her stakes down first. She probably thought that Lancaster ought to be satisfied with the "Nashaway," of which they boasted so much. Several hundred acres of Marlborough, west of the Assabet, were granted to Berlin, crossing the Assabet at Lancaster, southeast corner, because some of our families owned land on the east beyond the river. Assabet has been variously spelled (Hist. Northborough, Joseph Allen, D.D), sometimes Elizabeth, but the Indian name has gained its standing. It affords Berlin no water-power; the only stream that does is a western tributary to the Assabet, with the modest name of "North Brook," its sources being in the north part of the town. Earliest deeds call it the "Great Brook." This is the stream that fascinated

William Goddard, 1727. At much cost, for the day, he established a saw and grist-mill, 1752–60. The "power" is better at flood than the supply for the year. Another mill was set up by Nathan Barber, two miles above, 1777; another just above that, about 1810, by Thomas Pollard for his son Stephen. Nothing else of permanent water-power has aided Berlin in her industries. Other streams are few and small. Foundations have been laid for another power near Berlin Station, O. C. R. R. Two ponds, "Clamshell," at the extreme west, and "Gates' Pond," at the extreme east, are all we can boast in this matter, except that "Gates' Pond," in Fosgate ownership, is the finest summer resort of the region. Several summer cottages have been built on its eastern shore. The pond is the source of the Hudson water supply, at which many Berlin citizens are very indignant. No man Gates was ever drowned in our pond for the sake of giving his name to it. Stephen Gates was its earliest personal owner, with much land about it. Our denizens stoutly refuse the proposal to call it "Lake Assabet," at Madam Rudersdorf's suggestion. "Clamshell" Pond is its own interpreter.

ROADS.—From the beginning Berlin has held one good mark of "civilization" in its roads. Some citizens here, especially the Meriams, caught the spirit and views of Colonel Ezra Beaman, of Boylston. We did not take to "turnpikes," but from the town to its contiguous neighbors, the fathers were ambitious of good highways. Many petitioners for an open road to their own home had to accept a "bridle-way," for the sake of more public liberality. The main roads were open, of course, while we were yet of Bolton, 1738 to 1784.

Favored in respect to bridges, our taxes have not been excessive. The first and only iron bridge has recently been constructed to span the Assabet between South Berlin and Marlboro'.

The town has not settled upon any one method of keeping up the highways. The old "highway surveyor" has been supplanted—once by a single commissioner. Many still advocate the same, but of late the commissioners are chosen for districts. Berlin is very jealous of concentrated power. The majority are not "Democrats," but all are very democratic. The highway discussions are among the most animated in town-meetings. So they were in the "twenties."

Roads suggest vehicles, and vehicles adapted to the roads. In 1734 Jonas Houghton, the "Lancaster Surveyor," contracted with settlers on Petersham territory to construct a road over a section of Wachusett, such that four oxen could conveniently carry over it four barrels of cider at once.

Only solid wagons could bear the strains of country roads a hundred years ago. But many statements as to the introduction of easier carriages exaggerate the time. The chaise was in use at least a hundred years ago, spelled "shays." Hence the old epigram on the Shays' Rebellion:

> Says sober Will, "Well, Shays has fled,
> And peace returns to bless our days."
> "Indeed," cries Ned, "I always said
> He'd prove, at last, a *fall-back Shays*;
> And those turned over and undone,
> Call him a *worthless Shays to run*."—WARD.

The first iron rail was laid in Berlin, 1866, the "Fitchburg, Framingham and New Bedford." Two stations, one for the Centre and South Berlin, midway, one for West Berlin. The road-bed of the Massachusetts Central was prepared for grading as far as Holden before a rail was laid. Here it rested till financial reconstruction, as the "Central Massachusetts." The town struggled under the twenty thousand investment some fifteen years. The debt was lifted by the generous donation of Mr. Chandler Carter, 1887.

THE STAGE-COACH.—The railroad, in its day, hardly excited more interest in Berlin than did the first stage-coach, forty years earlier. Berlin was left out in the cold by the greater thoroughfares through Northboro' and Bolton.

"The mail-stage" was a wonder to the boys in its early day. Boys and men went miles to see the first four-horse stage in the United Stage, driven by Levi Pease, of Shrewsbury, from Worcester to Boston, 1795. So when a "stage-line" was started between New Braintree, Barre and Boston, by way of Holden, West Boylston, Sawyer's Mills, Berlin, Feltonville (Hudson) and Sudbury, the enterprise created great interest. Jona. D. Meriam was the principal investor of Berlin; George E. Manson and Daniel Pope, of Feltonville. It was a losing business for the proprietors. But somebody was bright enough to run a line in opposition. The town got its post-office and other advantages.

How little we realize the blessings of postal service at public expense! It is all modern, really. When the Puritans came to America, England had no complete mail service. In 1655 a post was established between London and Edinbugh, "to go night and day," and make return route within six days. Boston was then five years old. Lancaster had no post-office for one hundred and fifty years. As late as 1820–30 every store and bar-room was a kind of post-office. As advertisements now adorn the stores, so letters to adjoining and even distant towns were thus posted. A letter in Berlin directed to Worcester or Westboro' would be taken in hand by any one going to Northboro', leaving it there for the next self-constituted letter-carrier. All Berlin mail-matter was left in Bolton post-office up to 1827. So much for a mail-stage. Then, too, Berlin was the midway town between Barre and Boston.

The Howe Tavern of Berlin was the dining-place. "Esquire Meriam" was the first driver. He obtained a mail contract and post-office for the town, and became our first postmaster, though the superintendence of it devolved upon Wm. A. Howe, of the store and tavern. Eventually Mr. Howe succeeded to the ap-

pointment. Every letter sent or received was registered, with amount of postage, before it could go out or before it could be delivered on arrival. A number of letters to Boston or elsewhere would be done up in one package with one bill of registration. A single letter must also be done up as a package, with its record and the town or city superscribed. Six and a quarter cents, ten cents, twelve and a half cents, eighteen and three-fourths cents, and twenty-five cents were the rates of postage. Times have changed.

THE MARKET-MAN.—This is a class not much on record in town histories. But really they were the connecting link between the town and the outside world. The market-man took the butter, poultry, eggs, veal and various farm produce. Sometimes he gathered it himself, carried it to Boston, ordinarily in a well-covered wagon with two horses, once a week and return. He probably handled more money than any other man in Berlin. But he was the weekly newsman. He brought the Boston news, much of it verbal, indeed, but he brought the newspaper also. From our earliest town life to 1812–20 so few towns having even a sight of a stage-coach, or mail, each town was interested in the return of the market-man. Tradition relates that a weekly concourse awaited the weekly arrival of Hugh Bruce at the Howe store and tavern, with the *Boston Palladium* reporting the progress of the war, 1812–15, also the reports of Napoleon's marvelous feats in Europe. So the slow-trudging market-man was the forerunner of the mail-coach and the locomotive. Pity the town which has no interest in the arrival of a daily mail!

The market-man usually brought all the store groceries,—more than all, "New Rum," that is, New England rum, later called Medford rum. We would not record it, only we have proved by other towns that we were not an exception, but sixty hogsheads of rum was the annual consumption in our town of less than seven hundred inhabitants, by estimate, 1825. There were then two stores. I repeat it, we were not exceptional. The market-man was sure of a weekly load. The successor of the market-man as news-carrier was the *post rider*.

INDUSTRIES.—As to our early industries, the locality of Berlin determined them. A water-power which fails for one-third of the year is just about worthless, except for mere milling. Once the brooks were very useful; but modern industries demand the rivers, and rivers that rage and roar. Compare the towns on the Concord River from Sudbury Meadows to Billerica, all on a level, and the towns on the Merrimac. Berlin was doomed to agriculture from the start. You cannot *organize* successful industries.

We have fragmentary records of the early agriculture of Berlin to show good thrift of the husbandmen Returns in part of the year 1792 indicate the yiel of good hay at nearly a ton and a half to the acre.

Some farms to-day do less than that. The yield of grain was not equal to that of hay. Cattle-herds were small. Sheep-folds were smaller. There was no "tariff" on wool then. It was grown for home uses, so of flax. Apples were mainly of the "natural" stock. But a great change was wrought for Berlin by the good minister, Mr. Puffer. He practiced grafting even for his parishioners, and taught them the art. Few apples are seen to-day superior to those of Barnes Hill in the first decades of the century. The writer of this gathers yearly the "Russet" and "Nonesuch," which Mr. Puffer originated on his own homestead, now a hundred years old. No apples to-day outrank the apples of the Berlin uplands. Less cider is made because of good fruit instead of the natural. From the scant data of 1792, which is our oldest, the product of rye was about 300 bushels; oats, 400; corn, 1,200; cider, 250 barrels. Four thousand acres improvable land; at the end of forty years, 5,400; at the end of the century 6,918. Say one hundred and twenty farms of sixty acres each.

The first State returns of mechanical industries were made by request, not by law, 1837. We will not quote. But basket-making, employing three men, was the largest business our assessors found time or disposition to report.

The old routine of farming held very constant sway in Berlin up to 1830–40. A deviation was made 1810–20 in hop-culture. The largest return was six and one-half tons for the town. The price varied from ten to fifteen or twenty cents per pound. Perhaps some years brought in two thousand dollars. Speculation set in, and some bad losses were made. It was calculated that "a pound of hops could be raised as cheaply as a pound of pork." From about 1830 hop-yards declined. Only two or three moderate fields can now be seen. Hop-picking was an annual gala day for the girls, in the field.

Berlin had one "South Sea Bubble" in the "Morus multicaulis" epidemic, about 1840,—a shrub of large leaf for feeding silk-worms. We had little scientific farming before 1850-60. A Farmers' and Mechanics' Association was formed, which has greatly advanced gardening and agriculture. The south part of the town is especially adapted to early fruits and vegetables. Well has it been improved. Berlin *asparagus* has a reputation in Boston. Small fruits receive like attention. Grape-culture, on a brow of the Assabet valley, has been a marked success. An old sand-hill (the ground was accounted) was found to have a clay subsoil of remarkable tenacity for moisture. Perhaps no acres in Berlin are now more valuable.

Peach-culture, after much fruitless endeavor, now gives promise of success. Our hills are given especially to orcharding, grass and general culture. We have several gilt-edge butter farms on high lands, with choice stock. But the bulk of milk goes off by rail. Many pastures, formerly mowed annually, in "the old moon," now have their own way. Our wood acreage is hardly less than fifty years ago.

The dwelling-houses of Berlin (two hundred and ten) are almost wholly of modern aspect. Sixty years ago one-third, perhaps, were of the long back roofs of one story and two stories front. Our last went down in smoke, 1886. We have no pretentious dwellings. The most impressive one crowns Sawyer Hill, the residence of William Lawson, Esq. The farm is managed, in gilt butter-making, by his brother-in-law, Reed Tyler. Like the Pennsylvania Dutchmen, most of the Berlin farmers are set on having good barns. Nine-tenths of all the houses in Berlin are comfortable homes. We have one which was probably built about 1720 by Jona. Moore, still habitable, "the Sanderson Carter place." Our valuation stands at $489,000,—"put up," some twenty years ago, $75,000, to lessen taxes, it was said. The percentage, of course. Southey tells of an old man who used to put on his glasses in eating cherries,—it made them look so much bigger.

The census of 1880 gives us over two hundred voters.

As for early handicraft, some thirty cooper-shops can be recalled by the old people. "Beef barrels," "rum barrels," "cider barrels," all had a good market in Boston sixty years ago. Other wooden-ware,—as churns, pails, "piggins and noggins,"—furnished some employment. Many a two-horse barrel rig started at midnight for Boston. Barrels were made on contract. A good cooper is a natural mechanic. Others need not try.

"Wire-drawing" and card-making were an exceptional attempt in Berlin, about 1810–20. Caleb Houghton, by a small power on Cranberry Meadow Brook, wrought wire; Solomon Howe, of the Centre, manufactured cards—a losing business to both. Card-setting (inserting the tooth into the punctured leather cardboard) furnished employment for many children; sometimes for parents. Braiding straw was a like family employment.

Ecclesiastical.—When Bolton separated from Lancaster probably some two hundred of its population were within Berlin limits. As a part of Bolton, the Berlin fathers lived in good harmony with the worthy town till the ecclesiastical conflict called "the Goss controversy." This item belongs to Bolton history, of course, but reaches Berlin. The minister was suspected of Toryism. In church matters he held and *practiced* the most arbitrary principles. The oncoming Revolution, 1770, added public importance to a local flame. The minister was charged with intemperance, also. He seemed to feel self-justification in the assertion, probably true, that he was never so far gone as to be incapacitated for his office. Numberless town-meetings were held,—town and parish were then one. He was dismissed by the ultimate prerogative, the people themselves, council or no council.

The controversy hastened, no doubt, the formation of the South Parish, April 7, 1779; but the agitation went with them. Only male members appear in the organization of the new church—Gossites and Walleyites, adherents of Mr. Goss' successor,—so the females, when they came, brought letters from one or the other branch of the Bolton Church.

In the interests of harmony, the council called to organize the Berlin Church advised the brethren to withhold fellowship from the Bolton Church whilst that church should remain in its divided state. That was a fire-brand. The Berlin Walleyites moved for another advisory council on this very matter.

The second council exonorated the first as to intended reproof. The reading of the first council certainly implied more than was expressed. The neighboring clergy sustained Mr. Goss, and under their influence the churches declined or renounced fellowship with the Bolton Church. To test the case, two of the Berlin opponents of Mr. Goss and one of the Bolton Church presented themselves before the Lancaster Church and asked for recognition in the communion service. The church voted affirmatively. The minister, Rev. Mr. Harrington, said the vote should be recorded, but his *negative* must be recorded with it. Virtually by the ruling of the times, this was annulling the vote of the church. The applicants were Judge Baker and Ephraim Fairbanks, Esq., of Berlin, and Nathaniel Longly, Esq., of Bolton. No three men in the towns were more prominent or conservative. A similar delegation from Bolton and Berlin visited Sterling. The minister, Rev. Mr. Mellen, refused to administer the communion service. The church was against him, and his claim of the veto power brought upon him and the town just the experience of Bolton. "How great a matter a little fire kindleth!" The simple reason is that it *is* fire. The spirit of liberty was abroad. Men were asserting personal rights, but patriotism was a bond. In the new life of the United Colonies, now become United States, partisans toned down. A supreme confidence in God and country allayed local animosities. Bolton South Parish became a precinct, 1784, virtually a town, by authority of Congress.

Peace came also to the churches. But the contest was a hard one, and in advance of its day. The ministry seemed unduly tenacious of power and dictation. The Bolton Parish fought a good fight. It broke the spell under which churches had felt themselves to be bound. Ecclesiastical liberty made a stride in the conflict. No doubt, indeed, errors were committed on both sides. But the case, and result, became a standard of appeal for the liberty of the churches. Harvard and Yale contain the published pamphlets as documents of historical importance. A layman, not known, was the virtual victor. Later tradition affirms that he was a clergyman. Ebenezer Chapin. Rev. Zabdiel Adams, of Lunenburg, defended the arbitrary power.

The act of incorporation of Bolton South Parish bears date April 13, 1778, and Samuel Baker, Esq., is empowered to issue a warrant "to some principal in-

habitant" to call a meeting for permanent organization. Signed, Joseph Warren, speaker; John Avery, deputy secretary.

Samuel Baker issues the warrant to Samuel Jones, inn-holder. At his house the inhabitants are summoned to meet. On that spot our town was virtually born. Samuel Jones' tavern stood fronting our Northboro' road, on the north side of the road to Hudson.

Samuel Baker was chosen moderator; Jonathan Meriam, clerk; James Goddard, Abijah Pratt, Joshua Johnson, parish committee; Jonathan Meriam, Timothy Jones, William Sawyer, Jr., assessors.

One week later the parish took measures for building a meeting-house; voted to locate it on "the little hill on the north side of the road that leads from Samuel Jones' house to Samuel Rice's shop in the crotch of the roads."

There was no Common then. The road to Bolton turned by our present town-house. The shop was probably some back part of the present "Bullard House." Samuel Rice never appears again. David Rice, probably his father, owned lands in connection with James Goddard, which included the old blacksmith-shop where A. A. Bartlett now lives. This shop went with the Meriam farm. Perhaps it was the one alluded to.

Berlin denizens of to-day may wonder where that "little hill" was. It was, and is not. The old church stood on it, considerably in front of the present edifice. Esquire Meriam could not persuade the building committee of the new church to set it so high as it now stands. He was not the man to "surrender." He conspired with Wm. A. Howe, and in the night they secretly lifted the standards one full foot. Look at the Common and the height of the underpinning of the church, and you will see what became of that "little hill."

The first meeting-house was twelve years in building. It is enough to make one weep, to read of the hundreds of pounds in depreciated money which were voted from time to time, all along in the war, to build that humble house of prayer.

The frame was "raised" June 16, 1779, by aid, as usual, of "rum," "cider" and "spike poles." The "pew grounds" were sold 1780 "at public vendue," each man to build his own pew. The building committee were Jonathan Meriam, Fortunatus Barnes, James Goddard, Sr., Timothy Jones, William Sawyer; second Committee, Fortunatus Barnes, Jacob Moore, Barnabas Maynard, Henry Powers, William Babcock.

In the mean time "candidates" were heard—Rev. M. Stearns, Foster and Edmunds. November 14, 1780, voted to hear Mr. Reuben Puffer. March 12, 1781, Mr. Puffer was "called." "No objections." "Ordination to be out of the meeting-house if the weather permit." The church records have it that the services were held in the meeting-house. All the "old folks" declare against it. The ordination took place November 26, 1781.

Certainly there is something inspiring in the faith and labors of the fathers, under the depression and uncertainties of war, to press forward in their circumstances, not to say poverty, to establish the ordinances of religion.

The council for ordination consisted of the churches in Sudbury, East Sudbury, Westboro', Shrewsbury, Northboro', Lancaster, Bolton and Stow. Rev. Mr. Bigelow, of Sudbury, Mr. Puffer's pastor, preached the sermon.

Mr. Puffer's presence and ministry seemed to be quite helpful to his struggling parish. No church-meeting was called for nearly two years. Records indicate peaceful progress. In the same year of the ordination the parish petitioned the town of Bolton, also the General Court, to be set off as a town, but it took three years to reach it.

Finally, by the Great and General Court, March 16, 1784 (Samuel Adams, president of the Senate, Tristram Dalton, speaker), the precinct was duly incorporated, and Judge Baker was again instructed to empower some principal inhabitant to call a meeting of the South Precinct in Bolton. This time he conferred the honor on Fortunatus Barnes. Again Samuel Baker was the first moderator and Jona. Meriam again clerk; Selectmen, James Goddard, John Temple, Jonah Meriam, William Sawyer, Barnabas Maynard.

Now Berlin had all the prerogatives of a town except personal representation in the Legislature. Any citizen of the precinct might as well represent the town as a citizen of the town the precinct. But Bolton never saw it in that light.

So matters stood till 1812. Fortunatus Barnes was now authorized to empower some principal citizen to call the first town-meeting. He committed the trust to Ephraim Babcock. The meeting resulted in the choice of Fortunatus Barnes moderator.

Such was the origin of a quiet New England town. Its inception was in time of war. It came to maturity in time of war, just in a full generation from its beginning. Thirty-five years from this date brought it to its centennial.

In the completion of their house of worship, the settlement of Mr. Puffer and the adjustment of complications with Bolton, the little town of Berlin, instead of "Norrage," as once proposed, seemed to have respite and rest. The leading men, however, who had borne the brunt of the war, with its antecedent and subsequent excitements, dropped out of the race very early,—Captain Samuel Jones, Judge Baker, the Baileys, the Meriams, Ephraim Fairbanks, Esq., Gen. Sawyer and others, whose names were towers of strength.

The central figure henceforth in Berlin character was their minister.

The Puffer ancestry, Appleton says, is obscure

But a record stands that "the town of Boston," 1640, not yet ten years old, granted twenty acres of land at Wollaston Heights to George Puffer, "five heads." A line from George is traceable to Sudbury, George, James, Richard, Jabez and Reuben, the Berlin pastor. Some count in another Richard. The present Puffer homestead, whence Reuben came, is now in Maynard. The will of Jabez shows that Reuben was the pet of his heart. He certainly grew in the esteem of Berlin people and all the region. Every congregation was pleased to see him ascend the pulpit-steps. It was not a day for enticing away favorite ministers, but it was understood that he had inviting overtures. His sermons were not especially arousing, but solemnly impressive.

In 1803 he preached the annual sermon before the Governor and Legislature. An anecdote concerning him was first published in print in the Lancaster two hundred and fiftieth anniversary. The writer of this is responsible for its appearance in type. He gave it verbally, that morning, to the speaker who gave it in response for Berlin, in the after-dinner speeches. Judge Brigham, of Westboro', had procured the appointment of Mr. Puffer to the service. His son-in-law, E. M. Phillips, Esq., of Westboro', gave the anecdote to the writer, personally. According to custom, Mr. Puffer had all parts of his service written, even the prayer. In offering it he lost his bearings. He tried to regain his ground, but only stumbled. The suspense was awful. A fellow-member of the Legislature gave Judge Brigham a nudge, whispering, "That is your minister, is it?" The disconcerted minister had the courage to desert his written prayer and to throw himself into the occasion, and the suspense of the assembly quickly gave way to rapt attention and delight. His own people, better than any others who did not hear him on this occasion, could tell what the effect was. He lifted his learned and dignified audience to exalted views of their position and duties, to the State and to God. The prayer ended, Judge Brigham returned the nudge of his neighbor, responding "*That is my minister.*"

Berlin ever had great satisfaction in "Dr. Puffer" abroad. His church records show that he ranked with foremost ministers in councils far and near on difficult cases.

To this day friends and dissentients, as to religious tenets, revere the "man of God." His face, his features and form and manner are fast passing out of remembrance. "Shall we know each other there?" Not even a profile remains; much less the tones of his voice and impressive pulpit services; a few of the venerables yet talk it over understandingly.

Some yet live who have seen him and can readily believe what has been related. But the most vivid impression which we septuagenarians have of the man is that of his pulpit devotions. Daniel? Solomon? Elijah? No, Bethel and Jacob. As with awe he lifted up his face heavenward, and bowed again his whole body in reverence, incense from the altar above seemed to pervade the assembly.

> "Heaven seemed bending, earth to rise,
> And all seemed floating in the upper skies."

He delivered the Dudlean Lecture at Harvard College, 1808. His pecuniary circumstances being made known, his address was published and sold among the students, rich men's sons subscribing largely to increase the income. They also gave him a good suit of clothes. (REV. DR. ALLEN.)

Another anecdote in his ministry reveals the ministerial tone of the day. A neighborhood of Balls, on Ball Hill, in Northboro', had special regard for Dr. Puffer; also, it would seem, some disaffection for their own minister. An especially afflictive death occurred in one of the families. One of the deacons of the Northboro' Church, by request of the family, came for Dr. Puffer to visit them, as also to attend the funeral officially. Mr. Puffer demurred; but under the appeals of grief he assented, being assured by the deacon that the Northboro' pastor would not take it offensively. The deacon did not know his man, nor the ministerial prerogatives of the day. The services were held at the house of sorrow. A few days brought a note from the Northboro' bishop demanding explanation and apology, else no more ministerial intercourse. We smile; but the parties did not. Mr. Whitney was magisterial. Mr. Puffer was timid. The correspondence is animated, if not animating. The offender did not cringe. He did apologize, and in words and temper that made him the victor.

The matter did not wholly die at that. A deceased sister of the Balls was wife of Dea. Livermore, of the Northboro' Church. He was one hundred and one years old at his death. Renewed application was made for Mr. Puffer's service at his funeral. Mr. Puffer confirmed his apology by respectfully declining. The Balls would not have the Northboro' parson; so the centenarian, deacon of the church, town clerk and, in certain sense, the public notary of the town, was buried without a funeral.

There was another element of irritation in the Northboro' Church. The good deacon's second wife was for some reason debarred from its communion. She applied for the privilege in Berlin, but ecclesiastical courtesy would not allow her request.

Dr. Puffer was no controversalist. He was even timid before his own people. It is well attested that he wept in the face of some who opposed his social prayer-meetings, then new. The compromise was that they should all be held at his own house. He was among the last to renounce or to forego exchanges with the "liberal" clergymen of the region. He foresaw coming events in his own parish. On one occasion he was so overcome in the reading of an expressive hymn that he ceased reading and sat down.

This was in the old, first-consecrated sanctuary, where the man of God had prayed and taught, "with many tears," for forty-five years. Humble as the old

structure was, every line of it was sacred in his eye and heart. It was soon to be taken down. Himself was "three-score and ten." His farewell sermon shows how the heart of a good man may be moved by that which is inanimate, and really without beauty. The old pews, which went into various and undignified uses, were for years looked upon with veneration by the older people. A successor, of twenty-five years, has found and gilded the old wooden pine-apple, with tin leaves, which surmounted a plain scroll over the old pulpit. "There are sermons in stones." The farm barn across the cemetery, made of the refitted timbers of "the house of prayer," has yet a voice to some passers-by.

The Massachusetts ecclesiastical rupture of 1820–30 was pressing upon this quiet town before steps were taken for a new house of worship. But no tongue moved against the minister. Yet it was intimated that the new church would have a new order of things when he should resign or cease from his labors. The pastor foresaw more than his people expressed. He hardly expected to escape the rupture in his lifetime. But he lived to dedicate the new church, 1826, and to preach and pray there till near his death, August 29, 1829, at the age of seventy-three years.

The church, in August same year, united in choosing Rev. Moses B. Church as Dr. Puffer's successor. The parish dissented, and following the Dedham decision, as others had done, chose another man, Rev. Robert Folger Walcut, of Nantucket, and graduate of Harvard. The Folgers were a prominent family in Nantucket.

Mr. Walcut was a cultured and scholarly man. He won the good-will and esteem of all citizens. He resigned November, 1833.

On the action of the parish, overruling the church, they withdrew almost unanimously, leaving but one male member and three females constituting the church.

The seceding members built a moderate house of worship the same year, and called Rev. Abraham C. Baldwin, a graduate of Bowdoin College, and student in theology under Dr. Lyman Beecher, who preached the ordination sermon, October 26, 1830. In Mr. Baldwin's ministry of two years, forty-six were added to the church. He had more than ordinary qualities as preacher and pastor. Had he been quiet to remain, very many have felt that he would have re-united the town effectively. His succeeding pastorates were in Springfield and New Haven. But if any man can unite a thousand people of one township, is he not more useful then in holding a like number gathered here and there from a city?

He was dismissed from the church in Berlin, October 23, 1832. Both he and his wife died in Yonkers, N. Y., 1886. Had no child. Her maiden-name was Foote, of Fair Haven, Ct.

Rev. Michael Burdett, now a retired Presbyterian clergyman in Philadelphia, succeeded Mr. Baldwin, July 17, 1833, to 1834. He was succeeded by Rev. Eber S. Clarke, of Winchendon, Ju. 21, 1835. Mr. Clarke was dismissed 1837, and settled once more in Richmond, Mass., where he died.

Rev. Robert Carver followed in a successful ministry, 1838–42. Settled next at Raynham. Entered into the Christian Commission service of the army, in which he died. After Mr. Carver's retirement, the Unitarian parish was also without a pastor. Rev. David R. Samson had succeeded Mr. Walcot, 1834–39.

Reciprocal overtures were now made on the part of the two parishes for reunion. This was effected in the settlement of Rev. Henry Adams, son of Chester Adams, Esq., of Charlestown, and graduate of Amherst and Andover. His first settlement was Worthington; next, "Hillside Church," of Bolton, noted as the "Wilder Church" (S. V. S. Wilder). Mr. Wilder, after his return from Europe, and before Hillside Church was built, attended Dr. Puffer's ministry in Berlin. Mr. Adams was installed Oct. 25, 1843; was dismissed 1853. The same year, Oct. 26th, Rev. W. A. Houghton was installed; resigned at the termination of twenty-five years, Oct. 26, 1878. Rev. Albert Barnes Cristy, of Greenwich, Ct., and graduate of Andover, was ordained and installed July 3, 1879. He gave way to a call to the church in Conway, 1881.

Rev. Henry Hyde succeeded Rev. Mr. Cristy in the same year; was dismissed 1885.

Rev. Charles H. Washburn, graduate of Amherst, was the third successor to whom Rev. Mr. Houghton has given the right hand of fellowship and received them into the church at their ordination. He was ordained and installed December, 1885; dismissed Nov. 2, 1888; called to North Woburn.

In 1853–54, under the lead of Rev. Gardner Rice, then principal of the Berlin Private Academy, a Methodist interest was started and organized. Rev. W. W. Culburn and Rev. B. F. Whittemore were the principal preachers.

The war broke up the organization. It was revived again in 1878, since which time Revs. Mr. Hanniford, Wilder, Burlingham, Desjardin and Barter have been the preachers. They built and dedicated their church 1887–88.

In 1871 the Unitarian element, which had been mostly dormant from 1844, was revived and organized. A church was built, and dedicated April 1, 1881. Its ministers have been Revs. George Greene, Granville Pierce, Francis Thacher, —— Litchfield and —— Porter.

For a small town, Berlin has a large element of the Quaker faith. Bolton has about the same. Their meeting-house is just within Bolton limits. Their Quarterly Meeting occurs in August. The society has existed since 1790.

Berlin and Bolton have known, better than most towns, the Friends, or Quakers, in their citizenship. Both towns would bear cheerful testimony to their

worth. To see the commingling of the descendants of Cassandra Southwick and the Boston Puritans fraternizing in religious meetings, public and private, with kindliest regards for each other's distinctive views and order of worship, seems to preclude the possibility of certain historic facts; just as fully Puritans as ever, and just as fully Quakers as ever. But many of the Quakers on whom the Puritans' wrath descended were as unlike our worthy Quaker citizens as were the old Puritans unlike the Puritans of to-day. Not here can we discuss the merits of the case, but we rejoice together in the better knowledge of personal liberty of opinions, and the harmonizing influence of religious faith. But Berlin has to confess; we did imprison a Quaker, and for non-payment of the minister-tax, which ministry he did not believe in. We are glad it was a hundred years ago, 1786. Nor do we offer that in extenuation. The Quaker executions were more than two hundred years ago. The law as applied in Massachusetts, 1657, was recommended to all the Colonies by the "Federal Commissioners." It was enacted here by only one vote in majority, and stood in force but two years.

But for ministerial taxes the law exempted Quakers, Episcopalians and others as early as 1750–60; only they must show certificates that they really belonged to some religious society. Here seems to have been Brother Jonathan Baker's lame point. The assessors were bound by the law. The indications are that he would not or could not present his certificate, so the assessors would not abate; by law they could not. No doubt the case was very much affected by words and temper. The town finally remitted his fourteen-shilling tax, and his certificate of Quaker membership stands on record.

On school matters Obediah Wheeler, Quaker, was the persistant leader in insisting on a division of the school money; as constantly refused. That is our issue to-day with the Catholics.

EDUCATIONAL.—Previous to the organization of the precinct, 1784, schools had been maintained for a few weeks at a time in private houses. School-houses are named in early records as if they had served us while of Bolton. The precinct proceeded, 1785, to "Squadron the district." We had four, according to the four cardinal points of the compass. The centre of the town went north, south, east or west, as they saw fit. This for fifty years. A fifth district was added, 1836, and all of them, unwisely, took on separate existence. This continued about twenty years, when, as soon as permitted by the Legislature, the town took possession of the schools and houses.

Three of the houses had done service about seventy-five years each. The town proceeded at once to build anew five houses for the five districts, all alike, 1857–58. When the cost of the war came on we congratulated ourselves in having already paid for our school-houses. These were all duly dedicated by becoming services. School interests revived very much, nor has it very much subsided. Not required by law to maintain a high school, it is difficult in a population of less than a thousand to do so. A few terms have been maintained. But three adjoining towns offer ready facilities, and by rail the accommodation is very good with each of them. It is a conviction of the committee that the schools of Berlin compare favorably, in material and quality, with towns around us. Teachers' wages stand above the average in the State. None but females have been employed for many years. Once the town furnished a large quota of young men —several in a season. They have been supplanted. School-teaching is woman's right.

The first school report read in town-meeting, and before required by law, was offered by William A. Howe, then a young man. He had never been to high school or academy.

A stimulus to Berlin, perhaps, was the somewhat famous Quaker School of Thomas Frye, just beyond our Bolton line. English grammar was a specialty. Berlin pupils availed themselves of the advantage. Later, Berlin had a somewhat similar school. Josiah Bride, a native of the town, with never a day of instruction from private teacher, high school or academy, opened a private school in the town-house. His skill, or art in teaching, gave him greater and greater success. Good in scholarship, he excelled in communicating. His private school grew into a boarding-school, and this into Berlin Academy. From 1833 to 1853 this school did much for Berlin. Pupils came from several cities and several States. Meanwhile Mr. Bride was active in the town and in the church. He died, 1887, at eighty-five years. Berlin is represented in the Technical School, Worcester, by a teacher; in Amherst Agricultural College by a student; several have graduated at commercial colleges. Of school funds Berlin has only two thousand dollars. Joseph Priest, unmarried, gave by will, 1817, five hundred dollars; Miss Nancy Young, 1860, gave by will fifteen hundred dollars. These persons had lived quiet and inexpensive lives. These gifts were about all they possessed, severally. Berlin cherishes their memory. But it is only by recalling to each school generation the facts, that the generosity of worthy benefactors is held in remembrance. Ask in almost any school who was Horace Mann, and see.

Sadly, Berlin has no public library. Sectional influences have prevented united town action. When we separated from Bolton, a generous library became a bone of contention. A division of it was finally effected. The Berlin share, with additions, was kept alive during the pastorate of Dr. Puffer.

An educating influence in Berlin was the old lyceum, as now spoken of. Rev. Dr. Allen, of Northboro', was, next to Concord, the original in starting this kind of school and debating society. He kindly gave many of his lectures in Berlin. Several years followed of elevating endeavor. This movement be-

gan about 1830. It did not wholly cease for thirty years—lectures and debates. The writer of this thinks he sees results in the town meetings of the present. Relatively we have many townsmen capable of public speech in town meetings. Also more than a common number of competent *moderators*.

Berlin has had but few college graduates. Early in our history two young men died in their preparatory studies. Winthrop Bailey graduated at Harvard, 1808. Was pastor of the church in Pelham, later, and, for many years, of Deerfield.

Barnabas Maynard Fay graduated at Yale, 1833. He taught in several institutions for the deaf and dumb. Had also several pastoral charges. His son is superintendent of the Institution for Deaf and Dumb in Washington, where the father died.

Rev. W. A. Houghton graduated at Yale 1840. Pastor eight years in Northboro', twenty-five in Berlin, Resigned 1878. Still resident.

Winthrop Sawyer, nephew of Rev. Winthrop Bailey and namesake, took the surname Bailey, and studied for the ministry at Princeton, N. J., and held two or three pastorates. He died in south-east New York.

Levi and Willard Brigham, brothers, more connected with Berlin than with their native town, Marlboro', were graduates of Williams, and both were successful ministers.

Our physicians have come to us. Dr. Benjamin Nurse, of Bolton, 1777–1804; Dr. Daniel Brigham, of Westboro', 1800-1825; Dr. Samuel Griggs, pupil of Dr. Twitchell, of Keene, 1824-1833; Dr. J. L. S. Thompson, ———, 1833–1840, afterwards of Bolton and Lancaster. Died 1886.

Dr. Edward Hartshorn, graduate of Harvard Medical School 1838, came to Berlin 1841; practiced till 1854.

Dr. Lemuel Gott, graduate of Harvard Medical School, settled in Rockport, 1836; in Berlin, 1854–1888. Was successor to Dr. Hartshorn. Died August, 1888. No resident physician since.

Town History.—Some one has expressed the sentiment: "Blessed is the town that has no history." George Elliot has expressed the same, I think, as to the family,—perhaps for a reason. But in respect to the staple of the early history of so many inland towns of Massachusetts—*the Indians*—we appreciate the force of the sentiment expressed. We gladly surrender all claim to the Indian from Massasoit to Tecumseh.

But we do suffer loss of historic material when we can quote no town connection with such a historic event as the American Revolution. In this matter we can only say Berlin was born *in it*, and there is sublimity in the fact. In the darkness of that terrible day, what faith in God and confidence in man, that, under such a cloud, men should so deliberately plan for the future, and lay new foundations for coming generations! It was Rome over again selling the land on which Hannibal had intrenched his legions. Residents on Berlin territory appear both in Lancaster and in Bolton, in all the wars of the Colonies, including the Revolution. And in the midst of the latter struggle the Berlin fathers were even planning a life independent of the mother town. And every element of town life was duly cared for after the example of Puritan forethought. Peace came to the country in 1783. A parish had been formed in the very darkest days of the war. In 1784 they came into town life by Congressional provisions. Had Berlin been a corporate body during the war, there can be no doubt her sentiment and action would have been as Bolton and Lancaster were. But a somewhat shady aspect appears in respect to the Shays' Rebellion. A Berlin delegate was appointed to one of the conventions, perhaps hoping to secure moderation. But so far as any vote of the town gave expression, all that can be said is that the majority for Hancock for Governor, against Bowdoin, was interpreted in those days as being in the radical element. Yet Judge Baker, probably the most influential man in the town, was a tower of strength for the government. He was once assaulted, by threats at least, on his way home from the court,—probably not by his own townsmen. That was a terrible time when citizens of noblest life, who had fought side by side for independence, were again armed, face to face against each other. It demands a hundred years breathing-time to judge these old insurgents impartially. There was no sublimer scene in the war itself than when General Artemas Ward led the officers of the court up Court-House Hill in Worcester, against the very point of bayonets which had withstood the British soldier on the field of blood. Our vote had been, for two years, for Bowdoin. After the Paxton Convention, it was wholly reversed. Lancaster went as invariably for Bowdoin. Both these men were loyal to the State; but Hancock was regarded as less rigorous towards the insurgents. An article in the town warrant, 1787, to pay soldiers in support of the government, was "passed over." The town remonstrated, 1807, against Jefferson's Embargo; also, 1812, against the restrictive measures of President Madison.

We can say, for ourselves, we have lived a quiet and peaceable life. We did have some trouble with our ever esteemed mother-town. The great and general court told us both how we must bear ourselves in local matters. But we did not see alike then as to the support of the poor, and some other points. It took a good while, indeed, to adjust matters. Among other things, creditable alike to mother and daughter, there was a very good library which must needs be divided. This, of course, involved the ministers. They did not see eye to eye in a matter so material as this. It took time, correspondence, committees and conferences. We had judicious men on both sides; so, as usually under such influence, this, too, was adjusted.

Town rivalries have taken a very different turn in later days. A town of a thousand people on moderate territory, known, as it were, each to all, is a more enjoyable community than a like number mixed with ten thousand in a city. The drawback to our "hill towns" is the financial inability to support religious institutions. State, county and town taxes in Berlin in 1887 were nine thousand dollars—say ten dollars per capita. To support three churches besides, lays upon less than one-half of the people about three thousand more. So that the half who do support the churches must needs pay nearly as much for this as for all their assessments besides. "Help, Lord," when "the godly man ceaseth."

How so many boys of the large families, sixty years ago, could get a living by settling down in the town is unaccountable. Hardly a mechanic ever hired a man. Old farms were divided. Some were "made up." A carpenter never built by "contract." So much, "by the day." A single blacksmith in each of the four districts, or less, was sufficient, and he, perhaps, had a farm also. Probably there was not, sixty years ago, a business in town that required a "hired man," except farming. The mills, in flush of their season, had extra help. A single tannery grew so as to need two or three men part of the year. This gradually died out, yet Berlin gained in population, relatively, with Bolton and Lancaster.

We should have had the present Old Colony Railroad running through our centre. But towns were not then permitted to invest, as in the start of the Central Massachusetts. Our twenty thousand in the Central Massachusetts, had it been put into the Old Colony, would have brought it to our doors, and have been a rich investment. It would have brought the rail to South Berlin, to the Centre; and to West Berlin as now. Individuals could not raise the money. To him that hath shall be given. Alas! for him that hath not. Berlin, with other towns on the line, invested heavily in the Central Massachusetts, and heavily has it borne upon us. After bearing it some fifteen years we sold at less than thirty-three per cent. This rail has come to our centre, but not as the Old Colony would have come. We do not complain. Above all, as a fellow-citizen, Mr. Chandler Carter has lifted our indebtedness. Few know how the smaller towns have to struggle.

Before the war Berlin had several shoe-shops of moderate capacity. In these work was done for the larger houses in Hudson and Marlboro'. The war changed the order of business by concentration. Our shops were vacated.

After the war and loss in population of about two hundred (twenty-two in the army), Berlin attempted an incorporated shoe manufactory by small shares, sufficient to employ a hundred hands. Parker Brothers, Charles E. and John H., of Boston, were succeeding hopefully. "The Boston Fire" crippled them badly. Another, at home, laid the Berlin structure in ashes. Thus we were put back again, save a small establishment still in force. So the population has decreased by removal of families to centres of business. Berlin is shut down to farming and horticulture. Summer boarders have set in upon the town, with the prospect of increase and remuneration. We claim that the town is unexcelled in pleasant resorts and summer drives, by any town within the same distance from Boston.

MILITARY.—As a town Berlin has, of course, no part in the wars till 1812 and the Rebellion. The Revolution had just terminated when we came upon the stage. Our soldiers are in the records of Bolton and Lancaster, and there imperfectly. But of those who survived, Berlin citizens should be on record as such. Many of the veterans of the old French and Indian Wars, 1744–50 and 1755–63, were still living 1784.

Of some three hundred soldiers on record in Lancaster in the French and Indian Wars, about twenty of them are of Berlin territory. Of some forty to fifty names in the Revolution, on Bolton records, nearly one-third were of Berlin territory. The Bolton lists have been searched out from old papers recently discovered. No entire list is known or attainable.

Among the foremost in military service were the Bruces. Most of them on Berlin records were more or less in the Revolutionary War. Abraham (traditionally) was at the capture of Burgoyne. John Hudson, father of Hon. Charles Hudson, had eight sons in the war of 1776–83.

Our soldiers' list, made up of the incidental records, stands . Bruce—Benjamin, Daniel, Abraham, Timothy; McBride—James, John, Thomas; Bailey—Col. Silas, Lieut. Timothy, Benjamin, Barnabas; Johnson—Capt. Edward, Joshua, Eleaser, Nathan; Larkin—Matthias, John, John, Jr., Ephraim, Edmond, Peter; Samuel Baker, Samuel Baker, Jr., Edward Baker, Amos Meriam, Jonathan Meriam, Uriah Moore, Benjamin Nurse, Nathan Barber, Fortunatus Barnes, Samuel Jones, Jr., Nathan Jones, Jabez Fairbanks, James Fife, Jr., Elijah Foster, Nathaniel Hastings, Silas Howe, Silas Houghton, Hezekiah Gibbs, Jr., Abijah Pratt, John Pollard, Thomas Pollard, Joseph Priest, Job Spafford, David Rice, Samuel Rice, Robert Fosgate.

Berlin in the Rebellion is fully on record by a published memorial address and a memorial hall, with memorial tablets and photographs. A Post of the G. A. R. keeps well alive the heroic spirit of their fallen comrades. The soldiers' memorial day has become an established anniversary. We count it among our educational institutions.

The tone and temper of Berlin in the outbreak of the war was one and the same with all patriotic citizens. The news of Sumter was read from the stage-box of our expressman before he alighted. A company were in waiting for such news as might come.

Hardly a man uttered a word; but every face was defiant.

A meeting was soon called, addresses made and resolutions offered. Names were pledged for enlistment. The call came speedily and was readily responded to. Our population was short of eleven hundred. We sent into the war one hundred and thirty-nine men. Twenty-two fell in battle or died in the service. Captain Christopher S. Hastings was our only commissioned officer. He raised a company for himself, though exempt, by years, from military duties. His company was at the battle of Fredericksburg, at Jackson and the siege of Vicksburg. Enfeebled by small-pox, he died of malarial fever at Mound City, Illinois. Our death-list besides was Thomas Rathburn, Charles H. Maynard, Alonzo F. Howe, Silas F. Jillson, Silas E. Goddard, George Ira Carter, Hollis S. Johnson, Nathan B. Garfield, William H. Coburn, James Barry, Samuel A. Snow, George H. Bowers, Edwin J. Bigelow, Rufus H. Williams, Henry P. Rich, Tyler Paine, Homer F. Stone, Lafayette Warden, Watson Wilson, Charles O. Starkey, Lemuel Gott, Jr., Ezra Bartlett, Levi Holder.

Died since the war; J. Pillsbury, N. Johnson, George F. Hartwell, George C. Wheeler, Ansel Snow, Nathan M. Allen, William H. King, James F. Rathburn, Edward H. Hartshorn.

Town appropriations for the war, fourteen thousand dollars. State aid, eleven thousand.

Perhaps no soldiers in the service were more carefully provided for, so far as it could be done at home, than the soldiers of Berlin.

The question of what memorial, commemorative of our fallen patriots, we should adopt, was considerately weighed. Needing a new town-house, with modern conveniences, a "Memorial Hall" was decided upon as that which would be most enjoyed by the citizens, being also especially appropriate for the use of the surviving soldiers. In 1870 the house was dedicated with becoming services. Memorial Hall contains memorial tablets with the record of each fallen soldier. Each has also a good photograph likeness hung by the tablet. The Grand Army of the Republic have taken commendable care of the hall and its treasures. Annually the town appropriates fifty dollars for "Memorial Day." This has become an established anniversary, an educating force for the people, as well as for the children.

The Grand Army of the Republic, as to Post 54, of Berlin, is sadly diminishing. But the Sons of the Veterans are already organized. May the Grand Army of the Republic long survive! Our last survivor of the War of 1812, many years seated on the platform on Memorial Day, died 1886,—John D. Merrill, eighty-eight years.

At the annual March meeting, 1884, Hon. William Bassett made a motion for the observance of the town centennial. The motion prevailed, and a committee was appointed to carry the vote into effect.

The day passed off happily, though one of the hottest of the season, September 10th. Ex-Governor Boutwell, who represented the town in the proposed amendment to the State Constitution, 1853, was present and added much to the day. Rev. A. P. Marvin, historian of so many towns, and of the county itself, very much enriched the historical bill of fare. Adjacent towns were represented, and many former residents and natives responded to the sentiments of the day. Altogether, it was a day of successful interest, though very little parade or show was attempted. Such occasions are becoming more and more important, though many towns allow them to go by in indolent forgetfulness.

PARISH, PRECINCT AND TOWN OFFICERS, 1778–1888.

Moderators.—Samuel Baker, 1778, '84, '88; Ephraim Fairbank, 1779, '83; James Goddard, 1780, '86, 87; Jacob Moore, 1781; Fortunatus Barnes, 1782; David Taylor, 1785, '89, '91, '93; Barnabas Maynard, 1790, '92, '94–96, '98, '99, 1801, '02, '06, '08, '09; Stephen Bailey, 1797, 1800, '03, '11–13; James R. Park, 1804, '07; Jonathan Merriam, 1806; Solomon Howe, 1810; Henry Powers, 1814, '15; Oliver Sawyer, 1816–29; Asa Sawyer, 1830–46, '48, '51; William Jones, 1847; Silas S. Greenleaf, 1849, '50; Amos Sawyer, 1852–58; Lewis L. Carter, 1859–61; William Bassett, 1862; Amory A. Bartlett, 1863–66, '79–81, '85; Abel W. Longley, 1867–69, '72, '74, '75, '77; Elijah C. Shattuck, 1870, '71, '73, '76; Leslie Hastings, 1878; Edward H. Hartshorn, 1882–84, '86; James D. Tyler, 1887, '88.

Town Clerks.—Jonathan Merriam, 1778–85, '89–99, 1800–04; John Temple, 1786–88; Stephen Bailey, 1805–07; Dexter Fay, 1808–15; Amos Sawyer, 1816; Solomon Howe, 1817–26; Josiah Conant, 1827–31; Wm. A. Howe, 1832–37; Lewis Sawyer, 1838–45, '50–55; Oliver B. Sawyer, 1846; John F. Newton, 1847–49; Otis L. Larkin, 1856; Albert Babcock, 1857, '58, '74–82; Josiah E. Sawyer, 1859–73; Frank H. Crossman, 1883–88.

Selectmen.—James Goddard, 1778–80, '82–84, 1817; Abijah Pratt, 1778; Joshua Johnson, 1778, '79, '81, '88, '89; Jonathan Merriam, 1779–83, '85, '87, '89–94, '98, '99, 1817; William Sawyer, 1780, '85, '87, '99, 1800; William Sawyer, Jr., 1781, '82; Josiah Sawyer(3d), 1783, '90, '92, '94, '97; Samuel Baker, Jr., 1788–94; John Temple, 1785, '86, '88; Barnabas Maynard, 1785, '86; Henry Powers, 1785, '86, '88–92, '94, '99, 1800, '01, '14–16; Timothy Jones, 1787; Josiah Sawyer, Jr., 1788, '89, '91, '99, 1800; Amos Johnson, 1790, 1807, '08; Levi Merriam, 1791–98, 1801; Stephen Bailey, 1795–98, 1812–14; Samuel Jones, 1795, '96, '98; Samuel Spafford, 1795, '96; Job Spafford, 1795, '97, '98; Ephraim Howe, 1.96; Joel Fosgate, 1797; Nathan Johnson, 1799–1801; Jonathan Merriam, 1800, '17–19, '21–23; James R. Park, 1801–06, '12, '13; Caleb Fairbank, 1802–04; Ephraim Howe, 1802–06; James Goddard, Jr., 1802–07, '12; Alvah Sawyer, 1802–06, '12, '13; David Barnes, 1805, '06, '12; Dexter Fay, 1807–11; Solomon Howe, 1807–11; Oliver Sawyer, 1807–11, '17–22, '28, '29, '33, '34; Silas Houghton (2d), 1808–10, '20; Amos Sawyer, 1809–11, '17–19; Ephraim Babcock, 1813–16, '18, '19, '23–26, '28–33; Adam Bartlett, 1813–16; Wm. Jones, 1814–16, '20–22, '24; Silas Sawyer, 1815, '16; William Barnes, 1817–19, '24, '25; Hollis Johnson, 1820–22, '28–30, '33, '34; Timothy Bailey, 1820–22; Joseph Park, 1823–27, '33–35, '42, '43; Luke Fosgate, 1823–26; Benjamin F. Spafford, 1823–27, '33–35, '42, '43; Paltiah Jones, 1825, '26; Welcome Barnes, 1826; John Bartlett, 1827, '31, '32, '37, '38; Edward Johnson, 1827; Ira Sawyer, 1827; Luther Carter, 1827, '28; Levi Wheeler, 1828–30; Wm. Babcock, 1830–32; Abram Sawyer, 1831, '32; Lewis Carter, 1831, '32, '35, '36, '41, '49, '50; Timothy Jones, 1832; Thomas Brigham, 1833–35; Paul Brigham, 1836, '37, '48; Samuel Spafford, 1836–38, '41; Ephraim Babcock, Jr., 1838, '39, '49, '50; Asa Bride, 1839; Jonas Hale, 1839; Wm. Jones, 1840, '41; Daniel Bartlett, 1840, '44–47; Oliver Fosgate, 1842, '58; John F. Larkin, 1842, '43; Perigrine Wheeler, 1843; Silas Sawyer, 1844–48, '51–53, '59–61; Jonas Robbins, 1844, '45; Samuel H. Wheeler, 1846, '47, '49, '50; Seth Rice, 1848; Silas Houghton, 1851, '54; Lewis L. Carter, 1851–53, '66–72, '77–85; Abram Bigelow, 1852; Hartwell Sawyer, 1853; Jonas Sawyer, 54, '63–65; Elisha M. Whitney, 1854; Oliver Smith, 1855; Josiah E. Sawyer, 1855, '56; Ezra S. Moore, 1855, '56; George W. Maynard, 1856, '59–62; Asa Sawyer, 1857; Josiah Babcock, 1857; Christopher S. Hastings, 1857; Henry D. Coburn, 1858–61, '69, '70; George H. Barnes, 1858; Luther Peters, 1862; Abel W. Longley, 1862, '63; Riley Smith, 1863; Wm. Bassett, 1864–69, '73–76; Israel Sawyer, 1864–68; Lyman Morse, 1870-72, '88; Edwin Sawyer, 1871-73; Robert B. Wheeler, 1873–86; Frederick Miller, 1874–76; Winslow B. Morse, 1877; Arthur

Hastings, 1884; Fred. A. Woodard, 1885–87; John Q. Maynard, 1886, '87; James D. Tyler, 1887, '88; Samuel Wheeler, 1888; Ruthven Hastings, 1878–83.

Assessors.—Jonathan Merriam, 1778–85, '89–1804; Timothy Jones, 1778–80; William Sawyer, Jr., 1778–83, '89–94; Jonathan Jones, 1781–83; David Taylor, 1784, '85; Henry Powers, 1784, '90–1803; Barnabas Maynard, 1788, '89; Amos Allen, 1785; Josiah Sawyer, Jr., 1785–87; John Temple, 1786–88; James Goddard, 1786, '87; Stephen Bailey, 1795–1802, '04; David Barnes, 1803, '04; James Goddard, Jr., 1805; Amos Johnson, 1806, '07; Dexter Fay, 1806–08, '28; Solomon Howe, 1806–12, '14, '16, '21–24; Wm. Newton, 1808, '09, '13, '14; Alvan Sawyer, 1809–11; Ephraim Babcock, 1810, '11, '21–24; Amos Sawyer, 1812, '13, '15–20, '22–27; Silas Houghton, 1812–14; Jonathan D. Merriam, 1815–19, '31, '32, '40; Stephen Pollard, 1815; Ira Sawyer, 1816–18, '25, '26; Oliver Sawyer, 1819; Thomas Brigham, 1827–37; Theopholus Nourse, 1820; Daniel Holder, 1825–27; Samuel Spafford, 1828, '33, '34, '36–38; Asa Sawyer, 1829–33, '39–42, '48, '49, '57; Pelatiah Jones, 1829, '30; Benjamin F. Spafford, 1833–38; Benjamin Cofran, 1835; Jonas Hale, 1838, '39; Eli Sawyer, 1839; Daniel Bartlett, 1840, '41; Perigrene Wheeler, 1841–43; Oliver B. Sawyer, 1842–46; Oliver Fosgate, 1843, '50, '51; Wm. Jones, 1844–47; Oliver Moore, 1844–46; Christopher S. Hastings, 1847; Ira H. M. Brown, 1847; Levi Bigelow, 1848–50; Solomon Jones, 1848, '49, '57; Seth Rice, 1850, '52; Silas S. Greenleaf, 1851; Albert Babcock. 1851, '53, '56; Josiah E. Sawyer, 1852, '53; Samuel H. Wheeler, 1852, '54, '55; Jonas Sawyer, 1853; Lewis L. Carter, 1854, '60, '61, '65, '73, '76; Thomas Pollard, 1854; Tyler Paine, 1855; Willard Southwick, 1855, '59; Riley Smith, 1856; Henry D. Coburn, 1856; Samuel H. Wheeler, 1857, '58, '60–62, '67–69; Edward W. Flagg, 1858; Winslow B. Morse, 1858, '62; Josiah Sawyer, 1859, '63–75; Riley Smith, 1859; Willard Southwick, 1859; Wm. Bassett, 1860, '61, '72, '78–82; Nathan W. Fay, 1862; Albert Babcock, 1863–70; Oliver Fosgate, 1863; Amory A. Bartlett, 1864; Henry D. Coburn, 1866; Abel W. Longley, 1870; Silas Sawyer, 1870–73; Josiah Moore, 1871, '72; Arthur Hastings, 1873–76, '86; Wm. Tho. Babcock (2d). 1874; Jonas H. Carter, 1875; Elijah C. Shattuck, 1876; Silas S. Greenleaf, 1877; Israel Sawyer, 1877–81; Geo. W. Fosgate, 1878–81; Paul A. Randall, 1882; Ruthven Hastings, 1882–85; John A. Merrill, 1883–87; Henry A. Wheeler, 1883–88; Robert B. Wheeler, 1887; Charles M. Sawyer, 1888; Walter E. Brown, 1888.

Treasurers and Collectors.—Samuel Jones, 1778–82; Ephraim Fairbank, 1783–87; William Sawyer, 1788, '93, '94; Stephen Bailey, 1789–92, '95; Barnabus Maynard, 1796–98; Amos Johnson, 1799–1804; Levi Merriam, 1805–11; Solomon Howe, 1812–22; Jonathan D. Merriam, 1823–27; Samuel Spafford, 1828–30, '33, '45; Pelatiah Jones, 1831, '32; Wm. A. Howe, 1834; Amos Sawyer, Jr., 1835–37; Oliver Fosgate, 1838, '39; George W. Babcock, 1840, '41; Oliver B. Sawyer, 1842–44; Ira Jones, 1846–48; Solomon Jones, 1849; Christopher S. Hastings, 1850–63; Elisha M. Whitney, 1864, '65; Edward H. Hartshorn, 1866–71; Josiah Moore, 1872–, '76–87; Ruthven Hastings, 1873–75, '88.

Constables.—Joel Fosgate, 1784; William Badcock, 1785; Jonathan Merriam, 1786; Nathan Johnson, 1787; James Goddard, Jr., 1788; Jonathan Wheeler, 1789; Barnabus Maynard, 1790; Levi Merriam, 1791; Silas Bailey, Jr., 1792; Samuel Spafford, 1793, 1809, '32, '33, '45; Samuel Jones, 1794; Nathaniel Hastings, 1795; John Larkin, 1796–99, 1800, '10, '11; Amasa Holt, 1801–04, '07; Solomon Howe, 1808; William Newton, 1805; James Goddard, Jr., 1806; Stephen Pollard, 1812, '14–16; Joseph Moore, 1813; Asa Sawyer, 1817–22: Barnabas Brigham, 1823–24; Luther Carter, 1825–27; John Bartlett, 1828–33; Amos Sawyer, Jr., 1834–37; Oliver Fosgate, 1838–40; Josiah Bride, 1841–42; R. S. Hastings, 1843–46; Silas Houghton, 1850–53; L. L. Carter, 1854; Thomas Pollard, 1854; A. A. Bartlett, 1855, '85; William G. Hapgood, 1856; Samuel M. Fuller, 1857, '64–68; John F. Bennett, 1857; Geo. Q. Sawyer, 1858; Andrew A. Powers, 1859–61; Josiah Moore, 1862–63; Frederick D. Kallom, 1863–64; William H. Frye, 1865; Samuel E. Fuller, 1869–72, '74, '75; George H. Andrews, 1872, '78, '79, '81; John L Bruce, 1873–79, '82–84; Henry D. Coburn, 1873; Thomas Hale, 1876; Warren S. Howe, 1877; Charles B. Bancroft, 1886; Leonard W. Brewer, 1887–88; Appleton D. Parmenter, 1887; John O. Osgood, 1888.

School Committee.—R. F. Walcutt, 1832, '33; A. C. Baldwin, 1832; Asa Sawyer, 1832, '36–38, '40, '41, '46; Wm. A. Howe, 1832–34; Wm. Sawyer (2d), 1832; Horace Bailey, 1833, '35; Willard Howe, 1833; Michael Burdett, 1834; Josiah Bride, 1834–39, '52–55; S. G. A. Tyler, 1834; Josephus Wilder, 1834; David R. Lamson, 1835–39; Eber L. Clark, 1835–37; J. L. S. Thompson, 1835–37; Robert Carver, 1838–39; Albert Babcock, 1838, '71, '73; John F. Larkin, 1839, '44, '45; Lewis Sawyer, 1839, '49, '50; Wm. Jones, 1840; G. W. A. Babcock, 1840; Edward Hartshorn, 1841–44, '52–55, '64, '67; Dexter Fay, 1841, '42; Oliver B. Sawyer, 1843–45; Henry Adams, 1844–48, '52; Solomon Jones, 1844, '46, '51; Jonathan F. Wheeler, 1844–50; Seth Price, 1845; Edwin A. Larkin, 1846; Ira H. Brown, 1847; Levi Bigelow, 1848–50; Silas S. Greenleaf, 1851; Addison G. Smith, 1851; Elijah C. Shattuck, 1856, '57, '59, '69, '76–83; Charles G. Keyes, 1856; Wm. A. Houghton, 1853–58, '60–66, '70, '73, '80, '83, '86; Gardner Rice, 1857; Lemuel Gott, 1858, '62; Wm. Bassett, 1858, '62, '65, '68, '71, '78; Ira O. Carter, 1861; Daniel H. Carter, 1871; Ansel L. Snow, 1872; Miss Mary Bassett, 1875; Mrs. Sarah H. Sawyer, 1875; Pliny B. Southwick, 1876, '77; Miss Mary J. Keyes, 1881; Mrs. Addison Keyes, 1885–88; Amasa A. Whitcomb, 1884; Henry H. Hastings, 1887, '88.

Representatives to General Court—Henry Powers, 1812. Incorporation of the town. Henry Powers, 1813–16, '20, '22, '25–27, '29. 1817, voted not to send; '18, voted the same; Amos Sawyer, 1819, '23, '24; Jonathan D. Merriam, 1828, '30–32, '36, '38; Joseph Park, 1833, '34, '37, '39; Ira Sawyer, 1835; Wm. Jones, 1840; '41 and '42 did not send; Oliver B. Sawyer, 1843; Seth Rice, 1846; Amos Sawyer, Jr., 1849, '50; Lewis Sawyer, 1851, '52.

Representatives of the Fifth Worcester County District.—George W. Maynard, 1859; Lincoln L. Carter, 1879; Rev. Henry Hyde, 1884; Dr. Edward Hartshorn, 1862; Abel W. Longley, 1865; Edward H. Hartshorn, 1869; Samuel Haynes, 1873; John C. Bickford, 1874; E. C. Shattuck, 1875.

Senators.—Hon. Samuel Baker, 1780–94, less two years; Hon. William Bassett, 1864.

Justices of the Peace of the town of Berlin (from 1778 to the present time, 1888).—Hon. Samuel Baker, Ephraim Fairbank, Amos Johnson, Levi Merriam, Solomon Howe, Jonathan D. Merriam, Thomas Brigham, Asa Sawyer, Amos Sawyer, Wm. A. Howe, Josiah Babcock, Lewis Sawyer, Albert Babcock, Josiah E. Sawyer, Wm. Bassett, Pliny B. Southwick, Amory A. Bartlett, Samuel M. Haynes, Abel W. Longley.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

REV. WILLIAM A. HOUGHTON.

Rev. William Addison Houghton, son of Caleb and Susannah (Sawyer) Houghton, of the seventh generation, from John Houghton, born in England, and who died in Lancester 1684, was born in Berlin, June 2, 1812, on homestead never in hands of any but the Houghtons (save one mere change). His parents died in his early childhood. At twenty-two years he began preparations for college; graduated at Yale, 1840; also at Yale Divinity School, 1843; was settled the same year over the Congregational Church of Northboro', with which he had united in 1843; resigned in 1851; resident in Berlin 1852; installed over the Congregational Church in Berlin, October 25, 1853; resigned, October 25, 1878, after a pastorate of twenty-five years. His wife, Mary Grace, was daughter of Solomon and Sarah (Stow) Howe, of Berlin. Their only daughter, Lucinda Howe, married, on the silver wedding day of her parents at their home, Edward Howe Hartshorn, son of Dr. Edward and Lucy E. (Howe) Hartshorn, May 28, 1869. Wife Lucinda, died of pneumonia, December 26, 1876, at twenty-six years. She left two children. The husband married, second, Miss Louisa Southgate, daughter of Rufus S. and Louisa (Blood) Hastings.

Mrs. Houghton died, October 16, 1882. Son-in-law, Hartshorn, died, January 8, 1887, at forty-four years. He left five children; three by second marriage. All have been born and nurtured up to date in the same ministerial homestead which was established by Rev.

W. A. Houghton.

Chandler Carter

Dr. Puffer, 1788, and occupied by him nearly half a century, and by his widow, second wife, another quarter century. Remodeled, 1866. The church, 1887, by motion of the pastor, Rev. C. H. Washburn, conferred upon Mr. Houghton the relation of pastor emeritus.

CHANDLER CARTER.

Chandler Carter is of the Lancaster line, originating in Rev. Thomas Carter, born in England about 1610; pastor in Woburn, 1642; was graduate of Cambridge, England. His son, Samuel, was graduate of Cambridge, Mass., 1660. Located in Lancaster, he became pastor in Groton, and died there in 1697. His son, Samuel 2d, had Samuel 3d, who was father to Stanton, who settled in Berlin. Stanton's son, Daniel, was father to Chandler, who was the tenth and youngest child, born October 7, 1808. His mother was Dolly Jones, of one of the most numerous and influential families of the town. Those were days of economy and hard work.

Our townsman has known both of these, in his father's home and in his own. He married a lady of good family and of good estate, whose father, a Berlin young man, Abraham Babcock, made a success of life in Boston.

But the enjoyable union was sundered by death, after the birth of a daughter, who also died in early womanhood.

After years of loneliness in his home Mr. Carter made another fitting and enjoyable connection in marriage with Miss Leah H. Lincoln, of Pembroke, Me., January 16, 1864.

Sadly this union was severed also, August 16, 1879. Singularly both deaths were painfully alike after similar surgical sufferings.

As domestic joys were quenched in sorrows, the lone husband and father has taken more and more into his sympathies his native associates and townsmen. The manifestation of it has been duly reciprocated in many kindly expressions before his great generosity was apprehended.

In 1880 Mr. Carter contributed one thousand dollars for the building of the Unitarian Church. A niece of his had appropriated, in her will, a like sum to the same end.

Our town was heavily burdened by war debt and railroad investment. Mr. Carter had opposed the latter urgently. But the town's error did not abate his good will. He sprung upon us a joyful surprise in the gift to the town of *twenty thousand dollars*. Nor this alone; he gave twenty thousand also to the Unitarian Society of Berlin. Nor this alone; he gave ten thousand to "The Children's Mission to Children of the Destitute."

Of course the town responded by votes and resolutions too extended for full quotations. A public reception was given Mr. Carter at the town hall, J. D. Tyler of the selectmen presiding. Neighboring towns joined in the occasion by representative citizens.

E. F. Johnson, Esq., attorney for Mr. Carter, came forward with the twenty thousand dollar check, which he presented, with impressive fitness, to the town, through the selectmen, F. A. Woodward, chairman. Rev. W. A. Houghton, native townsman and schoolmate of Mr. Carter, as also his near neighbor for thirty years, responded for the town. The long acquaintance of the donor and respondent gave opportunity for the pleasantries of life as well as for sober reflection. James T. Joslin, Esq., of Hudson, had been delegated to present to the town a life-size oil painting of Mr. Carter, which he had previously donated. It had been hung over the platform draped in white, and, in Mr. Joslin's closing words, it was unveiled. More than a heartfelt reception was given by the crowded assembly. Its companion likeness is that of Artemas Barnes, Esq., which, alone, had silently presided over many Berlin assemblies.

Mr. Joslin's remarks were publicly instructive.

Hon. William Bassett responded for the town in appropriate acknowledgment and practical suggestions. Others responded briefly. Lyman Morse, of the selectmen, Geo. A. Cotting, Esq., of Hudson (formerly resident in Berlin), Wilbur F. Brigham, of Hudson, C. F. Morse, of the *Marlboro' Times*, S. T. Rice, of Northboro' and Mr. Pope, of the *Boston Globe*.

The occasion was one to be long remembered in Berlin. Perhaps its moral effect will more than equal the financial relief. Our spirits grew anew as our tax bills came round so encouragingly reduced.

Among the resolutions passed, "in town-meeting assembled," was this: "That the best token of our regard which we can ever hereafter manifest for Mr. Carter's memory, is so to conduct the business of the town as to be clear of debt, the burden of which is now lightened by his generosity."

Of an inspiring poem, contributed by Miss P. A. Holder, we quote only the following:

"The aureole of silver
Years to thy head have brought—
Is tinged with *golden* lustre,
This golden *deed* hath wrought.

"We'll write thy name in brightness,
As with a golden pen,
Beside the good Ben Adhem's
Who 'loved his fellow-men,'"

CHAPTER LXI.

HOPEDALE.

BY ADIN BALLOU.

A NEW and bright little star in the constellation of Massachusetts townships. It was created by act of the Legislature, which received the consummating approval of the Governor April 7, 1886. It has an interesting history, and an auspicious future, as will be seen in the facts of the following explicit compendium:

TERRITORIAL SITUATION, DIMENSIONS AND TOPOGRAPHY.—It is situated in the southeasterly section of the county, at about 42° 8′ N. latitude, and 71° 9′ W. longitude from Greenwich. It is bounded northerly by Upton, easterly by Milford and Bellingham, and southerly and westerly by Mendon. It contains three thousand five hundred and forty-seven acres, or a little over five and a half square miles. Its length is somewhat less than five miles, and its mean width hardly one mile and a quarter. Yet five cities and seventeen towns in the State have a smaller area. It is traversed through its whole length by a goodly little stream called Mill River, lies chiefly in the valley of that river, is skirted by high lands east and west, and includes the southern declivity of old Magomiscock Hill. Otherwise its surface is comparatively level, with a gneissic soil of moderate natural fertility and feasible culture. It has little native wealth except its water-power, which has long been turned to good account. It has no mineral ores, and little clay, peat or quarrying stone. Yet its soil, with proper cultivation, yields fair crops of grass, grains and fruits. Its woodlands, too, though not superior, are tolerably productive. Its population at present is predominantly composed of manufacturers, artisans, traders and concomitant subsidiaries.

EARLY HISTORY.—This slice of territory was included in the famous "Eight miles Square," deeded by several Nipmuck Indian sachems April 22, A.D. 1662, to Moses Payne and Peter Brackett, as representative agents of the then Quinshipaug Plantation, afterward incorporated, May 15, 1667, as the town of Mendon. (For particulars see "Histories of Mendon and Milford.")

Settlements began to be made here at an early date after the incorporation of Mendon. The very first mark of civilization within our limits was made by an eminent patron of the Quinshipaug Plantation, incipient Mendon, Benjamin Alby (Albee). Under a special contract with the plantation authorities, made in 1664, he erected a "Corn Mill" (so-called) on our Mill River,—the earliest water-power established for grain-grinding west of Medfield in all this region. It was located on what is now the Lewis B. Gaskill place, in the southwest corner of our new town, just north of Mendon line, where the remains of the ancient dam are still extant. It was then deemed an important enterprise, and a great convenience to the increasing population of the general neighborhood. Albee contracted to maintain his "Corn Mill" permanently, and received several grants of land near the mill-site as a consideration for its public advantages. But he chose his house-lot a little southwesterly of his mill, in what is still Mendon territory, near the present residence of Willis Gould. His mill and dwelling-house are understood to have been burnt by King Philip's warriors, when the original Mendon Village was laid in ashes during the winter of 1675.

The earliest actual settler within our borders was John Sprague. In 1670 he bought of John Bartlett, an original Mendon proprietor, his right to a twenty-acre house-lot in the near vicinity of Albee's corn-mill, westward in our now extreme southwesterly corner. It included what has long been known as the Wing Kelley place. There he built himself a domicile soon after King Philip's War. He passed away, and was succeeded by his son William, and perhaps by a later descendant. Possibly Matthias Puffer, successor to Benjamin Albee in the ownership of the corn-mill, built a rude dwelling-house on his premises. We have no reliable evidence that any other settlements were made on our territory until the year 1700. During that year two distinguished settlers planted themselves homes on lands now included in the site of Hopedale Village. These were Seth Chapin, Esq., and Elder John Jones. Their children and posterity were long conspicuous inhabitants of this neighborhood. The limits assigned to this sub-history do not allow the writer to go into many of the interesting particulars, which may be found in his exhaustive "History of Milford." If our inquisitive readers will consult that work, they will find that the early settlers of our present town territory, their offspring and successors, have been a somewhat remarkably intelligent, enterprising and influential people, especially the leading families.

To verify this let them read what is said in several chapters, and in the "Genealogical Register," concerning the Albees, Chapins, Corbetts, Greenes, Haywards, Joneses, Nelsons, Pennimans, Warfields, Wheelocks, Whites and others of various note and date. They will then be satisfied that our present population have little reason to be ashamed, either of their predecessors or themselves. In the long struggles which resulted first in making Milford a precinct, December 23, 1741, and finally a town April 11, 1780, the inhabitants of now Hopedale were prominent, persistent and influential actors. The First Church (Congregational) of Milford originated chiefly with these inhabitants, led by Elder John Jones and his neighbors. It was formed in his dwelling-house. In that house it was organized and ecclesiastically sanctioned April 15, 1741. Many of its regular Sabbath meetings were held there, pending the erection

of its first meeting-house; and there the council convened, which ordained its first pastor, Rev. Amariah Frost, December 21, 1743. In secular affairs the influence of our antecedent citizens was at one period predominant. Samuel Penniman, Esq., at what is called South Milford, now a part of Hopedale, became a manufacturer of woolen and cotton goods, not far from 1810, at an establishment just on the edge of Bellingham, where Charles River leaves our town. He was a man of sterling business talent and enterprise. Whether he had co-partners in the manufacture of cloth the writer was never definitely informed, but deems it probable.. A little later he embarked actively in the straw goods trade, which he carried on in connection with a large grocery and dry-goods store. He did an immense business for a country merchant of those days, commanded custom throughout an area many miles in diameter, and was very popular. He employed hundreds, perhaps thousands, of straw braiders, and supplied their domestic wants out of his ample store. The then famous thoroughfare, the "Ninth Massachusetts Turnpike," so-called, had been recently opened, and passed close by his premises, affording quite unprecedented facilities for communication with comparatively distant marts. This brought another great public convenience, a post-office. This was Milford's first mail depot. It was established March 7, 1814, and Major Penniman was appointed postmaster. Milford Centre had no post-office till February 10, 1823. Samuel Penniman, Esq., died, much lamented, in the prime of life, December 22, 1817. He was succeeded in business by Samuel Leeds and one of his own surviving sons. Mr. Leeds was a man of ability and executive enterprise, but after a few years the prosperity of the establishment declined, and never afterward returned to its climax. Other minor cases of business development within our now municipal limits might be mentioned with respect, but were not of sufficient importance to occupy space, until we reach the movement which evolved

THE HOPEDALE COMMUNITY.—This was of commanding importance, for without it there is no probability there would ever have existed the beautiful village of Hopedale, or the flourishing and promising town that bears that melodious name. The writer happens to be fully cognizant of all the facts which enable him to state the exact truth concerning this matter; for he was the leading originator, projector, legislator and director of that community movement. It was not designed or expected by him that Hopedale should ever become an incorporated body politic under any human government, however otherwise good, which requires its subjects, at its behest, to slaughter human beings in war, or to train for that purpose in armies, navies and militias, or to inflict death on criminals, or to resort to deadly force against offenders, or, under any pretext whatsoever, to do unto any class of mankind what they would not have done unto themselves, or to violate in any respect the plain precepts and examples of Jesus Christ. It was strictly a practical Christian movement, conscientiously and unselfishly regardful of individual, social and the universal welfare. Yet, while it transcended the semi-barbarism of existing human governmentalism, and threw off the trammels of its unchristian requirements, it did not deny its usefulness under the overrulings of Divine Providence, nor depreciate any of the good which it conserves, nor countenance any form of opposition by physical violence even to its greatest wrongs and evils.

There was not a particle of red revolutionism in it, nor of compulsory political socialism. It was thoroughly pledged against everything of this nature. Yet its noble design ultimately failed, and its sublime expectations were drowned in the dark waters of disappointment. But it accomplished something—so much, indeed, that, as has already been said, it laid a foundation without which the present town would probably never have come into existence. What it did accomplish and why it failed will now be told as briefly as the nature of the case fairly admits.

Its chief originator and his associates were Independent Restorationists in theology and moral reformers —believers in the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and the religion of Jesus Christ, as He taught and exemplified it, according to the Scriptures of the New Testament. And they became seized with a deeply religious and rational ambition to carry their faith logically into practice, socially as well as individually. Their premises and conclusions were invulnerable to just criticism. They were all tee-total temperance people, thorough abolitionists of the non-political type, sincere believers in the co-equal rights of the sexes and devoted Christian non-resistants, eschewing all forms of deadly and harmful force against human beings, even the worst. They ardently desired to commence an order of society and civilization on this basis, wherein systematic practice should not persistently contradict and nullify gospel theory, but concordantly exemplify it.

They drew their inspiration and convictions of duty from such divine lessons and injunctions as the following: "Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth." "Blessed are the merciful; for they shall obtain mercy." "Blessed are the peacemakers; for they shall be called the children of God," "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." "Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth. But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil" thus with evil. "Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbor, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them that despitefully use you and persecute you; that ye may be the children of your Father who is in heaven; for he maketh his sun to

rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust." "My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews." "Put up again thy sword into his place; for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." "The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so; but he that is greatest among you, let him be as the younger, and he that is chief as he that doth serve." "Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister." "Ye call me Master and Lord; and ye say well; for so I am." "I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you." "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?"

We pondered these and kindred testimonies, and looked over Christendom to find in what empire, kingdom or republic thereof, such principles of truth and righteousness prevailed. We surveyed the nominal church throughout its manifold contending divisions, and found all the popular sects, and even most of the unpopular ones, completely wedded to the worldly governments under which they lived, either in formal union with the state or as subservient co-governing constituents, pledged to abide by and carry out the will of the constitutional majority. We heard much of Christian patriotism, Christian politics, Christian soldiers and Christian civilizatian, but saw comparatively little of the pure Christianity taught and exemplified by Jesus Christ, so plainly set forth in the above-quoted Scriptures. We, therefore, resolved on attempting to institute a community more accordant with Christ's clearly indicated ideal.

It was a presumptuous undertaking. We were few in numbers, crude in our Christian attainments, poor in pecuniary resources, inexperienced in social construction and confronted by formidable obstacles. Faith and conscientious zeal constituted our chief capital. A declaration of principles, embodying all that was deemed essential to an ethical and religious covenant, was matured, together with a carefully elaborated general constitution. These were discussed, considered and finally subscribed by about thirty persons, convened in Mendon, Mass., near the end of January, 1841. And there, on the 28th of that month, we formed and organized what was styled "Fraternal Community, No. 1," afterward entitled "The Hopedale Community." In the course of 1841 we purchased the "Jones' Farm," so called, *alias* "The Dale," in Milford. This locality was christened Hopedale—the word *Hope* being prefixed to *Dale*, as significant of our high anticipations of a social future. The community commenced practical operations immediately after April 1, 1842, with a joint stock capital of less than four thousand dollars, on a worn-out farm of some two hundred and fifty-eight acres, in a single, time-shattered mansion, nearly one hundred and twenty years old, with a few rickety outbuildings. There was no shop, mill or mill-dam on the premises. The little river gurgled lawlessly down a stony fall of some twenty-six feet from an almost worthless swale at the north into a kindred one at the south, yielding only a few desirable fish. The ingress and egress were by roads of the cheapest kind.

The new-comers had to start with a very scanty outfit of everything necessary to their progress. The first settlers comprised seven or eight families, numbering about thirty persons, men, women and children, all housed in their old domicile. From this humble beginning the community gradually increased in numbers and resources, amid innumerable difficulties, for nearly fourteen years, when they could muster a regular membership of one hundred, and an aggregate of three hundred souls—dwelling in fifty houses, on a domain of more than five hundred acres, with a respectable array of homely, but serviceable mills, shops and conveniences. We had also a school-house, chapel and a library of several hundred volumes. We had a handsome village site with good streets, where rough places had been made smooth, and crooked things straight. And our total capital had risen to over ninety thousand dollars.

How this culmination was reached, step by step, it would require a considerable volume to narrate, and it would be a book worth reading. The writer, over ten years ago, prepared such a volume for the press, and it will one day be published; but, for the present, a few outlines must suffice.

We had in our membership, first and last, farmers, gardeners, a variety of mechanics, seven or eight ordained ministers of the gospel, one experienced and skillful physician, several competent educators in the useful branches, and altogether a common-sense, intelligent community. We have been repeatedly pilloried by eloquent orators, who happened to know very little about us, as *visionary dreamers, deluded fanatics, idlers and incompetent financial economists*, who needed a strong master to save us from our imbecility. But, whatever our other faults and weaknesses, they were not of the kind charged or insinuated by these gracious orators. We were only such dreamers and visionaries as Jesus Christ and his apostles plainly taught us to be, honestly endeavoring to carry into practice their precepts, instead of honoring them with our lips, whilst all the time systematically conspiring with the world to nullify and set them at naught. Never was so much brick made with so little clay and straw. There was not an idler, spend-thrift or lavish consumer among us. All worked and saved. There were no time-killing, dawdling gentlemen or ladies daintily shirking manual drudgery. The leader and his wife were in the front rank of hard toilers, not merely with head and

heart, by night and day, but with begrimed hands in the dingiest places of necessary duty. No one expended a mill for intoxicating beverages. Even tobacco, though not expressly prohibited, was voluntarily laid aside. Only a single elderly member adhered to its customary use, and he with regret, after many severe struggles to overcome a long-confirmed habit. Others triumphed over it by persistent will-power.

One venerable widow, at the age of seventy, bravely renounced her cherished snuff-box, and consecrated her savings to the common cause. We spent nothing on war, its preparations or glorifications; nothing on politics or its collaterals; nothing on litigation, but settled all controversies with our neighbors by amicable conference or arbitration; nothing on police officers, constables, sheriffs or criminal prosecutions. At an early stage of our community a theft was committed on our poultry and potato field by some outlandish fellows. We bore it in silence, and waited further developments. We kept not even a dog to protect our property. No depredations were repeated, and not long subsequently word reached us, in a roundabout way, that the ringleader of our marauders was sorry, and said, if he had known what sort of people we were, not a thing should have been touched. They came no more. This was probably as well for us and him as the popular penal reliances.

But it must not be inferred that our chief concern was to make and save money for our own comfort and aggrandizement, apart from the welfare of outside humanity. The very reverse was true. We were an earnestly religious people, not on the ground of escaping the merciless vengeance of God after death, and securing a future endless heaven, but on the ground of escaping the dreadful evils of sin, both in this world and the future, and securing to ourselves and others the blessedness of the heavenly kingdom on earth as well as in the immortal world. We therefore sustained regular religious meetings twice or more on the Sabbath, and once or more during the intervening week, besides quarterly and general convocations in the regions round about. We had our weekly conference meetings, our young people's gathering on Monday evenings, our inductive communion meetings, our monthly meetings for discipline, etc. These and others, besides our Sunday-school. And all these were live meetings, dealing freely with a vast variety of topics by free discussion, and by practical training of old and young for the every-day duties of life. Many of them are remembered by their now scattered participants with reverent appreciation. Meantime, we sent out missionary preachers and lecturers very actively. All this cost time, effort and money. In furtherance of our objects we needed to publish a semi-monthly periodical organ; also books, pamphlets and tracts. We did so liberally for many years. But these could not be expected to pay for themselves, like popular fancy literature, and were a continual draft on our heads, hands and purses.

We were all loyal adherents of the temperance cause, and were levied on for contributions to it from year to year. But that cause was under no obligations to help us. It sent us occasionally a poor, broken-down victim of intemperance to house and help reform. To such we furnished asylum at more or less expense. We were all uncompromising Abolitionists, then poor and hated. Those who were specially devoted to the liberation of the groaning slave had nothing but good will to give us. But they needed our money, and received a good deal of it; also a home and help for their colored *protégés* in need, and got considerable of that. There were "prisoners' friends" and reformers of penitent criminals in those days, who found Hopedale a nice place to take up contributions in, and to domicile their unfortunates. Before the war of emancipation there was an organized society of non-resistants in the land, and they received freely of our tribute. We were an alms-giving people, and were drawn upon almost continually to hand out food, clothing and money to suppliant needy inhabitants around us, especially to the then poor Irish of Milford. We had widely advertised our community enterprise to the world, and were honored with visiting inquirers from all parts of the country. To these we gave hospitable entertainment—to some of them for weeks—and generally received nothing in return but criticism and cheap advice. We were a purely voluntary association, with doors that swung both inward and outward. So, when members became dissatisfied with our companionship, they were at perfect liberty to leave us and take away all their property. We had to meet drafts of this kind, occasionally occurring, to the extent of thousands of dollars, and, at times, greatly to our inconvenience. Finally, we were legally taxable on all our polls and estates as inhabitants of the town of Milford, and were bound by our principles to pay all taxes promptly and peaceably. This we always did. We continually increased their revenue, but never received a nod of credit from their officials, and, for several years, a very inadequate recognition of our legal rights. We educated our rising generation and constructed our streets largely at our own expense. Yet the community never made them a pauper, or criminal, or a cent's costs for relief of its poor, or for police protection, or for any sort of governmental intervention. It did, indeed, receive, first and last, many little donations and helpful favors from outside friends, amounting to several hundred dollars in all. So it was really, not only a self-sustaining institution, but an unselfish and truly beneficent one. And certainly it was not made up of imbecile visionaries and thriftless lazzaroni, but of intelligent, rational, industrious, economical, orderly and charitable people.

Having reached the culmination of its prosperity at the beginning of the year 1856, let us pause a mo-

ment to ponder the closing words of its president's annual address. The then president was Brother Ebenezer D. Draper, recently deceased. He said: "We may rejoice together in considering the degree of harmony that exists at the present time in our community—greater, I think, than ever before. And I hope and believe that, with our past experience and present advantages, we shall continue to increase in love and wisdom, and so become more and more a light to those around us—proving to the world that Christian Socialism opens a more excellent way in which men may live together as social beings, and that it gives us, as it will all who yield to its saving power, peace and good-will to one another and to the whole human race. May the good God prosper and bless us all!"

Who could imagine, after such an address and benediction, that in less than two months afterward the Hopedale Community would be declared by the same man so hopelessly conditioned that he and his brother George Draper, who together owned three-fourths of its joint stock, must withdraw their interest and manage it for themselves? Yet such was the astounding fact. The grief, disappointment and mortification of the present writer was utterly indescribable. He saw that the noblest undertaking of his life, for which he had planned, prayed and labored with all his energies night and day, over fifteen years of his meridian manhood, was irrevocably doomed to final extinction. He saw clearly, in one flashing moment, that however the results might be posponed, modified, mitigated or overruled for good, the issue was absolutely inevitable, and he must make the best of a sad case. By divine grace he has done so.

What is the explanation of this deplorable surprise? A few words only are required for it. The forementioned annual address of President Draper was delivered on the 9th of January, 1856. At that time the treasurer's report had not been completed. The numerous branches of industry had not all made up their accounts. So the meeting was adjourned. Meanwhile it began to be whispered round that the year's operations might show a small deficit. The adjourned meeting took place February 5th ensuing, and the treasurer's report announced a deficit of $145.15 in the whole aggregate of operations and financial interests. But a drastic discussion followed, in which it appeared that the treasurer's statement had not taken into account the interest due to joint stock, $1652, nor made allowance for depreciation of buildings, machinery, &c.—which might swell the deficit perhaps to $12,000. This was no sufficient reason for serious alarm, much less for dissolving the unitary property and industrial arrangements. But things were said which plainly indicated that a crisis would soon be precipitated. A few days developed it. Affairs must be wound up. It could be avoided only by the mass of small joint stock proprietors paying off the two large proprietors. This was an utter impossibility. So the best terms possible were made, and the change consummated in a manner as satisfactory to all parties as so radical a revolution permitted.

Thenceforth the Hopedale Community had but a nominal existence. It struggled on as a mere religious society till finally merged in the Hopedale Parish. Not another family ever located in its village site except under the common law of temporal advantage and expediency. Those of the old votaries who could remain with comfort and convenience stayed on. Those who felt obliged to seek better positions departed. But the new masters of the situation throve, prospered, made a generous use of their wealth and built up an enviable town. They were the only members of our community who had a lucrative business outside of it. The rest of us either had small pecuniary advantages outside, or sacrificed such as they had to their new undertaking. They had done as much for that, according to their ability, as their two abler brethren, but it did not count in money. Fraternity of property was the keystone of our social arch. When that fell out the arch crumbled. These favored brethren commanded that keystone. It was in their power to preserve or to demolish the structure. The writer thought then and thinks now that they threw away a splendid opportunity to bless mankind and immortalize their memories. But they thought and acted otherwise, as they had an undoubted right to do on their own responsibility to the Supreme Judge. We deeply deplored their decision, but were reluctant to blame them. Probably a vast majority of the world's leading minds in church and state will pronounce their decision wise and good. And if they fell away from a high Christian standard which they had professed to revere, they did so under very seductive and powerful temptations.

So the Hopedale Community failed. Was its failure a finacial and business one? Certainly not. As already shown, it paid its way, bore its heavy burdens and increased greatly in numbers and wealth down to the time of its so-called failure, excepting only during its last year's operations. Then, by estimating a real or supposed depreciation of buildings, machinery, etc., it was made to appear that we had run behindhand perhaps twelve thousand dollars, perhaps less. Was this comparatively small deficit a sufficient cause for dreading bankruptcy?—when there was plenty of money in the pockets of the members to wipe it out by assessment, and when a more prudent management of our numerous organized branches of business could probably retrieve it in a year?

Look at any section of the business world during any fourteen years of operations, and see how many firms or corporations gained more and lost less, according to ability and means, than our little community. The writer knows of several individuals, once

Van Dyck & Co. Boston

George Draper

Warren W Dutcher

our members, who since 1856 have lost, under the old unfraternal business system, more than all our fraterternal institution sunk or was likely to sink, ranging from twelve thousand dollars to one hundred thousand dollars each. No; we made no financial failure. It was simply a moral failure. Doubtless we all fell far short of our high professions, and became weary in well-doing. Certainly too many of us did. We subordinated spiritual things to temporal and too faintly strove for personal Christ-likeness. Thus at length we lost the *will* to persevere in our noble enterprise under temptation. We failed from lack of a *united will* to bear the crosses of our mission. Although there were some basilar defects in our constitutional polity, still the failure was chiefly a moral one, and the writer is now reconciled to it, not because he has lost any of his convictions, principles or hopes as a practical Christian socialist, but because he desires no communal organization that cannot be sustained by fraternal, devoted, united *free-will*. Such organizations he firmly believes will bless future ages. For these he will pray, study and labor until discharged by divine mandate.

PROGRESS TOWARDS TOWNSHIP.—Ebenezer D. and George Draper, having decided that they could do better for themselves and the world on the old financial plane than that of Christian socialism, went resolutely forward to demonstrate it. They claimed still to adhere to New Testament Christianity on such points of duty as they deemed practicable in the existing order of society. They were men of rare business talent, enterprise and tact. They had a fortunate specialty of pursuit, and knew how to succeed in it. They were shrewd, generous, public-spirited and honorable men of the higher type among civilized accumulators. They dropped the less profitable branches of industry which had been carried on by the community, concentrated their resources on profitable ones in their own favorite line, called into partnership outsiders of inventive genius and capital, multiplied their productive facilities continually, brought out many valuable patents, and steadily ascended to eminence as manufacturers of cotton and woolen machinery. Conspicuous among their new coadjutors was Mr. Warren W. Dutcher, from North Bennington, Vt. He was an ingenious mechanic, a moral reformer, and a benevolent man, with a good family. He and his made their mark among us. He brought strength to the Drapers, and gained wealth by the connection. One or two of our members were taken into the new corporations, and shared in the advancing pecuniary successes. Such of us as could carry on any kind of business to tolerable advantage did so. The writer and remaining preachers received a small income for public services as religious teachers, also as printers, editors and educators. Riches came only to the favored few and their well-salaried lieutenants. But our fortunate brethren grew in generosity with their increasing means, and dispensed their donations with liberal hands in many directions, especially to the temperance and anti-slavery causes. As to the community (now reduced to a feeble religious society), its various surviving institutional agencies and instrumentalities were largely dependent on their contributions, and received them. In the days of its greater power it prepared the way for their importance by many disinterested labors of head and hand, providing them with a village well-planned, and populated by intelligent, virtuous and orderly inhabitants such as manufacturing enterprise alone could hardly have gathered. It was, therefore, not only reasonable for them to preserve and build up the common interests, but for their own honor and pleasure, as virtual lords of a goodly vicinage. This they were happy to do. A church edifice was needed; it was built by subscription in 1860. They headed the subscription liberally, and ultimately fathered the expense of completion. It was a neat and commodious structure, handsomely situated on Community Square, so called, amid beautiful surroundings. It cost over $6,000, towards which they contributed all but $1,423, though the minor portion drew harder on most of the givers, according to their ability, than the major on its donors. But all did well, and subsequent enrichments have followed from the superior patrons, to their great credit. Our religious teachers, editors, etc., received very little for their services in earlier times. Under the new *régime* one hundred and fifty dollars were raised by subscription in 1856, and divided among three or four officiators, who had their respective assigned Sundays. The same very nearly in 1857, '58 and '59. In 1860 the compensation was raised to six dollars per Sabbath, and the pulpit supplied by two ministers—the writer and Rev. Wm. S. Heywood. Substantially the same arrangement continued till 1864, after which the same preachers received eight dollars per Sabbath till 1866. Then the junior minister removed from the place, and the writer supplied the desk for three-fourths of the time, and received twelve dollars per week of actual service. In 1867 the Hopedale Parish succeeded the community organization, and the writer was called to the pastorate on a regular salary of eight hundred dollars per annum, which continued till April, 1880. All these increases of pulpit support flowed largely from the purses of those who had risen to wealth since the so-called "failure" of the community.

During this period of twenty-four years great events transpired in our country, and marked changes in Hopedale. Ominous political agitations culminated in the gigantic War of the Rebellion. George Draper and several less prominent members of our community deemed it their duty to abandon Christian non-resistance and return to the arena of civil and martial patriotism. So they resigned membership and freed themselves from its restrictive principles. They, their families and kindred thinkers went into politics

and into the war with unstinted devotion. The elder brother, Ebenezer D. Draper, adhered unalterably to our declaration on these and most other points. Yet he and the rest of us could have no sympathy with the slave-holders, and ardently prayed that Divine Providence would overrule the bloody contest for the emancipation of the slaves. Such, indeed, was the outcome. But our position and circumstances were peculiarly unfavorable to self-preservation as a society. Our material power was gone and our social foothold was sliding from under our feet. We resorted to various promising expedients for handing our distinctive organic peculiarities down to the future. None of them succeeded. Propagandism was useless; internal discipline was useless, and pulpit teachings could not turn back the tide of dissolution. So our periodical died in 1860, and later all our instrumentalities, one after another, till the last became extinct. In 1867, though not formally dissolved, the community was virtually merged in the Hopedale Parish. This professed to be a Liberal Christian Society. It was organized under a constitution such as seemed necessary for practical parochial purposes, but contained nothing like a creed, covenant or declaration of principles, leaving each member and supporter free to think, believe and act according to the dictates of his or her own individual reason and conscience. It subsequently affiliated with the Unitarian denomination. The establishment of the parish was formally sanctioned by the waning community January 8, 1868. Finally, at later dates, its trustees legally transferred to the parish all its right, title and interest in and unto the Village Square, the church edifice, the Sabbath-school fund of $800 and the Hopedale Cemetery. Thus ended the career of the Hopedale Community.

Let attention now revert to secular affairs. Under the vigorous management of the Drapers and their allies Hopedale marched rapidly forward to commanding attainments and distinction. Expansion, improvement and beautification were more and more conspicuous from year to year. In the midst of this material prosperity the two brothers began to diverge in their managemental views of business operations. The result was a change of co-partnership in 1868, when Ebenezer D. retired from the firm, and his place was filled by George's oldest son, General William F. Draper. Ebenezer had been a successful accumulator on a smaller scale of transactions. He was worth about five thousand dollars when he joined the community in 1841. In 1852, when George became co-partner with him, he was worth at least thirty thousand dollars, and George less than five thousand dollars. Both gained rapidly, and in 1868 the senior brother was worth one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, and the junior over one hundred thousand dollars. Their business was now greatly expanded and correspondingly more complicated—requiring proportionate attention and vigilance. Both had a growing ambition for riches—to be devoted to laudable uses. But their ideas, tastes and capabilities differed somewhat. Ebenezer was good at negotiating advantageous contracts and making profitable bargains. George excelled him in will-power, indomitable push, mechanical genius, insight into values and the management of details. Moreover, he had a family of talented children coming up; whereas Ebenezer had only one or two adopted ones, destined to other pursuits. The upshot of divergence, however, was, that the elder brother seemed to the younger too easy in business matters, and more ready to share profits than the fatiguing, close application necessary to secure them. The result was that the co-partnership of E. D. & G. Draper ceased in 1868. That of George Draper & Son was immediately formed. This very competent and genial son, William F. Draper, who succeeded his uncle in the firm, went into the great war a private, came out of it a brigadier-general by brevet, and is equally distinguished as a business man. Meantime Ebenezer D. Draper embarked in a flattering enterprise with associates in Boston, "The American Steam Fire-Proof Safe Co.," and ultimately lost nearly all his property. He could not have fared worse had he stuck by the so-termed *incompetent visionaries* of the community. Not such the fortune of George Draper, sons and confederates. They prospered wonderfully, and marched triumphantly on from one achievement to another till they rendered Hopedale an enviable monument to their renown. And the present seems only a prelude to grander future attainments. But the historic pen deals not with anticipations.

Manufacturing operations, though more or less closely connected, are carried on by distinct firms and corporations, which may now be treated of in their order. The foremost of these in importance is the firm of "George Draper & Sons." Its senior died in the midst of his successes, greatly distinguished and deeply lamented throughout a wide circle of influence, June 7, 1887, having been its presiding head since 1868. It now consists of General William F. Draper, George A. Draper, Eben S. Draper and William F. Draper, Jr. They are large selling agents for the other companies. "The Hopedale Machine Co." was incorporated in 1867, with George Draper as president; William F. Draper, treasurer; and Joseph B. Bancroft, managing director. It has manufactured very extensively a variety of patent machinery, has an ample foundry, a screw-making department and all sorts of facilities for multifarious productions in its general sphere. Its present superintendent is A. B. Edmands. It has a capital of two hundred thousand dollars. "The Dutcher Temple Co." was also incorporated in 1867—George Draper, president; F. J. Dutcher, secretary and treasury; with the Draper brothers on its board of directors. Capital stock, forty thousand dollars. Manufactures the Dutcher and other patent temples, seamless stocking knitting-machines and numerous other curious and useful articles. It has a complete outfit of all necessaries

J. B. Bancroft

for its own successful operations. The Machine Company and Dutcher Temple Company have respectively good water-power privileges, supplemented with steam-power for all needful occasions and purposes. The three companies thus far described have large, handsome brick edifices, besides wooden ones, affording them over one hundred and sixty thousand square feet of convenient room, or over three acres of flooring. The firm of "A. A. Wescott & Sons" manufacture spindles for the Drapers. They have a flourishing establishment, situated a mile south of the others on a good waterfall, long previously occupied for more ordinary uses. They execute a creditable amount of business in their line, and are building up a respectable little village called Spindleville. Taking all these companies together, they have practical working control over patents and improvements thereon to the number of nearly four hundred—covering a vast variety of ingenious and useful mechanism now deemed indispensable in the well-furnished cotton and woolen manufactories of the United States. Their annual sales are estimated at from one million dollars to one million two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, their employés of all grades at from six hundred to eight hundred and their pay-roll at about six thousand dollars per week. Their employés are generally of superior skill, as well as moral character, receive better compensation, perhaps, than the average in our country, and have never made a strike for higher wages. To obtain an adeqate idea of the nature, variety and extent of Hopedale manufactures, the inquisitive reader is referred to the "Sixth Descriptive Catalogue" of "George Draper & Sons," as presented in an "Illustrated Pocket Hand-Book," compiled by W. N. Goddard and published in 1887. Contemporary with this successful manufacturing enterprise was a large livery and transportation business, handling thousands of tons of iron, coal, etc., annually, conveying the mail and passengers several times a day and furnishing horses and carriages to the inhabitants. Later has followed the Hopedale Elastic Fabric Company, incorporated December, 1886—William F. Draper, president; E. L. Osgood, treasurer and selling agent; and William Lapworth, superintendent. Brick factory, 100 feet long by 50 wide, 3 stories high, with boiler-house outside; capital stock, $100,000; 100 operatives, 80 of them females; annual sales, about $200,000; orders crowding and business thrifty. Mr. Lapworth is the genius of this enterprise, having the honor of projecting, introducing here and most skillfully superintending it.

Such a continually rising tide of manufacturing prosperity naturally wrought corresponding results in the whole status of Hopedale Village. Its dwellings were gradually trebled and several fine mansions built; population proportionately multiplied; new streets opened, the unfinished ones improved, the older ones macadamized and graced with concrete sidewalks; the church renovated, furnished with a costly organ, and its surroundings much beautified; gas-lights and water supplies introduced through pipes from fountain-heads in Milford for public and private convenience; effective safe-guards against fire provided; school-house accommodations enlarged; and a host of subsidiary necessaries, comforts and luxuries secured. At length, in the midst of this rising affluence, the ambition was born in the leading minds for township incorporation. The project took form in the spring of 1885, and was thenceforth energetically prosecuted to successful consummation.

Separation from Milford and Incorporation.—The first rumor of this movement was received with incredulity, and the verified fact with a mixture of astonishment and ridicule by the leading Milfordians, who regarded it as presumptuous, vain and hopeless. But George Draper & Sons, with their influential coadjutors, went into the undertaking with their accustomed shrewdness, energy, determination and ability. They knew that their cause would encounter a powerful opposition from the mother town, that it could not succeed without resorting to every legitimate means of attainment, and that they had got to work for it with tireless vigilance. They proceeded accordingly from preliminaries to conclusion. So they surveyed and mapped out the territory to be included in the proposed new town, and canvassed the population to ascertain who would favor and who oppose the project. They procured a large majority of the legal voters as signers to the petition for division and incorporation; while a few remained neutral, and a very small minority declared themselves decidedly opposed. The petition was duly prepared and entered on the Order Calendar of the General Court for consideration at its regular session to commence in January, 1886. Meantime vigorous measures were taken by both Hopedalians and Milfordians to prepare for the approaching contest. Large public meetings were held in both sections, strong working committees appointed, and very able counsel engaged to manage their respective causes. Milford had certain notable advantages. She was the party in possession; she had overwhelming numbers, alive with ardent zeal; she had three newspapers devoted to her interests, and also two able members in the Representative chamber of the Legislature. Hopedale had some countervailing advantages. Her leaders were strong, executive, judicious, indomitable men; they had a widespread, deeply-rooted influence in manufacturing, political and financial circles; they had made a multitude of friends by their public spirit and generous donations; and they had a good cause. If they could get the real merits of that cause fairly before the minds of an appreciative majority of the Legislature, they were sure to succeed. This was not an easy achievement in dealing with such a large number of persons. For many of the best disposed needed special information, the indifferent to be moved, and the misin-

formed to be enlightened. No opportunity was neglected to supply these urgent necessities; but, though their opponents, under excitement, very broadly insinuated that they resorted to dishonorable means to attain their object, there was really no just ground for such a suspicion. Their means were such only as have long been sanctioned by custom in such controversies. Their real offence was that they were too sagacious, industrious and indefatigable to be overmatched.

Both parties had engaged able counsel, sufficiently well matched to leave nothing undone or unsaid in behalf of their respective clients,—for the petitioners, N. Sumner Myrick, Esq., and Hon. Selwin Z. Bowman; for the remonstrants, Hon. J. H. Benton, Jr., and Hon. J. H. Bennett. The legislative Committee on Towns, before whom the parties were to lay the case, comprised Messrs. Henry M. Phillips, Charles A. Gleason and Samuel B. Locke, of the Senate, with Messrs. Stephen S. Taft, Charles Field, Miles Sampson, Charles F. Jenney, Robert Blyth, Jesse Allen, Francis E. Shaw and Albert A. Woodward, of the House,—Hon. Henry M. Phillips, chairman. A more intelligent, judicious, candid and patient committee could not have been asked. They commenced the hearings January 27, 1886, and continued them by adjournment through seven or eight sittings, besides making an official examination of the premises on the 9th of February. It was incumbent on the petitioners to show that their proposed town had the proper requisite elements of such a body politic,—*i. e.*, sufficient area, population, wealth and capability to manage municipal affairs. Also that their separation from the mother town would cause it no serious injury as compared with the advantages gained by the new town. It was to be expected, from the history of mankind, as always reluctant to part with power and privilege, that Milford would strenuously resist the attempted division: and she did so point by point. Although she could not deny that the area of Hopedale, 3547 acres, would be larger than that of seventeen towns and five cities in the State; nor that its population, nearly 1000, exceeded that of ninety-five towns in the State; nor that its quota of polls, 250, outnumbered that of seventy-nine towns in the State; nor that its valuation, $769,346, would be greater than that of one hundred and thirty-three towns in the State; nor that its voting citizens would be competent to manage municipal affairs; nevertheless, it was her policy to yield nothing. Her managers, partisans and lawyers boldly assumed the ground that the show of numbers in favor of a new town was unreal and deceptive; that the movement was set on foot by George Draper & Sons, was designed chiefly for the aggrandizement of one family, and was supported only by their relatives, subalterns and dependents; that some of these dependents were overawed and even coerced; that not a few of the voters on the Hopedale territory were either opposed to division or were neutrals; and finally that the Drapers were mere selfish schemers and *tax dodgers*. All these brave assumptions and imputations were put forth, reiterated and pertinaciously insisted on, with as much seeming honesty and earnestness, as if they were demonstrable verities. Their first effort was to emphasize a derogatory inference from the acknowledged and obvious fact that the Drapers initiated and led the division movement; as if such movements, where worthily started, are customarily set on foot and headed by persons of ordinary estate, talent and influence—which is seldom, if ever, the case. Common sense and prudence dictated in this case, that if any laudable attempt was to be made at all to obtain the incorporation of Hopdale, the Drapers were the very men of all others to initiate and lead the movement; for they had all the qualifications necessary to success, and would be generous benefactors of the new town,—as has proved to be the case. They doubtless had an ambition to father and endow the town. Was that a criminal ambition? Was it an ignoble ambition? Did it deserve even from opponents reproach and contumely? Milfordians themselves would now answer: No.

Next the battery of opposition was turned upon the rank and file of the petitioners, to make it appear that, though seeming to make a fair show, they were mere mercenary dependents of the Drapers. They were, therefore, all questioned as to whether they were family relatives, or business partners, or paid agents, or employés, or sold them manufactured articles; and the implied inference uniformly was, that no man standing in such relations could properly be counted in as a competent citizen. Yet all these men, thus disparaged, were uncommonly intelligent, and several of them capable of managing municipal affairs in any town of the Commonwealth. But how happened these men to think, feel and act with the Drapers? For the same general reason that thousands of independent-minded people think, feel and act together on religious and political questions,—because they view things alike. There was, however, one single individual who alleged that he signed the petition under constraint, and who also alleged that he knew of several others who did so. His name had been stricken from the list of petitioners as soon as it became known he had declared himself to have been overawed. When placed on the witness-stand, he was requested to name the persons he knew to have been coerced. He refused, but finally named one. That man soon afterward appeared and testified that he signed the petition freely, and never told any one the contrary. The alleged dictator also appeared, and testified conclusively that he never made use of coercive language in any form to induce persons to sign the petition, and certainly not in the case asserted. Thus vanished the phantom of reproach on the character of the leading petitioners. Yet the remonstrants actually had one aid and comfort which was a thorn to the petitioners. There was a handful within the

Hopedale territorial lines who thought it their duty to take sides against their near neighbors by resisting division, and who did so zealously. This was the most unpleasant occurrence, in its spirit and consequences, which befel the Hopedalians during their struggle for municipal independence; not because it had much weight in deciding the main issue, but because it alienated and embittered some who ought to be mutual friends.

The next effort of opposition ingenuity was to demonstrate that the Hopedale villagers, however otherwise estimable, had few local conveniences, and were dependent on Milford Centre for almost everything. In that favored Centre were the railroad depots, the mercantile establishments, the provision markets, the banks, the assembly halls, the churches, the high school, the public library and a multitude of other necessary good things, including even the streets over which the Hopedalians must travel to obtain the supplies they needed. Was it for such a class of dependent people to set up as a town? It was a greater strain on gravity than on facts and logic to answer such an argument. But courteous decency demanded that a formal and conclusive reply should be made. This was easily done. It was undeniably proven, first, that the Hopedale people had never received any one of these advantages as a gratuity, but had always handsomely paid for every item of value or convenience furnished them; second, that they intended always to deserve the good name, long since accorded them, of being reckoned among Milford's best customers; third, that they had done their full share towards providing the roads and streets they were obliged to travel in order to trade with Milford dealers; fourth, that the leading petitioners were stockholders and officers in the railroads and in several other corporations of Milford Centre; and fifth, that the incorporation of Hopedale as a town would not disturb a single one of Milford's superior monetary and commercial advantages at all. The only effect of such an argument on candid minds was to show that a town with so much to boast of was not very magnanimous to grudge the petitioners the right to manage their own local affairs for themselves.

But to this there remained the formidable objection that this aspiring Draper family were mere plotting *tax dodgers*, and ought not be tolerated. Milford could not afford to part with the prerogative of taxing them at her own discretion. If they should get off at the head of a new town, there was no imagining what calamities might happen. One, however, was certain—Milford was to be a great loser. They must be foiled in their pernicious career. The brilliant compliments with which they were bespangled, especially the obnoxious father, were transcendent, and quite beyond their merits, or even their demerits. There was one and but one way of escape from their unfortunate predicament. They must abandon their project of an independent town and submit to Milford taxation. If they would only perform that little act of expiation, their sins, though like scarlet, would instantly become white as snow. They would then be excellent fellow-citizens, if not fellow-saints. But they were obstinate and incorrigible offenders, and had to be denounced accordingly. So the inquiry arose how many dollars per annum of taxes they were likely to avoid in fathering their new town? Nobody knew or guessed; they were going to dodge several thousand which Milford wanted, and this was enough to seal their doom. What right had they in their wealth to diminish a flourishing town's needy exchequer? Had not that maternal town bestowed on them large gratuities to encourage their enterprise and foster their business? No, not to the value of a single cent. Had she not been a liberal purchaser of their manufacturers? To the extent of a few dollars' worth of useful iron castings perhaps. Had she not been very generous in building roads for them, and in providing safeguards against fire for their factories, &c.? The records did not show it. Had they been sordid and stingy in contributing to Milford's public necessities, wants and charities? Far otherwise. Had they surrounded themselves with intemperate, reckless and shiftless operatives, thereby and otherwise breeding criminals and paupers, to be taken care of at the expense of the town? Not one. Had they given no employment to the needy population of Milford? Much. Had they pinched, ground down and oppressed their employés? On the contrary, they had the reputation of paying fair wages. What, then, was their grave offence? Were they getting too rich and important? If so, were not their accusers doing their utmost to accumulate riches, and some of the most conspicuous of them by less creditable means? Were they fraternal communists, trying to have "the strong bear the infirmities of the weak," like the founders of Hopedale? Nothing of that kind. They derided such experiments. But they were looking out, with the shrewdness of modern civilization, every one for himself, and, if they failed to capture the lion's share, had no right to avenge their ill-luck by denouncing those who succeeded as dangerous characters. Yet the plea was that these ambitious Drapers were scheming to escape just taxation by obtaining a new town, chiefly made up of their dependents. If this was not intolerable conduct, what could be? And if such attempts did not deserve to be exposed by disinterested free speech and the press, of what value were these guaranteed free utterances? But such pleading, earnest and pathetic as it was, fell on the discerning ears of impartial judges as hardly coming from injured innocence.

Finally, the climax of the controversy was reached. If Hopedale should be incorporated, however otherwise justifiable, would not Milford be grievously and irreparably damaged? The remonstrants vehemently affirmed that it certainly would. And their tone was that of persons threatened with ejection from a

dearly-bought, clearly-titled estate by fraud and arbitrary power. If so, they ought to gain their case. But facts and arguments were still against them. It was true that their Hopedale taxable subjects were profitable ones, yielding a net annual revenue of several thousand dollars. This golden fleece would certainly be lost to them if their tributaries obtained their independence. There was no gainsaying this conclusion. On such ground the alarm-cry was raised, Milford's taxes will be fearfully increased, immigrants will be deterred from coming into the town and its real estate will greatly depreciate—its damages will be deplorable! Now its Centre was the grand emporium of affluence, of trade, of wealth and all desirable advantages. But if these Hopedale tributaries were allowed to go off and set up for themselves, their impoverished municipal parent would languish into ruin! So pleaded her eloquent advocates. What were the facts? In everything but tax profits Milford was in danger of losing nothing—not a mill. In business matters, trade and the advantages of general intercourse, Hopedale was going to be just as profitable a customer as ever. Their municipal incorporation would not change these particulars one iota, unless, perhaps, for the enrichment of Milford. In the sore matter of tax profits even, Hopedale independent must bear its own burdens, take care of itself and meet its share of State and county taxes. It must also pay its portion of the existing town debt. So far Milford would actually be relieved. Was her real estate to depreciate, or her business prosperity to decline from such causes? No; but that surplus revenue from taxation of the Hopedalians, some $8000 to $10,000 a year, was to be irretrievably lost; and that was going to do the apprehended mischief. Well, suppose that amount must be actually added to Milford's self-taxation, was it going to bankrupt her? or even seriously strain her financial ability? It was unreasonable to assert it, especially after the claims made in a former part of this hearing respecting her opulence as compared with dependent Hopedale. With a population of nine thousand, such a host of enterprising business men and such abundant advantages of all kinds, $10,000 a year ought not to be a very frightful loss to bear. Moreover, it was in her power to curtail her expenses at her own option, and, by greater prudence in making outlays, to moderate taxation. This, however, was not agreeable, for it came out she was ambitious to become a city, in which case her expenses were likely to be greatly increased. Hopedale's independence would defeat, or at least postpone, this desirable consummation, whilst at the same time escaping taxation to sustain it.

Another important consideration came into the loss account, which was, that the sanitary welfare of Milford Centre demanded costly sewers, and though Hopedale needed none, it would be grievous injustice to release her from the legal grasp that would compel her to help pay the coming bills! Who could answer such ardent and eloquent reasoners? Thus the whole controversy was narrowed down to the question: Shall Milford be damaged to the extent of her power to draw this annual net revenue from Hopedale by municipal taxation? If Milford could have shown that Hopedale was indebted to her for favors in the past, for patronage and encouragement in time of need, her plea would have had some color of justice and plausibility. But here was an unfortunate blank. For though Hopedale always had more or less good friends in Milford, as individual and social acquaintances, the town majority and authorities never laid it under any special obligation. From the days of its struggling infancy as a fraternal community, in 1842, it continually increased the taxable polls and property of the town without a token of appreciation. For several years it schooled its own children, and built its own streets. And when appropriations began to be granted, it was done with manifest reluctance. Its people made no paupers, or criminals, or disorderly characters for the town to care for. Yet, as a town, though it sowed not, it was a vigilant reaper. Every poll and every parcel of estate was assessed, the taxes duly called for and always promptly paid. And so matters had gone on through all the changes, substantially in the same manner, for over forty-three years, down to this contest.

All the while Milford was drawing a net revenue from Hopedale by taxation; giving back in appropriations much less than she took. And whence came the population of Hopedale Village? Almost entirely from places outside of Milford, some of them from remote quarters of the country. From whence came their property? A mere fraction of it from Milford—the great bulk of it from widespread regions abroad. Milford purchased very little from Hopedale, but Hopedale was a large and profitable customer of Milford's goods. These facts came out in bold relief during the discussion, and they convinced a sufficient number of Massachusetts legislators that, even if Milford should lose the net revenue to which she clung with such a tenacious grasp, she had a poor title to it, and that Hopedale ought of right to be a free and independent town. The Hon. Mr. Bowman wound up the pleadings before the Legislative Committee with a masterly speech, for the petitioners—clear, comprehensive and irresistibly impressive. The committee deliberated, and unanimously reported a bill for the incorporation of Hopedale.

The bill came up in the Senate for consideration March 12, 1886, and after a long discussion prevailed, fourteen to eleven. It was brought up in the House March 25th, and after a hot debate carried, one hundred and eighteen to ninety-two. Returning to the Senate, it was finally passed, eighteen to sixteen, April 6th. On the 7th it was signed by His Excellency,

A. A. Westcott

Governor George D. Robinson, and so Hopedale became a town. Nothing really new was said or could be said in either House of the Legislature for or against Hopedale's incorporation, but of course the whole ground must be gone over with more or less particularity. The committee ably defended their own report on its solid merits. Its opponents repeated all the sharp things said against the petitioners in the committee-room. And their orators in both Houses won laurels of approbation from the remonstrants by their invective eloquence against the leading Hopedalians and their followers. All these labors of love were lost, not only on the assailed, but on the legislative majorities and the Governor. Justice and reason triumphed.

In the evening of April 13th ensuing the Hopedalians celebrated their victory, according to the fashion of the political world, by the ringing of bells, discharge of artillery, illumination of their village and display of fireworks. Two sonorous bells were rung smartly for an hour; Battery B, from Worcester, fired first a salute of eleven guns to General William F. Draper, and then eighty-six in honor of Hopedale as the eighty-sixth town of Massachusetts incorporated during the present century; the gas and electric lights flashed their splendor in all directions, and the skies blazed with brilliant rockets. So the people rejoiced with manifold demonstrations in their newly-acquired municipal independence.

The town held its first meeting under a warrant from W. F. Draper, justice of the peace, April 19, 1886, and was legally organized by the choice of the following-named officers: Frank Dewing, clerk; E. D. Bancroft, treasurer: E. L. Chichester, collector; Ernest M. Capen, auditor; J. B. Bancroft, Lewis B. Gaskill and Alonzo A. Cook, selectmen, overseers of the poor, Board of Health and highway surveyors; Asa A. Westcott, David Nelson and H. B. Fisk, Assessors; Frank J. Dutcher, for three years, Anna M. Bancroft, two years, and Albert W. Ham, one year, school committee; William N. Goddard, for three years, Frank S. Hayward, two years, and C. F. Roper, one year, trustees of library; Frank Gaskill, William N. Phillips, Samuel A. Andrews and Robert Ross, constables; C. H. Messenger and C. F. Roper, field-drivers; Frank S. Hayward, Fred. Mooney and E. D. Walker, fence viewers.

On the 14th of October, 1886, the town adopted an ample, wholesome and commendable code of by-laws; also at the same meeting judicious rules and regulations for the Fire Department. Thus the necessary machinery of a well-ordered municipal government was set in motion. Its operations have been eminently satisfactory. A large, well-compiled, lucid and complete report for the year ending January 1, 1887, was made by the town officers and published, representing all departments of its affairs in a prosperous condition. A similar one was made and published for the year ending January 1, 1888. A summary of this second annual report, modified by later ascertained data, may properly be given on these pages, as exhibiting the progressive status of the new town, nearly down to the present time.

Town Officers.—David A. Westcott, clerk; E. D. Bancroft, treasurer; Edward S. Simpson, collector; J. B. Bancroft, Lewis B. Gaskill and Simon G. Gilman, selectmen, overseers of the poor, Board of Health and highway surveyors; Asa A. Westcott, David Nelson and Hamlet B. Fisk, assessors; Albert W. Ham (three years), Frank J. Dutcher (two years), and Anna M. Bancroft, school committee; C. F. Roper (three years), William N. Goddard (two years), and Frank S. Haywood (one year), trustees of the library; Frank Gaskill, William Phillips, Samuel A. Andrews, Robert Ross and T. J. Coyne, constables; Charles Waterhouse, George Cole and Frank Gaskill, field-drivers; Frank S. Hayward, Fred. Mooney and E. D. Walker, fence-viewers. By appointment and special organic arrangement—Charles E. Pierce, chief engineer of Fire Department; J. B. Bancroft, assistant engineer; A. W. Westcott, clerk and treasurer; Wm. N. Goddard, secretary of library trustees and librarian; Ellen F. Welch, assistant librarian; Frank H. French, truant officer.

Before coming to statistical details, it is pertinent to treat of important historical matters chronicled in the second report. George Draper, the father and benefactor of the new town, departed this life, in the ripeness of his successes, usefulness and honors, June 7, 1887, aged sixty-nine years, nine months and twenty days. This lamentable event took place in Boston, whither he went for a temporary sojourn to obtain medical relief from urinary and kindred ailments, which, though not seemingly dangerous, he was anxious to overcome. Unexpectedly to all, he presently became alarmingly sick under treatment, and in a few days expired. His remains were brought home, and on the 11th of June his funeral was solemnized with every demonstration that bereaved family affection and public grief could bestow. Thousands appreciated his merits, sympathized in a great common loss, and united in reverential tributes of respect to his memory. Besides the valuable gifts and legacies which he bequeathed, was the commodious and beautiful town edifice which graces the centre of Hopedale Village. He had laid its foundations in 1885, and it was far advanced towards its completion before he died; but the interior finish had been retarded by casualties, and lingered several months.

Brief General Description.—"The building is of granite and brownstone, with exterior dimensions of 75x69 feet. It is on the main street, and faces nearly east. On the front are two store entrances, besides the main entrance, at the right of which are the staircase and town officers' rooms. At the end of the hall, directly opposite the entrance, are double doors leading to the reading room, 24x22 feet, in the northwest corner; this is connected with the library proper by an arch eleven feet six inches in width. This room

occupies the rear centre of this floor, and is thirty feet by seventeen feet, six inches, with an entrance from the left of the entrance hall. The finish, furniture and shelving in these rooms is of California red-wood. The entire upper story is occupied by the town hall, with the stage, reception and ante-rooms. The basement contains a market, lock-up, caucus-hall, steam-heating apparatus and store cellar." The entire cost of the noble structure, with its sixteen thousand feet of land, was over forty thousand dollars.

At a special town-meeting held on the evening of August 22, 1887, the five children (three sons and two daughters) of George Draper (deceased), pursuant to their father's testamentary wishes and directions, presented these premises to the town, with a perfect title of conveyance. This conveyance imposed on the town only one qualifying condition—that none of its rooms should ever be rented to persons without the consent of the donor's heirs. The town unanimously accepted the donation on the offered terms, passed an appreciative vote of thanks for the same, and also the following preamble and resolutions:—

WHEREAS, In the Providence of God, the Town of Hopedale has been called to lament the decease of Mr. George Draper, and would formally indicate its appreciation of his noble services and powerful direction; therefore it is

Resolved, That this town suffers an irreparable loss.

Resolved, That not only has this Municipality been thus bereft of a wise counsellor, loyal citizen and most munificent benefactor, but it is also deprived of one whose integrity in business relations, and whose untiring devotion to the public welfare, constituted him an object worthy the emulation and grateful remembrance of all who knew him.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be inscribed upon the records of the Town, a copy also presented to each individual of his immediate family and duly published in the public press.

At the same town-meeting, after choosing a Committee of Arrangements to supervise the dedication of their admirable Town-Hall, the following vote of thanks was passed:

Voted.—To thank Gen. W. F. Draper for his donation to the town of the so-called Dutcher Street extension (which cost him several thousand dollars), and for the prompt and liberal manner with which he accepted and paid for such changes as seemed necessary for the successful completion of said road.

If, after perusing such a record, any of our readers should wonder whether this Draper family and these menial voters are the same that were so sadly disparaged before the General Court of 1886 as unworthy to be incorporated into a town, let them rest assured that they really are the very same.

DEDICATION OF THE TOWN HALL.—The Committee of Arrangements consisted of Gen. William F. Draper, chairman; Joseph B. Bancroft, Lewis B. Gaskill and Simon G. Gilman, selectmen; and Artemas B. Edmands, Asa A. Westcott and Charles F. Roper, citizens-at-large. To these were subsequently added E. D. Bancroft, Mrs. Phila W. Weston and Miss Anna M. Bancroft. Numerous sub-committees were appointed and put in charge of the necessary branches, into which details were divided. Every committee discharged their duties assiduously, efficiently and creditably. At length the day of dedication arrived, October 25, 1887. It was a grand and memorable occasion for Hopedale. A specific narration of its interesting proceedings and performances would overflow our limits, and will not be expected. We must confine our account to synoptical outlines. A great concourse of people assembled, including, besides near residents, numerous representatives of the surrounding towns and a host of sympathizing friends from more distant parts of the Commonwealth, who had stood by Hopedale through evil as well as good report, when it was struggling before the Legislature for independence. Music of the highest excellence threw its charms over the multitude, rare eloquence distilled its fragrance on delighted auditors from eminent orators, and a rich dinner regaled the stomachs of participating guests. The formal exercises in the hall commenced at eleven o'clock A. M. Stirring airs from the band; prayer by the writer; unsurpassable music from the Weber Quartette; a pertinent and appropriate introductory address from Chairman Gen. William F. Draper; principal dedicatory address by Ex-Governor John D. Long, replete with his graceful and renowned eloquence; remarks by the writer of this article, interesting speech by Rev. Lewis G. Wilson as the spokesman of two hundred and forty grateful Hopedale employés, presenting the town a splendid life-size crayon portrait of the late Geo. Draper; formal delivery of the Town House keys to selectmen, by Geo. A. Draper, as representative of the late George Draper's heirs, and acceptance of the same by Joseph B. Bancroft, chairman of the board; dinner, toasts and speeches in the great tent on Church Common, with the customary musical accompaniments. So the day closed, redolent with testimonial tributes to departed worth, grateful acknowledgments of munificent benefactions, sacred reminiscences of the past, and auspicious hopes of the future.

As was natural and proper, the dominant current of thought, speech and attention was eulogistic of the new town's upbuilder and generous patron, George Draper. The writer was the only speaker of the occasion who represented the primary Hopedale of community days. And he deemed it both a privilege and a duty to revive its memory, and show that it had something more to do with preparing the way for subsequent success than appeared on the present surface of things. The honorable and eloquent orator of the day had, indeed, made one brief reference to it, but in terms of disparaging commiseration rather than commendation. He said:

On this spot, some forty years ago, one of those communities which spring up from time to time, and of which so much is anticipated by the enthusiasm of their members, had undertaken, under the sweet guidance of the venerable and beloved pastor, who is here to-day, to solve the problem of a happy, industrious and peaceful Christian brotherhood. It was a joint stock association, sharing capital and profits, and run on

common account. The result was a practical bankruptcy, avoided only by a change which followed no longer any transcendental line, but turned to the line of hard, practical American business, for George Draper took the plant into his vigorous hand. An enlightened and liberal selfishness became, as it usually does, a beneficence to which a weak communism was as the dull and cheerless gleam of decaying punk to the inspiring blaze of the morning sun in spring-time. The man of affairs was in temporal things a better leader than the priest, as he usually is, and as nobody will so emphatically assure you as the priest himself. A meagre manufacturing enterprise, that made a few boxes and cotton-spinning temples, and employed a dozen hands, began that marvellous expansion which, in these few years, under George Draper's direction, has come to employ five hundred men, has grown from an annual product of twenty thousand dollars to one of more than twelve hundred thousand; has built and incorporated a Massachusetts town; has erected these trim, convenient houses and homes of skilled and prosperous labor; has enlarged the original industry into four great business houses, and embraces one of the largest cotton machinery manufacturing centres in the world.

Well, how was the "venerable and beloved Christian pastor," "the priest," likely to appreciate this rhetorical picture of "weak communism, etc.?" Did he wish to detract from the merits and fame of his lamented friend, the deceased George Draper? By no means. But he did not feel that the honorable reputation of that departed friend needed to be magnified by the unjust disparagement of the Hopedale Community or any member thereof. He knew all the facts in the case, and knew that the orator, through some mistake, had radically misrepresented the most important of them. He knew that Ebenezer D. Draper, the elder brother of George, was president of the Hopedale Community at the time when its joint stock and unitary interest were dissolved; that he was then a much larger capitalist than his younger brother, and wielded far greater power; that he pronounced the condition of the community eminently harmonious and prosperous less than two months before he and his brother decided to withdraw their capital; that there really was no bankruptcy, nor any necessitating cause for a dissolution of unitary interests, except their withdrawal of three-fourths of the joint stock, and that "the plant" was taken into the vigorous hands of the two brothers only to be changed into a successful manufacturing settlement, managed on the principles of "enlightened and liberal selfishness." Therefore, knowing perfectly the entire history of the community, that without its devoted labors and sacrifices this new town of Hopedale would probably never have attained the importance now being glorified, and knowing, moreover, that the rising generation were in danger of remaining misinformed on the subject, the aged "priest" improved the few minutes allotted him in stating the salient facts of the case. What these facts were is clearly set forth in the beginning of this sub-history, and need not be repeated. His speech was listened to with respectful attention, and he was cordially thanked by many auditors for his exposition. He believes it made a salutary and lasting impression on the assembly.

Progressive Statistics to September, 1888.—The town report already referred to comes down to January 1, 1888, but on several points later information is available, and will be used. The officers chosen at the annual March meeting, with slight exceptions, were re-elected from the preceding year, as already named. The following synoptical chronicles exhibit, in a compendious form, the principal transactions and corporate progress of this youthful municipality.

Conformably to the terms prescribed in the act of incorporation, Hopedale must pay fifteen per cent. of Milford's indebtedness at the time of separation. Amicable settlement October 6, 1887, when principal and interest was paid to Milford, amounting to $18,-436.95. Liquidated by funds on hand and borrowed money.

Town debt, October 6, 1887, $16,000; reduced so as to stand at the end of 1888, $14,000; total valuation of taxable property in town, at the close of 1887, $781,204; July 1, 1888, $882,408; tax rate per $1000, uniformly thus far $13; number of inhabitants, July 1, 1887, 975; July 1, 1888, 1,116; number of dwelling-houses, July 1, 1888, 203; in Hopedale village, 217; number of polls, July 1, 1887, 301; July 1, 1888, 347; amount of taxes committed for collection, 1887, $10,-749.91; amount committed in 1888, $12,165.55; total income from taxes of all kinds,—*i.e.*, from individuals and corporations,—1887, $19,385.30; same for 1888, not fully reported at the time of this writing.

Town expenditures for the year ending December 31, 1887, viz.: for highways, out of appropriations, donations, etc., $4,456.69; for sidewalks, out of appropriations, $1,013.32; for incidentals, under administration of selectmen, $2,788.11; for town hall appurtenances, etc., $842.15; for gas and street lights, $315.94; for water against fires, under appropriation, $516.68; for Memorial Day, $25.00; for school-house lot appropriation, $600.00; for borrowed money repaid, $3,000.00; for State and county tax in 1886, $1,331.10; for State and county tax in 1887, $1,662.52; for land damage, extension of Dutcher Street, $819.00; for outlays on Water Street, newly laid, $501.36; for aid to poor belonging to other towns, $108.66; for Fire Department under appropriation, $813.01; for educational purposes, total receipts from all sources, $5,232.89; total disbursements, $5,232.89; for town library, total receipts, $1,170.10; expended, $2,294.40. So, for all purposes the town expended, during the year ending December 31, 1887, $26,320.83. It will be understood that this total includes certain donations, and is affected somewhat by debits and credits of the preceding year.

Appropriations of 1888, for the same general purposes above specified, amount to $19,475.00; town property on hand, aside from town hall and its appendages, school department buildings, $5,700.00; Highway Department, including new stone-crusher, etc., $2,467.00; Fire Department, hose-house, apparatus and equipments, $2,015.00.

Condition of Departments.—All the departments are admirably managed and in excellent condition. Respecting highways and streets, the new

town inherited twenty-five, by act of incorporation, from Milford. These are of various lengths and widths, and bear appropriate names. One of them has been very advantageously extended, through the generosity of General Draper, a considerable distance northward from Hopedale Village, shortening, on a level route, the distance to Upton. Two or three other new streets have been laid out, and marked improvements made on several old ones. Our roads are good.

Concerning the Hopedale Fire Department, matters show a no less creditable record. It has a nice hose-house, a well-equipped carriage with 1200 feet of hose, 4 ladders, 36 fire-pails and 12 suitably-located hydrants. Besides these, the several corporations have provided themselves costly and efficient apparatus for the extinguishment of fires on their respective premises, and not a few individuals have plenty of ladders and fire-pails. The department is well organized and manned. Fires are few, far between and, thus far, almost harmless.

As to pauperism, it scarcely exists, and criminality, as a cause of expense, is of rare occurrence. No licenses are granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors, and the manufactories of vice, crime and misery are kept at a distance. Our Educational Department is liberally encouraged, assiduously supervised, reputably conducted and in first-rate order. Down to the present writing there have been but two school-houses, the larger situated in Hopedale Village and the smaller in South Hopedale. An ample High School edifice is in near prospect, and will soon be erected. The corporations have unitedly pledged a subscription of six thousand dollars towards it, and the town is about to raise a sum adequate to secure its completion. The High School was inaugurated in an extemporized room of the large village school-house in September, 1886. It was an immediate success. Number of pupils, thirty. Course of studies up to the average standard. Principal and assistant eminently well qualified, and results ever since all that could be desired. The increase of scholars in the lower grades has obliged the High School to find new quarters in the Town Hall until the new edifice designed for it shall be ready for occupancy.

The village school-house barely accommodates the pupils of lower grade. During the fall term of 1887 there were in its primary room sixty-six scholars, fifty-three in the intermediate and forty-three in the grammar. Since then these numbers have been continually augmenting. Competent and excellent teachers have filled the several positions with honor to themselves and satisfaction to all parties concerned. The South Hopedale School has not yet admitted of gradation, but it has been creditably taught and managed. The whole number of children in town between the ages of five and fifteen years, as reported by the School Committee for May 1, 1887, was one hundred and eighty-two. The number must now be much larger. On the whole, few towns in the Commonwealth have greater reason to be proud of their public schools than Hopedale.

THE TOWN LIBRARY AND READING ROOM.—These have ample and elegant accommodations in the Town Hall edifice. It will bear repeating that the reading room is 24 by 22 feet. The library room is 30 by 19½ feet. They are connected by an arch 11½ feet in width. The finish, furniture and shelving of both rooms is of California red-wood. In the library, December 31, 1887, 2478 vols.; pamphlets, 1556; periodicals, in incomplete vols., 889—a very good beginning, largely made up of donations. The future is bright with hopeful auspices. There will be liberal donors, and the town will make handsome annual appropriations. The reading room and reference library opened in temporary quarters December 27, 1886; circulation of books commenced June 4, 1887; rooms in Town Hall were occupied December 24, 1887. The reading room was fairly well supplied with valuable reading matter from the outset, and has been gradually enriched ever since. The attendance at reading room, as well as the circulation of library books, has been worthy an intelligent population. The best of regulations have been established for the library and reading room, and admirable order prevails throughout. The board of trustees have done themselves honor by their judicious management of affairs. Especial commendation is due to Mr. William N. Goddard. He is an amateur librarian, takes a lively interest in the affairs of his office, and has laid the town under lasting obligations of gratitude for his services. His assistant, Miss Ellen F. Welch, who attends to the ordinary daily duties of librarian, discharges those duties meritoriously, and has won general approbation. There is fair promise that in a few years Hopedale will have a public library nobly rich in quantity and quality.

LITERARY TASTE AND CULTURE.—These are marked characteristics of our population. Of reading clubs there are three, each of which subscribes for the best periodicals published in the country, and circulates them regularly throughout the families of its members, viz.: The Hopedale Reading Club, the Hopedale Magazine Club, and the Spindleville Reading Club. There are two prominent literary clubs: The Roundabout Club, devoted to mental improvement by preparing, delivering and discussing brief essays on various interesting topics; and the Shakespeare Club, devoted to the study, select reading and consideration of Shakespeare's works. These clubs hold frequent regular meetings at the houses of their respective members. The Hopedale Debating Society, besides discussing the live questions of the day at their pleasure and convenience, furnish valuable winter courses of public lectures by able masters on attractive themes. Then, in the line of dramatic culture and entertainment, we have two active organizations: The Hopedale Dramatic Club and the Hopedale

Amateurs. As a further index to the prevailing taste for intellectual refreshment, it need only be stated that three hundred and fifty daily newspapers are received through the Hopedale post-office regularly, besides all the more infrequently published papers and periodicals.

Martial Patriotism and Military Spirit.—The section of territory recently incorporated as the town of Hopedale has borne an average crop of warriors from generation to generation, in all the historic and probably unhistoric past. The Indian natives had their braves, and their white successors since the year 1700, have furnished their full quota of heroic soldiers in every war, from the old French one down to the great Rebellion. During this last it was represented, for longer or shorter terms, by some thirty fighting men, as nearly as can be estimated from partially unauthentic data. Of these General William F. Draper is the honored flower—a candidate for higher civic distinction. His less favored comrades are either among the remembered dead or mostly dwell in widely-scattered, humbler homes. As to the professed Christian non-resistants of the Hopedale Community, who at its zenith numbered about one hundred persons, they were generally exotics from other soils. When the white flag of their projected anti-war State was abandoned by its controlling pecuniary supporters, it necessarily soon fell to the old social level, as has been told. Some who adhered to their Christ-like standard of peace have passed into the higher life, or removed to other localities. A mere remnant remain on the once hopeful domain of forty years ago, and these are surrounded by a daily increasing multitude of worthy people, who, nevertheless, are thoroughly devoted to civil and warlike society as it is. Which way soever the survivors turn, public opinion and practice present a granite wall of pro-war-governmental adherence. The aged, middle-aged and the young pay homage to the sword as the final grand arbiter and indispensable defender of justice, liberty and human rights. So they believe, think and act. And in this they glory. The most recent demonstration of their delight and trust in deadly weapons as a dernier resort is the formation of a youthful company in our village called the Hopedale Zouaves. It numbers some twenty sprightly lads, regularly officered, armed, uniformed, drilled and paraded in the modern military style. Thus in time of peace they prepare for patriotic war. In their splendid uniform, with fine music and graceful martial bearing, they make a charming display to the admiration of men, women and children. Is this to be condemned or deplored? Not if the war-principle be absolutely right, as is preached and believed by the popular religion and civilization. On the contrary, it is eminently commendable. For the young should learn what it is their duty to practice in mature age. If it is wrong, it is so because the popular religion and civilization are wrong in their fundamental, systematic pro-war principle. Would the rattlesnake be rendered less dangerous by depriving him of his rattles? Strike at his vitals, not at his rattles.

So thought the projector of the Hopedale Community. It took him over thirty years to out-think and out-grow his own pro-war heredity and education. He had a tough nature to convert to Christ-like peace ethics; but when once fairly converted to them, no temptation could convert him back to faith in the wisdom of deadly force. So now, in the eighty-sixth year of his age, he remains immovably attached to the standard of peace taught and exemplified by his Master. Majorities weigh nothing with him against principles of divine truth and righteousness. At the same time he can duly respect all that is right and good on lower moral planes. And for actual soldiers and warriors, who execute given orders to perpetrate human slaughter, he has less condemnation than for their religious and political masters, who stay safely at home, preaching and legislating others into the battle-field. They are the principals; their employés are mere accessories and instruments, personally jeopardizing all that is dear to them. But, above all, he denounces murderous principles and systems of human society, whether in church or state, rather than individuals or classes of men, many of whom are honestly deluded by specious falsities. Blessed are they who begin their proposed reformations at the beginning, and are not turned aside by plausible compromises with evil under the impulses of a time-serving expediency. Hopedale is now squarely on the ancient platform of pro-milito patriotism, and may be implicitly relied on to perform its share of service whenever its country proclaims the next bloody war, excepting only the harmless few who will soon have their home in another world.

Civil and Secular Matters—*Marriages, Births and Deaths.*—Down to January 1, 1888, our town clerks have reported,—marriage intentions recorded, 16 couples; marriages solemnized and recorded, 45 couples; births recorded, 34 persons; deaths recorded, 25 persons.

No report for the present year. The disparity between entries of intentions and solemnizations is accounted for by couples married out of town, or whose intentions were entered elsewhere.

Post-Offices.—The one at South Milford, established March 7, 1814; Hamblet B. Fisk, present postmaster; delivery and income respectable, but not large.

Hopedale post-office, established May 13, 1861; present postmaster, Henry L. Patrick. Comparatively large delivery for a country town. Receives and distributes mail matter for our enterprising manufacturers and business firms, and for some two hundred and sixty families of uncommonly intelligent people. Returns a net annual income to government of over one thousand dollars.

BUSINESS TRADES (not previously mentioned).—Henry L. Patrick, who runs two large grocery and country stores in Hopedale, and one in Upton, has a wide range of custom, making annual sales to the amount of one hundred thousand dollars. Smith & Mead opened their establishment in the Town House, December, 1887, for the sale of groceries, meats, dry and fancy goods, etc. Their store and meat market are of first-class rank, and they have a wide run of profitable patronage. Their firm is a flourishing one and promises merited success. The long established "Green Store," once the famous Major Penniman entrepot at South Milford, though shorn of its old-time importance, is still a respectable grocery and country dispensary, and well managed by Hamblet B. Fisk. We have two enterprising livery and transportation establishments, an ice company and several small artisan and handicraft shops—all useful.

CIVIL MAGISTRATES.—Gen. William F. Draper, Frank J. Dutcher, Esq., E. D. Bancroft, Esq. (also notary public), and David A. Westcott, Esq., justices of the peace.

RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS AND AFFAIRS.—There is but one organized religious society in our town and one church edifice, the Hopedale Parish, with its modest sanctuary pleasantly situated and surrounded in Hopedale village. The history of this parish, its house of worship and first pastorate has already been briefly given on a former page. The meeting-house was erected by the Hopedale Community in its declining days and subsequently transferred with other property to the parish as stated. The parish has recently been legally incorporated as a body politic for the safe holding and management of its pecuniary interests. This took place in August, 1887. Pastor Ballou, after his resignation, April 23, 1880, was soon succeeded by Rev. Austin S. Garver. He became pastor by acceptance of a formal call, dated April 14, 1881. He was installed September 30, 1881, in connection with a rededication of the church after rejuvenation. Salary, fifteen hundred dollars per annum. He was called to the more conspicuous pastorate of the Second Congregational Church in Worcester, Mass., and terminated his connection with Hopedale about March 1, 1885. He was succeeded by Rev. Lewis G. Wilson, who was installed October 8, 1885, and still continues in the pastorship. Salary at first, twelve hundred dollars; since April 1, 1887, fifteen hundred dollars. The parish has one hundred and forty voting members, and is officered by an executive committee of five, a clerk, treasurer, collector and board of three property trustees. It has a well-conducted Sunday-school, with a library of eleven hundred volumes. It has also a nice parsonage, donated to it by the late George Draper just before his decease, and confirmed by deed of his heirs. He was its generous supporter and benefactor from its formation to the day of his death. As a tribute to his memory and worth the following resolutions were passed by a standing vote of the parish at a special meeting held July 10, 1887:

WHEREAS, The Hopedale Parish has experienced a dispensation of great bereavement in the death of George Draper, on the 7th ultimo—our temporal head and social chief; therefore,

Resolved, That, while we deeply deplore our heavy earthly loss, in sympathy with his family and all the circles of personal association who unitedly mourn his departed mortal presence, we reverently bow to the Divine Will, in the confident assurance that he has been translated to a deathless mansion, whence his loving benedictions will descend on all he delighted to bless.

Resolved, That our Parish Clerk be instructed to inscribe this Memorial of our lamented brother conspicuously on our permanent Records; and also that she present a copy of the same to his widow and each of his children.

It may not be improper to state here that ex-Pastor Ballou, who writes this sub-history, still continues, as a sort of minister-at-large, to solemnize marriages and render funeral services throughout his general vicinity—though he chooses to preach little. He has been in the ministry over sixty-seven years, during which he has solemnized eleven hundred and seventy-six marriages, and ministered at more than twenty-five hundred and fifty funerals. And, though now far advanced in old age, the annual number of his weddings and funerals averages nearly the same as in the prime of life.

Although there is only one church edifice in our town, there is a public hall at South Milford, still, so called, well known as Harmony Hall, where religious meetings and reform lectures have long been held on some part of the Sabbath by the various neighboring clergymen of different denominations, etc. The attendance is generally good and the sacred music commendable. A respectable Sunday-school is also sustained there. It should be understood that in Hopedale Village and throughout our new town there are numerous representatives of nearly all the churches in Milford Centre, who customarily worship in their respective sanctuaries, and seldom, if ever, with the Hopedale Parish. We have Catholics, Episcopalians, Orthodox Congregationalists, Baptists, Methodists and Universalists. And for their devotional convenience our enterprising transportationist, John M. French, runs his barges to and from Milford Centre every Sunday at the proper hours, so that all who have not conveyances of their own are well accommodated. Besides this convenience, some of the sects hold occasional religious gatherings, more or less frequently, in public or private buildings of Hopedale Village. Thus religious privileges are amply provided for all our people according to their various preferences.

CEMETERIES.—We have two reputable resting-places for the dead—one in South Hopedale, formerly South Milford, under town control, and one in Hopedale village, now controlled by a corporate association. The former has been inherited from Milford by territorial right. It dates back to November 18, 1799. The writer has given an account of the origin, progress and general character in his "History of Milford," pp.

Wm. H. Draper

Adin Ballou

307–308. It contains the graves of many departed inhabitants of its district, and others from outside, has a decent receiving tomb, has respectable monuments, is well advanced in the line of modern improvements and is worthily cared for. Our Hopedale village cemetery was selected and laid out in 1847 by the authority of the Hopedale Community, and was under community regulations till transferred to the Hopedale Parish, December 15, 1873. It was a well-chosen location, naturally adapted in all respects to its designed use, and capable of being rendered admirably beautiful by artistic improvement. The lot-owners deemed it advisable to become a legal corporation. This was effected, and their organization consummated April 4, 1887. The late George Draper left the association a legacy of ten thousand dollars, and it holds some other funds in trust. General William F. Draper has recently donated a very desirable addition to its area, which now comprises probably over five acres, with room adjacent for any necessary expansion. It is under excellent management, and is rapidly developing delightful improvements. It has a commodious receiving tomb, and two noble family mausoleums, erected respectively by George Draper, a little while before his death, and by General William F. Draper, the same year. It has also a goodly number of respectable monuments and memorial tablets. Its future is well assured as a sacred and lovely sanctuary of precious mortal relics, where surviving relatives and friends may perpetuate the memories of their loved ones worthily, and complacently anticipate repose of their own ashes.

As the publishers of this County History have welcomed to appropriate places within its lids the likenesses of several distinguished Hopedalians, it seems proper that a few words of special explanatory data should be given in each case.

1. George Draper, born in Weston, Mass., August 16, 1817; died June 7, 1887, aged sixty-nine years, nine months and twenty days. Too prominently noted in this sub-history and otherwise known to the general public to need further characterization here. An excellent likeness.

2. Warren Whitney Dutcher, born in Shaftsbury, Vt., July 4, 1812; removed with his worthy wife and children to Hopedale in the spring of 1856. He became associated in business with E. D. & G. Draper, prospered and contributed largely to the upbuilding of his adopted village. He left a bright and memorable record for mechanical ingenuity, manufacturing enterprise, moral rectitude and benefactions bestowed on suffering humanity. His wife was no less distinguished for her matronly virtues, social worth and charities to the poor. Both have passed away, leaving hallowed memories. He died January 26, 1880, aged sixty-seven years, six months and twenty-two days. Mrs. Malinda, his wife, died February 9, 1888, aged sixty-six years, six months and nineteen days. Their worthy children, Frank J. Dutcher and Miss Grace Mary, survive them in honorable standing among us. The likeness of the husband and father is a very true and good one.

3. Joseph Bubier Bancroft, born in Uxbridge, Mass., October 3, 1821. He is the respected head of an intelligent enterprising and influential family. He came here with his estimable wife in 1847, and both joined the Hopedale Community. He was for several years superintendent of the Hopedale Machine Establishment, served long on the Milford Board of Selectmen, was sent representative to General Court in 1864, is now chairman of our Hopedale selectmen.

4. Dea. Asa Augustus Westcott, born in Scituate, R. I., August 17, 1826. He and his excellent family, wife, sons and daughters, settled among us in 1873. They brought with them characters of sterling worth and salutary moral influence, as well as manufacturing enterprise and usefulness. They occupy a position in the first rank of our little municipality. Dea. Westcott well deserves the place he has consented to fill among our representative engravings.

5. General William Franklin Draper, born in Lowell, Mass., April 9, 1842. After what has been said in the preceding pages, though briefly, and what is otherwise widely known to the public, it is hardly necessary to be very specific here. It is sufficient to say that since his honored father's decease, he is our financial, social and municipal chief, crowned with our unanimous deference, confidence and love. He has a red lettered past and a near future auroral with promise. In due time, no doubt, an ample biography will worthily portray his life career. Meantime his friends must be content with outlines and his likeness. Most of them will feel that this does meagre justice to his manly form and face. But for the pressure of business a better would probably have been secured.

6. Adin Ballou, the present historian, born in Cumberland, R. I., April 23, 1803, of uncollegiate education, but a persistent student of useful knowledge and self-culture; commenced preaching in his nineteenth year; has been a minister of New Testament Christianity, as he understood it, over sixty-seven years, chiefly in the southeasterly section of this county; is author of a "History of Milford, Mass.," a "History and Genealogy of the Ballous" and many minor works; and holds too many peculiarities of faith and practice to be classed very exactly with any religious denomination. His likeness is a tolerably correct one, and appears in this work through the generosity of an eminent friend.

Here we may conclude this sub-history as sufficiently minute and comprehensive for the place it is to occupy among its county associates. It shows that the town of Hopedale, though small and infantile, compared with its elder and grander comunicipalities, has a record with strong points of interest in it, and a probable future of rising impor-

tance not wholly unworthy of its name. And it affords the writer peculiar pleasure to say in closing that, notwithstanding all the unpleasantness growing out of separation from mother Milford, every embitterment is evidently passing away, and the present relations of the two towns are mutually amicable and harmonious.

CHAPTER LXII.

NORTHBRIDGE.

BY REV. JOHN R. THURSTON.

THE BEGINNINGS.

OCTOBER 16, 1660, in answer to the petition of seven inhabitants of Braintree, the General Court of the Massachusetts Colony judged "it meete to encourage the petitioners to proceede in theire settling themselves and an able ministry with them, in the place desired for a new plantation within their time limited." "In further answer to said Braintry petition the court declares that they judge meete to grant a plantation of eight miles square, and that the persons named have liberty to enter thereupon and make a beginning thereof, and to take such persons into their society as they shall judge meete, and that Maj. Humphrey Atherton, Left. Roger Clap, Capt. Eliaser Lusker and Deacon Parkes, or any three of them, shall and hereby are appointed commissioners, & are empowered to make a valid act there."

In furtherance of the object of these petitioners, the honorable court chose "Mr. Peter Bracket and Ensign Moses Paine for to purchase a title of the Indians, containing eight miles square, about fifteen miles from Medfield Town, at a place commonly called Masconsapong."

These gentlemen purchased the tract of Great John and three other Nipmuck chiefs for "the summe of twenty-foure pounds sterling." The deed was signed by them and was witnessed by the Indian apostle, John Eliot, Sr., and his son, John Eliot, Jr., April 22, 1662.

All right and interest in this deed was assigned by Messrs. Payne and Brackett to the selectmen of the town of Mendon, May 12, 1670.

Three months after the purchase of the land "the committee impowered by the General Courte to assist the ordering and setling the plantation granted at Netmoke," in a document dated "Dorchester, July 5, 1662," declared the regulations for the plantation on which they had agreed.

An allotment of one hundred and fifty acres was to be made to each subscriber who possessed estate of one hundred pounds, and to all others in this proportion. Only persons "of honest and good report are accepted and allowed to take alotment in said plantation."

No one could "sell or lease or alienate his said alotment or any part thereof" without the consent of the majority of those persons chosen to regulate the affairs of the plantation.

Five or seven "meete persons" were to be chosen "for the manageinge these affairs," and they were "to have the whole power of accepting inhabitants and disposing lands, according to the rules above written," for one year.

Of these managers Messrs. Payne and Brackett were to be two, and in consideration of all their services were to receive land, not more than three hundred acres.

There must be "an able and approved minister settled with them there, according to the order of courte in that case provided."

All persons "accepted to alotments shall be settled at the said plantation before the end of the seventh month, 1663, with their persons and estates."

This allowed them a year and two months after these regulations were made.

At this time twenty-three men had been accepted—thirteen from Braintree and ten from Weymouth.

But it was not until the fall of 1663, or the summer of 1664, that the men who had obtained the grant, with their families, to the number, perhaps, of twelve, "hewed their way through the wilderness to the spot where now stands the village of Mendon." Thus began the Nipmuck plantation, the township of Quinshepauge, soon incorporated, May 15, 1667, and called Mendham, afterwards Mendon. It was the second incorporated town in Worcester County, Lancaster alone preceding it.

The grant by the General Court was of a territory eight miles square, but that taken under the grant was ten miles by twelve, and included the present towns of Mendon, Blackstone and Uxbridge, the most of Northbridge and Milford, a part of Upton and Bellingham, and parts of three towns now in Rhode Island. Three entire towns and a portion of seven others were in the original Nipmuck plantation.

This is the story of the grant and purchase of the territory of the town of Northbridge, save about one-tenth of its present area, which was annexed to it from Sutton, soon after its incorporation.

While this territory belonged to the original forty-four proprietors of Mendon from the beginning, it was not occupied until after the beginning of the seventeenth century.

April 1, 1707, there was a "Jacob Aldrich farm," one-half mile below the present Quaker Meeting-House, on the eastern side of "the great river." February 10, 1710, he sold this, with the *house* on it, to his son, Peter Aldrich, who was *perhaps* the first resident of what is now Northbridge.

Woodland Thompson owned a large tract of land, including what were afterwards known as the Southwick, the Benson and Wing farms, in 1707, and soon after, if not at that date, began to reside on it.

Benjamin Thompson, brother of Woodland, owned land on both sides of "the great river," south of the Quaker Meeting-House, as early as 1707, and lived on it as early as 1728. These three were all of Mendon, receiving or buying their land of their fathers, also of Mendon.

George Woodward, of Brookline, bought 120 acres in the west part of what is now Whitinsville, in 1712, and occupied it for several years. He was a schoolteacher as well as "Husbandman."

John Aldrich, of Mendon, lived south of the Quaker Meeting-House, on the east side of the river, as early as 1727.

Seth Terry, of Barrington, Bristol County, clerk, bought at different times and from different persons, in 1725, '26 and '27, 488 acres of land, "with all the water courses, mines or minerals belonging thereto," which included "the Falls" of Mumford River, in what is now Whitinsville, and at once built a saw-mill, *perhaps* the first in the town, and "Iron works." He began, or prepared to begin, the manufacture of "refined iron." But he remained here only a few months, as he sold all, including the "saw-mill" and the "iron works" and "all other buildings," to Hugh Hall, of Boston, January 10, 1728.

In 1735 John and James Adams came from Ipswich and bought land and lived at the "Corner" which has so long borne their name.

The same year Christopher Winter, of Mendon, began to reside on the "Winter place," one-half mile north of what is now Rockdale, on the east side of "Great River."

While these earliest settlers of what is now Northbridge were making their homes in the different parts of the town, a change had taken place in their town relations.

For many years the "Inhabitants of the western part of Mendon" had "laboured under great Difficulties, by Reason of their Remoteness from the Place of publick Worship in Said Town." They sought and obtained permission for separation from Mendon, and, on petition to the General Court, were incorporated as a town June 27, 1727. The history of Northbridge is now included in that of Uxbridge for forty-five years. It is evident that those living in the part of the town now Northbridge took their part in all town action, bore their share of the burdens and claimed their rights and privileges, although somewhat remote from the centre of the town life, in what was then Uxbridge.

The new town secured preaching from the first, and after considerable fruitless negotiations with Rev. Othniel Cambell and Mr. Jonathan Wales, they voted, June 22, 1730, "to follow the advice of ministers, and give Mr. Nathan Webb a call." They voted £100 "encouragement" and £90 salary "good passable money." The call was accepted, and December 31st it was voted to proceed with the ordination, and to build a pulpit for the meeting-house. All these questions which are now decided by the parish were then decided in town-meeting. In fact, the town was the parish. While the church had the initiative in calling a minister, as now, the town contracted with and supported him, as the parish does now. The town was the legal body. The town began the meeting-house in 1728, the next year after it was incorporated. Before this the town-meetings and religious services were held in private houses. The meeting-house was occupied for town-meeting the next May, but it was not fully finished before it gave place to a new house, though we find frequent votes to finish it, and committees raised, and appropriations made for that purpose.

The first mention of schools in the new town is in January, 1731, when it was voted that the town will have a school *dame*, for the first seven or eight months to keep a school in each part of the town "proportionable." The next year it was voted to employ a schoolmaster, John Read, Sr. At the same meeting it was voted to procure a pair of stocks, and a few months after twelve shillings are voted to John Chilson for making them. After this, votes as to the schoolmaster, with appropriations for his pay and his board, are quite frequent. In 1734 we find the town *districted* or "Squadroned," and it was voted that each squadron select some woman to teach the children to read, who should be approbated by the selectmen. For many years the schools were under the care of these officers. The pay of these teachers came from the "School Fund." This fund was obtained from Mendon, being their part of the fund granted by the colony to that town. After long negotiation and many conferences of committees, it was voted, March 2, 1732, to accept two hundred pounds from Mendon as their part of the school fund. It was increased in 1736 by a gift of five hundred acres of land from the colony. The land was situated in that part of the State which went to New Hampshire in settling the boundary with that State in 1741, and it was thus lost to the town. It had already been sold to parties in the town, from whom it was repurchased when it went into New Hampshire, and it was replaced by a new grant from the colony and was located by a committee of the town, but the records do not show where. This school fund was loaned to individuals, and sometimes great difficulty was experienced in getting the interest. In 1738 it was voted to build the first school-house near the meeting-house. In 1761 there was another districting of the town in thirteen squadrons, containing one hundred and sixty-three families, the names of which are given, which is the first list found. In these families there were five hundred and twenty-eight scholars, an average of somewhat more than three for each family. From this we may suppose the population was not far from twelve hundred. In the part now Northbridge, as is judged from the names given, there were but forty-one families, indicating a population of about three hundred. Thi

is the earliest fact found for any estimate of population.

In 1764 a *new* squadron of seven families was voted to have their part of the school fund. The school district system thus early established was continued until quite recently.

The first mention of Quakers in the town is on March 6, 1728, when it was voted "not to free the Quakers," probably from the tax to support the preaching. At the close of the records of 1734, the following list of persons, "called Quakers," appears: Seth Aldrich, Benjamin Taft, Peter Aldrich, Seth Aldrich, Jr., Abel Aldrich, Jr. Samuel Taft—six.

It is difficult to learn when the Quakers first came into what is now Northbridge. Whitney, in his "History of Worcester County," published in 1793, says they came into Mendon, of which Northbridge was then a part, as early as 1703. Of Uxbridge he says, in 1793, "one quarter are Quakers and Anabaptists." In Northbridge he says there are twelve Quaker families.

Probably the first in Northbridge was Peter Aldrich, who was here in 1709. If not he, then Samuel Aldrich, who was here as early as 1738.

We must suppose the Quakers came up the Blackstone Valley from Rhode Island, their early refuge. Many of them settled in the South Parish of Mendon (now Blackstone), and in Uxbridge, and a few pushed up into what is now Northbridge.

With them also came the Anabaptists, who had, like them, found a refuge in Rhode Island. The limit of this immigration was the south part of Grafton.

The Quakers experienced some difficulty from their peculiar tenets as to religion and war, as is manifest from the town records. The first mention of them is the refusal of the town to "*free*" them from the minister tax.

In the warrant for the meeting for May, 1762, the fifth article reads, "To see if the town will vote not to proceed any further upon, about, or anywise concerning a petition that Cap. Solomon Wood [Representative] exhibited to the great and General Court, last winter, wherein he complains of the Quakers' hard usage upon the captains, concerning a tax laid upon them in the year 1759, for not sending soldiers into the war." At the meeting it was voted, "Not to act at all, any way on the 5th Article, in the warrant, to pass it over not acted on." From this it appears that the Quakers remained true to their principles as to war and were taxed, but that they did not remain quiet under the infliction. They would not perform military duty, and the town was obliged to hire men to fill the quota, because of their exemption, and they complained that their tax to reimburse the colony was unjust and they were unwilling to pay it.

It is remarkable that this is the only reference, in the records of the town, to the French and Indian War, which lasted from 1754 to 1760. But from the State archives we learn that the town bore a large burden in this war. From the Northbridge part of the town quite surely twenty-six, and probably thirty-five, persons served for forty-five different terms of six months to almost a year. This for a population of not more than three hundred, with not more than sixty of military age, is a very large number. We have no reason to suppose they did more than other towns. And this suggests to us what it cost our fathers to defend their homes and liberties in those early days. All through these years they kept up their military organizations as they had done from the beginning. They had their "Training Field" and training-days. Thus were they being prepared for the more severe struggle of twenty years later, which did not find them, when it came, all unready for it.

March 28, 1728, at one of the first town-meetings of the new town, it was voted "to accept £90 sh. 5, which the General Court had allotted to the town of Uxbridge as their proportion of the £60,000 emitted for the use of the Province," and a trustee was appointed to receive it. It was also voted, "That said money should be let out on good security, not exceeding £5 to any one person." Here is the first mention in our town records of the "Bills of Credit," issued by the province, which were the cause of great derangement in all financial calculations and transactions and of the various evils of an irredeemable paper currency. Mr. Joseph Taft strenuously resisted the acceptance of this semblance of money by the town, and entered a written protest, signed by himself, Benjamin Taft and Joseph Taft, Jr. Soon the evils of a money that could not be converted into specie began to appear in the larger sums that were voted for town purposes, in the additional sums voted to the minister, in the *contributions* made for him on the Sabbath. If one wished to *mark* his contribution it was allowed him in his minister tax, but all *unmarked* it was voted should be free and clear to Mr. Webb. But it is evident that this gratuity did not make good the depreciation, for presently we see votes to raise from the town additional sums for Mr. Webb, until May, 1753, when his salary was changed from that first agreed on to £53 6*s.* 8*d.*, lawful money.

We must suppose this is but a fair example of the derangement and difficulty that occurred in all business transactions, from the unsettling of nominal values.

There are some votes recorded which give interesting revelations of the condition of the country, of the customs of the people, and of their feelings on public questions, which seem to be worthy of transcription, as

August 15, 1728, it was voted "That unless Mendon be made a *shire* town as well as Worcester, and have the courts one-half time, they had rather remain in Suffolk Co. as now." They resented the ambition of the new and smaller town of Worcester to have the

precedence over their older and larger mother town of Mendon.

August 26, 1730, it was voted "The town will not join with County Middlesex in praying for a new county and that they will join in a petition with towns in West Suffolk to make a county there. But all this action is in vain, for Worcester County is constituted in 1731, and Uxbridge, then including Northbridge, is a part of it.

September 1, 1730, it is voted to appropriate four pounds to pay for killing *wild cats*. How long they felt the need of offering this premium for killing beasts of prey we do not know, but May 23, 1751, it was voted *not* to pay any more bounty for killing *wolves*.

December 18, 1739, it was voted to raise a committee to see that the law about killing deer be not violated. After this for many years in Uxbridge before the division, and in Northbridge, after it was incorporated, a "Deer Reave" was chosen with the other town officers. The last was in 1787.

May 28, 1756, it was voted "not to send a representative (to the General Court) this year." We are surprised at such a vote. But the mystery is cleared when we learn that the *town paid* the charges of the Representative, and when there was no business of special importance, no town interest to present, they saved the expense and voted not to send one. There are some votes that indicate that in some cases gentlemen went to Boston, after a vote not to send a representative, to present to the General Court some interest of the town. These votes are for compensation to certain persons, for what they had done for the town in Boston the previous year. This vote of 1756 not to send a Representative is not the only one; many such follow down into the separate history of Northbridge to 1835. For the first sixty years of this town's history it was voted not to send thirty-seven, and to send twenty-three years. This not sending a Representative was considered an offence against the colony and Uxbridge was fined ten pounds in 1765 for its first neglect to send one. On petition of the town, on the ground of great impoverishment, by disease, drought and frost, the fine was remitted. Yet we see the neglect frequently occurred in subsequent years.

May 12, 1763, it was voted "that the selectmen for the time being provide a *work-house*, and a master for said house, and convey all the idle persons there, in case they come to want, and belong to the town." Before this, provision had been made for the poor by boarding them with private families, but this is the first provision for a common house for them with work and a master.

September 1, 1766, it was voted "to allow the Representative to vote to make good the Lieutenant-Governor's damage, lately sustained by the mob in Boston, if he thinks proper upon the best information he can get." This refers to the destruction of Lieutenant-Governor Hutchinson's house in Boston, when the attempt was made to enforce the Stamp Act. It was the first rumble of the storm so soon to burst upon the colony and the land. We notice how the question is referred to the town. Seldom did the General Court act on any important matter, especially one that involved resistance to the oppressive acts of the mother country, without consulting the towns. The people were the sovereigns; they must support the action of the court, and it is referred to them, if possible, for decision.

We notice, too, how they trust to the discretion of their Representative, saying. "If he think proper upon the best information he can get."

Now for forty years had Uxbridge grown and prospered, and in this growth and prosperity the northern portion (now Northbridge) had shared. Others beside those already named came to live here.

Nathan Park came from Newton 1728, and settled near the Quaker Meeting House, and was one of the largest landholders in town and very prominent in town affairs. He was the grandfather of Professor E. A. Park, of Andover Seminary. John Spring settled in the southern part of Northbridge, on the west side of "Great River" in 1736, and was also prominent in town affairs.

Nicholas Baylies, of Cumberland, R. I., and his brother Thomas, of Taunton, who was a "Forger," leased the "Iron Works" at the Falls of Mumford's River, for twenty-one years, of John Merritt, of Boston, in 1739, and resided near their works, which, for many years, went by the name of "Baylies' Forge,"

Andrew Dalrymple settled in what is now Whitinsville as early as 1743.

Andrew Dunn, "a wheelmaker," lived near Rockdale in 1743.

Daniel Read settled in the Inman district in 1740.

Thomas Emerson, who came into the neighborhood as early as 1751, purchased the water privilege and land at Rockdale in 1765.

The privilege at Riverdale was purchased by James Nutting, of Grafton, in 1753, and improved by him by the erection of two grist-mills and a saw-mill.

Josiah Wood settled on the "Farnam" place in 1757.

Samuel Goldthwait came from the northeastern part of the colony in 1759, and purchased four hundred acres of land between Whitinsville and the Hill, and in the adjacent parts of Sutton, and settled upon it.

Nathaniel Cooper, from Grafton, settled in the part of the town which has since borne his name, in 1763.

David Batcheller, Jr. (Major), came from Upton, in 1767, and settled on Northbridge Hill.

Thus were the several parts of what is now Northbridge settled.

It will be noticed that but few of the families, afterwards prominent in the town, were of the Men-

don stock. The Mendon migration spent itself mainly in what is now Uxbridge, a few of its families, as the Aldriches and Winters, coming up the valley of "Great River," into what is now Northbridge, which was so easily accessible. But the more distant parts of the town, as the upper valley of the Mumford, and the high land near Sutton, waited for immigrants from more distant places.

There is evidence that for some years the north part of Uxbridge had had separate interests from the south part. It had come to be called by its own name, "The North End." In 1736 a constable was appointed for the "North End."

In 1753 we find a collector of the minister's tax for each end of the town. We may suppose the desire for a separation had long existed before it secured its object. The expression of this desire was occasioned by the difficulty as to the building of a new meeting-house.

In June, 1766, an article appears in the town warrant to see if the town will build a new meeting-house, but it was passed over. Before it comes up at the meeting in October a new difficulty appears. It is manifest that if it cannot be placed in the centre of the town, so as to accommodate those at the "North End," they of the North End do not wish to help in building it, but to be set off as a separate town. To such a division the town will not listen, and the new meeting-house must be set near the place of the old one. Nor would the town excuse the North End from their share in the expense of building the new house, nor listen to their petition to be relieved from bearing their part in the support of the minister. After repeated failures to secure their desire from the town, they of the "North End" apply to the "General Court" for relief. Their petition was presented July 1, 1771, praying, on the ground of their distance from the meeting-house, "that they with their families and estates, may be made a separate *District*, and that they may be entitled to their proportionable part of the ministry money, and the Lands granted by the General Court to said Town for their extraordinary expense in building bridges." Uxbridge answered the petition by a committee, but the petition was granted, and, Uxbridge consenting, the North End was incorporated as a "*District*," with the name of Northbridge, July 14, 1772, and fourteen years later, in 1786, it became a *Town*, by State law. Though called a "*District*," it had all the rights and performed all the functions of a *Town*, except that they were to choose a Representative to the General Court with Uxbridge. The Representative might be from Northbridge or Uxbridge. It was a town in reality, if not in name. Thus Northbridge began its separate life with a population of between four and five hundred, as we infer from the fact that the State census four years later gives four hundred and eighty-one.

In 1780, "John Adams and others," with their lands, were received from Sutton, they seeking the change because they were so much nearer to Northbridge for religious privileges and town duties. In 1801, Jacob Bassett and others, with their lands, were also received from Sutton. In the act of incorporation it was provided that David Draper and seven others whose homes and lands were included in the given bounds of the "District" of Northbridge, with their heirs, shall be permitted to remain in Uxbridge as long as they so choose. If they desire to become citizens of Northbridge, they have only to notify the authorities of Uxbridge in proper form and they are transferred.

Several of these transfers took place, creating no little confusion as to town lines. These families were in the "North End" of Uxbridge, and desired their rights as to the new meeting-house in Uxbridge, but they did not desire to be set off as another town or district, and were allowed to remain on these above-stated conditions. Uxbridge let go her hold on the "North End" very reluctantly, refusing Nov., 1772, to remit any of the £40 assessed on them for the support of the minister the year they were set off, and refusing to grant to the "District of Northbridge their proportionable part of the ministerial and town money and lands granted to the town of Uxbridge."

CHAPTER LXIII.

NORTHBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

THE NEW TOWN.

THE territory thus set off from Uxbridge, with the few additions afterwards received from Sutton and Uxbridge, is an irregular quadrangle. Its extreme length north and south is about five miles. Its extreme breadth, at the southern end, is about five miles. At the northern end it is less than three miles, the eastern line running northeast and southwest. It contains 10,551 acres, a little more than sixteen square miles. The Blackstone River runs through it about one mile from its eastern border. The Mumford runs through the southwestern corner. The valley of the Blackstone is from one-half to a mile in width, of desirable intervale land, easy of cultivation and having those natural meadows so much coveted by the early settlers. The land gives quick response to cultivation, but is not strong. The valley of the Mumford is of a similar character, but has less intervale for cultivation. A branch of the Mumford runs about one-half mile from the western border of the town, with its deep, narrow valley.

Between these two rivers rises Northbridge Hill, really a broad ridge, with its highest point at the centre, falling off somewhat at the north, but still quite high land. The northern portion of this ridge

is good, strong farming land, and has been well used for agriculture from the early days of the settlement. These two rivers give several natural water privileges, which have been used from an early day, and have been much improved by the building of reservoirs.

The granite which so abounds, often appearing on the surface as boulders and ledges, has furnished abundant materials for building purposes. The town had a dense growth of wood, and the parts unfavorable for tillage are still thickly wooded.

Now legally independent, the people began to care for their own affairs. Their first fourteen town-meetings were at private houses. At the first, at the house of Joseph White, about one mile southeast of the present Northbridge meeting-house, Jonathan Bacon (2d) was moderator, and all the usual town officers were chosen. They early provided themselves with the ordinances of the gospel, voting, in April, 1773, £20 to hire preaching, to be one-half the time at David Batcheller's, one-half at Amos White's. Soon they plan for a suitable place for public worship, and for the transaction of town business. "At a meeting of the town, held on the 1st of February, 1773, it was voted to build a meeting-house on the height of the hill." In regard to the location of the meeting-house there was much feeling; some wished to have it on the plain, near the local centre of the town, others wished to have it located near the crossing of the roads, northwest of the residence of Joseph White. Another party maintained that it ought to be "on the height of the Hill." They claimed there was a probability that "a mile and a half of Sutton would come off to Northbridge, and then the Hill would be near the local centre of the town." The hill party carried their point, but at the cost of losing some of the other party in all participation in church life, as they always continued to worship in Uxbridge.

"At a meeting held on the 22d of Nov., 1773, it was voted to receive the proposition of John Adams and others, relative to the building and finishing a meeting-house," and it was "voted that it should be 45 feet long, 36 feet wide, and 22 feet posts, and that it be builded as soon as convenient." One hundred and fifty pounds were appropriated to building.

A committee was appointed to carry on the work. The labor and the timber were to a considerable extent furnished by the people of the town. A price was fixed by vote for the various pieces of timber, The house was so far finished by Feb., 1775, that the "pew-spots" (in which the purchasers were permitted to build their own pews) were then sold, and probably meetings were held in it from that time. The following are the names of the purchasers: James Fletcher. Micah Thayer, David Batcheller, William Dalrymple, Stephen Goldthwait, Ezekiel Goldthwait, John Adams, John Adams, Jr., Samuel Baldwin, Dependence Haywood, Joseph White, Henry Chase, Levi Walker, William Davenport, William Bacon and Jonathan Bacon. The money arising from the sale was by vote "to be applied towerds Defraying the Charges of Building the meeting" (house).

But very soon the increasing oppression of England called them to consider matters of more than local interest. They were not slow to do their part. They were imbued with the same spirit, grounded in the same principles, and trained in the same habits of self-government as were the men of all our Massachusetts towns, who, with a wonderful unanimity, answered to the call to maintain the liberty of the people.

"The first votes of the town as to Revolutionary affairs were passed at a meeting held on the 25th of August, 1774. At this meeting Josiah Wood, Lemuel Powers and Samuel Baldwin were appointed a committee "to correspond with other committees concerning public affairs as occasion shall call for." These committees were suggested by Samuel Adams in 1772, and were soon appointed all over the State and in other States. At this meeting it was also voted that "David Batcheller be chose to provide for a town stock of ammunition, viz., one Barrel of Powder, and lead and flints answerable to it." At the same time it was voted not to import or consume any English goods. The last town-meeting that was warned in the name of "His Majesty" was on the 10th of January, 1775. From this time till 1781 most of the business transacted at the meetings had reference to the struggles in which the Colonies were engaged: as, June 25, 1776, it was voted "to support the Continental Congress with their Lives and fortunes if they should Declare the United American Colonies Independent of Great Britain," and well they kept their vow. We find records of votes for paying the men who had enlisted in the service, for aiding those who had hired men to take their place in the army, and for furnishing provisions and clothing for the soldiers from this town. It is evident there was a disposition to equalize, as far as possible, the burdens that were to be borne. Those who remained at home performed labor on the farms, and in other ways assisted the families of those who were absent. At one meeting it was voted "to allow Joseph White eleven shillings for laboring for Samuel Clemens when he was in the six months' service;" at another it was voted "to raise 40 pounds to pay for shirts, shoes and stockings furnished by the selectmen for soldiers in the Continental Service." At a meeting in May, 1777, it was voted "to allow Stephen Rice 1 pound, 15 shillings, 4 pence, Nathan Park 15 shillings, Jonathan Bacon 9 shillings, and William Park 12 shillings, for carrying provisions to Roxbury in the time of the Lexington Alarm." These provisions were for the men from Northbridge, who were in the service in the vicinity of Boston in 1775.

As to the actual service they personally rendered, it is difficult, perhaps impossible, to learn the full facts.

There were three classes of soldiers called into the service during the war.

1. *The Militia.*—These were the men who had been enlisted in the service of the Province, and trained in the towns from the beginning. They were liable to the call of the General Court, through their officers. They were already organized into regiments, the company of Northbridge being in the Eight Worcester County Regiment, with those from Mendon, Upton, Uxbridge and Douglas. These doubtless had long felt they were liable to be called upon for serious work, and they were prepared for it. It was the militia who sprang, as it were, from the ground, without any summons, save from their company officers, and their own loyal hearts, at Concord and Lexington, and dogged the steps of the British troops in their retreat to Boston, inflicting upon them a much greater loss than they themselves sustained. They soon, at the call of the General Court, girdled Boston, and held General Gage, and his thousands of regular troops, as in a vise. It was they who fought the battle of Bunker Hill, and did all the work of the first year. They were liable to be called out of the State, after the Union of the Colonies was formed, for United States' service, as was the company from Northbridge for eight months at Peekskill in 1778–79, and often in Rhode Island.

2. Besides these were the "Minute-men" volunteers, men not enlisted, but who organized themselves, and stood ready to go at a "Minute's" notice to do brief service in an emergency. They were called out at the alarm that arose from the Lexington fight, and frequently afterwards. On May 9th, fearing a sally of the British from Boston, one-half of the militia and minute-men of the ten towns nearest Roxbury were called there to strengthen the army.

We do not find traces of the "Minute-men" after the first year of the war.

3. But it soon became manifest that an army more permanent than either of these could make must be obtained. And the Continental Army, under the command of the Continental Congress, through their officers, with General Washington at their head, was organized. Here were a third class of soldiers whose term of service was from three months to three years, or the war. A quota was assigned to each town, one-seventh of all the males above sixteen, and this quota must be kept full. The quota of Northbridge was eleven. This is in addition to the keeping up the militia, which was often called into service for terms of a few days to eight months.

When the war began there was an organized militia company, under the command of Capt. Josiah Wood, of Northbridge. It belonged to Colonel Joseph Read's regiment, the Twentieth. It was composed of men from Northbridge and Upton.

This company was often called into service. It marched April 19, 1775, at the "Lexington Alarm" to Roxbury with thirty-one men from Northbridge. After a few days fifteen of these men, with seven more from the town, enlisted for eight months' service, under Captain David Batcheller, who went out as lieutenant. Thirty-four men from Upton enlisted in the same company for the same service. This was known as "Captain Batcheller's Company" for several years. It served one and one-half months at Providence as part of the "Third Regiment of the Militia, which marched to this place on the alarm of the 8th day of December, 1776;" then for nine, though called out only for eight months, on the North River, at Peekskill, in 1778 and '79; then for sixteen days in Rhode Island in 1780.

In the State archives are found the terms of service of the men in the militia, and also those who were in the Continental service, with many of the pay-rolls. There is evidence that men from the town served in other companies beside that of Captain Batcheller, in the various calls made upon them. These calls were very many. We are told "there was scarcely a week in the fall of 1776 when the militia were not called to march to headquarters now removed to New York, or to Lake Champlain, or to Rhode Island." A large British force also remained in Newport through the spring and summer of 1778, and their fleet commanded the waters in the neighborhood. As a consequence, "the people of Massachusetts, especially near to Rhode Island, were kept in a state of continual alarm. There were but few Continental troops on the station, and the General Court were obliged to keep the militia in service in great numbers, the whole of this as the preceding year." There were many alarms of raids by the British, as at Tiverton, in May, 1779, when the men of Northbridge were called out and helped drive them back. And there is evidence in the town records of many more calls of the militia. There was a difficulty in adjusting the pay for the different "turns" of service, and September 6, 1777, William Park, Captain Josiah Wood and Thomas Read were chosen a committee "to say what past turns in the army shall be put att, according to the year and time of the year, and length of time, and the place where service was done, and the committee make report to the town for their acceptance, and for the town to act thereon as they think proper." The committee reported in October of the next year, 1778. In this report twenty-one "turns" of service are specified and the pay fixed for each of them, one at Dorchester, varying from two months to one year; five in New York, from three to eight months; seven at Providence, from fifteen days to two months, and eight others not specified. These, of course, were not all consecutive terms of service, nor by the same bodies of men, for there was not time for so many different consecutive terms before this report was made. We must suppose the militiamen were called out after this, though not so frequently as before, as the theatre of the war was transferred in such a measure to the South.

It is more difficult to learn how many went into the Continental Army, as there was no organization

of Continentals belonging here. The men from Northbridge were absorbed in the various regiments from the Colony. Of the one hundred and eighteen men credited to the town in the State archives, eleven are recorded as having enlisted in the Continental Army, and the town was expected to keep this number good as its quota, so that we must believe there were many more. During the latter years of the war committees were appointed each year to procure men for the Continental Army. And men were hired by individuals for the army. Bounties were paid to some. Some were drafted. Doubtless some of those hired and credited to the town were not citizens here, as is manifest from the warrant for the town-meeting for April 1, 1782, which speaks of men in Northbridge and hired men going into the army."

But with all they did, they did not always meet the full demand of the General Court for men. They were taxed for a deficiency of two men in the Continental Army in 1781, and they voted July 28, 1783, that Jonathan Adams carry a petition to have the tax "taken off." At the same meeting they were called upon to act on "one deficiency in the three months' service in 1781, a Quaker man." At the same meeting it was voted to collect a Quaker's tax of about fifteen pounds and pay it to the treasurer. Thus would they have the Quakers pay for the deficiency which came from their not serving personally. It is claimed by the Quakers that this tax was never paid by them, and there is nothing in the town records to show that the town succeeded in carrying its vote into effect. We can hardly understand, even with our recent experience of war, how great the strain was upon our fathers towards the last of the war, with all the loss of life in the service, and the derangements of business so long continued. And no colony bore more than Massachusetts. With less than one-eighth of the population, she furnished more than one-fourth of the years of service in the Continental Army, besides what she did by her militia and minute-men, and of the pecuniary burden she bore about the same proportion. What wonder then that Northbridge, the lowest on the list of towns in valuation, and almost, if not quite, the lowest in population, having but four hundred and eighty in 1776, had difficulty in coming up to the full quota demanded of her, especially as part of her population, the Quakers, contributed no men for the service; she did nobly, and of her record may every citizen feel proud, especially those who trace their families back to these times.

Of course, with these many calls for service, we should expect to find the same man many times in the field. James Sturdevant is found nine times; William Foster, eight times. Nor was the service confined to any one class of the citizens. Of those chosen for the first town officers, we find many in active service. Samuel Baldwin, the town clerk, served four times; Jonathan Bacon, the moderator of the first eleven town-meetings, the first Representative to the General Court, and after chosen to that office, served six times, beginning as private; David Batcheller, one of the first selectmen, saw five terms of service, beginning as lieutenant, and soon made captain and remaining such during the war; Josiah Wood, the treasurer, served three times, as private or captain; James Fletcher served six times, beginning as a private. Indeed, there could not have been many men in the town, save the Quakers, who did not see some active service.

But personal service in the army was not all that was laid upon them. They, in common with other parts of the country, suffered from a depreciated currency. In 1780 the town voted to raise eighteen thousand pounds to defray town charges, twenty-two hundred pounds for the support of the Gospel, two thousand pounds for the schools and to "allow 100 dollars a day to each man that went to the late alarm at Tiverton." The town afterwards voted not to assess the tax of twenty-two hundred pounds to pay the minister, and that he be paid forty-five pounds silver money, which was probably a full equivalent for the twenty-two hundred pounds Continental money. The same year a vote was passed on account of the scarcity of money, to allow the people to pay their taxes "in good merchantable grain, to be delivered to the Treasurer." This very difficulty from a depreciated currency, which went down to one-fortieth of its nominal value, made their honor more manifest; for having promised their soldiers a real compensation, their families were provided with food, clothing and fuel by the selectmen of the towns and clothing was furnished to the soldiers. There is ample evidence of this in our town. Being driven to reckoning in silver money as the only possible fixed standard, in 1780 they vote one hundred and sixty-four pounds silver money to purchase beef for the army. They make allowance for the depreciation in settling with Thomas Straight for what he had done in the war. They voted seventy-five pounds silver money to pay men who went to serve in Rhode Island for five months and in New York for three months. They make their contributions to the colony in articles to be used, as beef at a price fixed in silver. There is a sturdy honesty in this, which is very good. They did live in rude houses and worship God in unfinished meeting-houses, but they paid their honest dues.

During all this cost and suffering of the war they did not forget to maintain religious ordinances. The church was organized in 1782, June 6th, with eight members. June 17th they called Mr. John Crane to be their pastor. The town, July 2d, voted to concur with the church in the call. "It was voted," for encouragement, "to give him 200 pounds personage, by giving him the improvement of a farm to that

value, or the interest of the same in money, giving him his choice." "It was also voted to give him 45 pounds annually." In his reply he says, "I accept your proposals, though some things respecting some part of the encouragement have labored in my mind, and the difficulties are not yet removed." Previous to his ordination a vote was passed "to give him 75 pounds as a settlement and the use of 125 pounds as a Personage, instead of the 200 pounds offered by the previous vote." He was ordained June 25, 1783, and ministered to this people for nearly fifty years, quite within the memory of some now living. He resigned his pastorate January 6, 1832. He preached his last sermon the first Sabbath in May, 1835. He died August 31, 1836. He was a man of great influence, not only in the town, but in all the region. For thirty years he instructed young men in preparation for college or teaching, more than one hundred in all; among them Rev. Dr. Spring, of New York; Dr. Calvin Park, Professor in Brown University; Rev. Cyrus Kingsbury, of the Choctaw Mission; Rev. Dr. Joel Hawes, of Hartford, and Prof. Alexander M. Fisher, of Yale College.

The people of Northbridge were called upon to act on another important matter during the war—the formation of the State Constitution. They rejected at once the Constitution prepared by the committee appointed by the General Court in 1778. To the convention of delegates from the towns, called at Cambridge, September 1, 1779, they sent Jonathan Bacon as their representative. When the work of the convention was presented in 1780, they did not mean to act hastily in its adoption. At the first meeting, when this was brought before them for action, they adjourned the matter, appointing a committee, consisting of William Park, Samuel Aldrich, Benjamin Benson, Ezekiel Goldthwait and Lieutenant James Fletcher, "to assist the town in examing the proposed constitution, and in making remarks thereon." At the adjourned meeting they listened to the remarks of these gentlemen, and then they voted on it part by part, amending it where they felt it needed to be amended. The third article of the Bill of Rights they changed to read, "so that those of one religious persuasion shall not impose any tax on those of another." They had Quakers, Baptists and Universalists among them, and they would deal fairly with them, so well had they learned the lesson of religious liberty. And yet not quite to the standard of our day, for they amended the thirteenth article, "so that no one should be eligible to be an officer in either of the foregoing departments unless he shall be of the Christian Protestant religion."

CHAPTER LXIV.

NORTHBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

THE LATER HISTORY.

THE town came out of the war, as did all the other towns of the State, poor and stripped, but redeemed and free, ready for the use of their energies, and of the resources God had placed within their reach, in building the State, the foundations of which they had laid at such cost of treasure and suffering. They experienced the difficulties from the depreciated currency, and it is evident from the records that they shared in the discontent that led to "Shays' Rebellion." But when called upon to maintain the authority of the government, they made loyal answer, for rebellion was not the way of redress. They knew that prosperity could come, not by discontent, but by industry and thrift, and they gave themselves to these, and soon they began to repair their fortunes. We learn the following facts of the town from Rev. Peter Whitney's "History of Worcester County," published 1793:—"It is not large, having at the time of the late enumeration (1790) eighty-three houses and five hundred and seventy inhabitants (a gain of eighty-nine since 1776). Besides the Congregationalist Church there is a Society of Baptists, consisting of about ten families, at present destitute of any settled teacher. There are also within the town twelve families of Quakers, and two or three of Universalists. There are two corn-mills, one saw-mill and one forge, where much work is performed. The growth of wood on the highlands is very valuable, consisting of walnut, oak and chestnut. That on the lowlands is less valuable. The people here subsist chiefly by farming, and they have the character of an industrious and flourishing people; and it is said there is hardly an idle person or tavern-haunter in the place." This is surely a good record. But they did not lose their interest in the national welfare, in absorption in their private and local concerns. May 2, 1786, they are called to meet the next day, "To shoe there minds in regard to the trity now depending between Great Briton and the United States." They met and "voted to sign a memorial and send to the House of Representatives, in Congress assembled, praying them to accept and ratify the trity, and about seventy of the inhabitants signed it."

The fact that the House of Representatives had taken the action they desired three days before, in giving efficacy to Jay's treaty, does not make their action less significant. The town records have only the following entries concerning the War of 1812–14 with England. In the warrant for the meeting of July 30, 1814, the second article is "To see if the town will give anything, how much, to the men who are detaich'd from this town to do duty in the defence of their country." At the meeting, it was "voted to

make up the wages of Lyman Thompson and Clark Adams, detach'd men from the town of Northbridge, sixteen—16—dollars per month, including what they git from the State." From this we infer that the town had but small share in this war. But when we come to the war to put down the Rebellion of the Southern States against the Union, we find it (the town) thoroughly aroused and doing its full share. Northbridge furnished three hundred and eleven men for the army and navy, which was seventeen more than all demands. The names of two hundred and fifty-seven, serving in forty-three different organizations, have been preserved. Of these, ninety-three were in the Fifteenth Regiment of Massachusetts Infantry; twenty-one in the Twenty-fifth; eight were commissioned officers; the rest were non-commissioned officers and privates.

The following are the names of those who lost their lives during the war:

ROLL OF HONOR.

James Allen, 15th Regiment; killed at Ball's Bluff October 21, 1861.

Andrew Addison, 15th Regiment; killed at Antietam September 17, 1862.

Henry W. Ainsworth, 15th Regiment; killed at Antietam September 17, 1862.

Arthur J. Andrus, 15th Regiment; killed at Antietam September 17, 1862.

Dexter Brown, 15th Regiment; died in hospital at Baltimore December 16, 1862.

Edwin R. Brown, 15th Regiment; wounded at Cold Harbor; died in hospital, New York City, June 22, 1864.

Alfred A. Batchelor, 15th Regiment; wounded at Gettysburg; died in hospital, Baltimore, July 10, 1863.

Elbridge Bodwell, not a citizen, but one of the town's quota, 12th Battery; died, Boston, January 20, 1865.

William H. Cole, 16th Regiment; died at Andersonville September 7, 1864.

Edward H. Chapin, 15th Regiment; wounded at Gettysburg; died in hospital at Baltimore August 1, 1863.

James F. Dunn, 15th Regiment; died in hospital February 7, 1863.

George F. Fletcher, 15th Regiment; killed at Gettysburg July 3, 1863.

James B. Fletcher, 15th Regiment; killed at Antietam September 17, 1862.

Jeremiah Callahan, 57th Regiment; died at Andersonville August 29, 1864.

Elbridge G. Fogg, 25th Regiment; died at Newbern December 11, 1864.

Lewis Hair, 5th Regiment; wounded at Ball's Bluff; died at Poolesville, Md., November 5, 1861.

Timothy Kennedy, 15th Regiment; died of consumption on way home November 4, 1862.

Eugene Keith, 15th Regiment; body found in Potomac River after battle of Ball's Bluff.

Isaac E. Marshall, 15th Regiment; killed at Antietam September 17, 1862.

George W. Kinney, 4th Cavalry; died at Hilton Head, S. C., September 14, 1864.

Thomas Magoveny, 15th Regiment; died at Hyattstown, Md., October 4, 1862.

David J. Messenger, 15th Regiment; wounded at Ball's Bluff; died a prisoner in hospital, Leesburg, Va., December 13, 1861.

Charles A. Mason, 10th Battery; killed at Ream's Station August 24, 1864.

Charles A. Morgan, 3d Rhode Island Regiment; killed at Fort Pulaski.

Robert McNally, 28th Regiment; died, from wounds received at Antietam, September 22, 1862.

Nathaniel Putnam, 15th Regiment; died at Alexandria, Va., October 10, 1862.

George H. Pierce, 10th Mass. Battery; died of disease at Brandy Station, Va., March 3, 1864.

Lyman J. Prentice, 25th Regiment; wounded at Port Walthall; died in Chesapeake Hospital May 17, 1864.

George L. Sherman, 28th Regiment; died, from wounds received, May 12, 1864.

George N. Smith, 15th Regiment; died, from wounds received at Antietam, September 17, 1862.

George F. Seaver, 15th Regiment; killed at Ball's Bluff October 21, 1861.

Franklin Waterman, 15th Regiment; died of disease near Chickahominy River June 15, 1862.

Christopher G. Young, 15th Regiment; killed at Antietam September 17, 1863.

James Kay, 10th Battery; killed at Ream's Station August 24, 1864.

Eleven of these were killed, ten died of wounds, ten of disease, one was drowned and two died in Andersonville prison,—thirty-four lives for the country's life. Fifty-six were dismissed for disability. The first meeting to consider matters relating to the war was held May 8, 1862, at which it was voted to appropriate "such five sums of money as may be required, not exceeding five thousand dollars, to aid in uniforming, and to obtain such articles as may be needful for the comfort of such residents of the town as shall have enrolled themselves into a company of volunteer militia to be formed in this town and vicinity, and also to aid the families of such volunteers while in actual service; also to pay each volunteer one dollar a day, not exceeding thirty days, for time spent in drilling."

July 26, 1862, the selectmen were authorized to pay a bounty of one hundred dollars to each volunteer for three years' service, who shall enlist and be credited to the quota of the town.

Voted, that an additional sum of fifty dollars be paid to volunteers, who shall enlist in regiments now in the field, on or before the 15th of August. A committee of one from each school-district was appointed "to solicit the enlistment of volunteers."

August 27th, "voted to pay a bounty of one hundred dollars to each volunteer enlisting for nine months; the bounty to be paid when the man was mustered in and credited to the town."

October 11th, the bounty to nine months' men was increased fifty dollars, and the bounty for three years' volunteers was raised to two hundred dollars.

November 3, 1863, voted "that the families of conscripts, disabled soldiers, and those who have died in the service of the United States, be placed on the same footing as regards State aid as the families of volunteers."

April 9, 1864, "voted to pay a bounty of one hundred and twenty-five dollars to each volunteer enlisting to fill the quota of the town for three years' service, under the recent call of the President."

August 5, 1865, "Voted to refund the money to all individuals who have paid money to aid in recruiting." These votes show the readiness of the town to do her full part in the defense of the country.

There was also much done by individuals to help enlistments. More than twenty-six thousand dollars was contributed for this purpose, beyond what was refunded by the State. More than eight thousand

dollars was contributed for the comfort of soldiers in the field and hospitals, especially through the Sanitary and Christian Commissions.

Careful estimates of what the town paid for the cost of the war in taxes growing out of it, and in contributions, make the sum $710,773.63, while the valuation was but $945,374 in 1860 and $898,385 in 1865. Her part was well done and willingly.

In the beginning the town-meetings were held in private houses. But as soon as the "Town's Meeting-House" was so far completed as to warrant occupancy, it was used for town (then "District") purposes. It was, as long as owned by the town, the town's house. The first town (or district) meeting held in it was February 24, 1775, and here for nearly sixty years they held their meetings and acted on all the secular interests of the community. They often adjourned to a private house, especially in cold weather, as we understand, because they had no means of warming the meeting-house. About 1830 a desire for another place of meeting appeared. In the warrant for the March meeting of 1832 there had been an article "to see if the Town will build a house to transact their business in." But it was passed over. In 1833 the town-meeting was warned to meet at Jacob Kinneston's Hall, in the public-house at Holbrook's Upper Village (now Rockdale). March, 1834, it was voted "to build a Town-House for the transaction of Town business." But at the same meeting a committee made a report, which was accepted, "that it is not proper to remove town-meetings from the Meeting-House until a more convenient place is procured." Notwithstanding this vote, they often voted to meet elsewhere, as at Rockdale, and frequently in the chapel of Whitinsville. The desire for a more convenient place belonging to the town continued, and in 1871 a committee was appointed "to consider what Building or Buildings are required for a Town-Hall, High School and other town purposes, to report at a future meeting." In the March meeting of 1872 the report was made. Before any action was taken upon it, Mr. John C. Whitin made an offer in behalf of himself and his brothers to provide suitable rooms for town-meetings and town business in a building to be erected by them. This offer was accepted, and they erected Memorial Hall, in Whitinsville, on the site of the homestead of their parents, a handsome building of brick, with granite trimmings, one hundred and ten by sixty feet. In the basement is a hall for town-meetings. On the first floor are a small hall for meetings, two rooms for town purposes, with a fire-proof vault for town books, a reading room and rooms for the Social Library. In the second story is a large hall for public meetings.

The first town-meeting in the new building was held in the Lower Hall, November 7, 1876, and since that time all the town-meetings have been held here.

CHAPTER LXV.

NORTHBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

RELIGIOUS SOCIETIES.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—As we have seen in the beginning, the town as such provided for Gospel ordinances, and for a place of public worship, employing the preacher and building the meeting-house. For these purposes of religion, all the citizens were taxed, save those who belonged to other denominations than the standing order, which was Congregationalist. These by law were exempt from this taxation if they confessedly belonged to some other religious body and made their contributions to its support. In this town were Quakers, Baptists and a few Universalists to be thus relieved. The town employed Rev. Aaron Bliss for some two years before the church was formed. Rev. Mr. Crane gathered the church which was organized June 6, 1782. There were now two bodies having to do with religious matters,—the town and the church. The church took the initiative as to the calling and settling a pastor. The town was asked to concur, and it was responsible for his support. Soon a third body appears, "The Congregational Society," which is first mentioned in 1784. Yet it is so far identified with the town that in the warrant for town-meeting in 1784 the fifth article is "To see if the *Congregational Society* will choose a committee to settle with John Adams and Major Batcheller for Boarding Mr. Crane and the Council, when Mr. Crane was ordained," and in 1787, "To see if the *Town* will choose a collector to collect ministerial money, and also a Treasurer to receive the same, and for said Treasurer to be accountable to the *Congregational Society* as the Town Treasurers are or may be to the town, and the town chose such a collector."

The town slowly finished the meeting-house, selling "pew spots," or rights to build pews, first on the sides and then in the centre of the house, building a gallery, and some years after finishing the stairs to the same. In 1801 $60 were voted for last bills for finishing the inside of the house, which had just been accomplished. The repair of the house still came upon the town. But in their last action in reference to it, in 1808, the warrant for town-meeting has an article to see if the town will vote "to shingle the meeting-house *for what they have used it* to do town business in."

From this it is manifest that the town does not now feel it is sole owner of the house, but is under obligation to another body for its use, and the same is shown by the vote on this article, which is "to shingle the meeting-house by *the society*," and yet at the next meeting they appoint Paul Whitin, Marvil Taft and Thos. Goldthwait a committee to inspect the work. This is the last mention of the town's doing anything to repair or control the meeting-house.

For more than thirty years the town had had the care and control of the meeting-house. During these years it is called in the warrant for town-meetings: "The Town Meeting-House," or "The Meeting-House in Northbridge." But in 1819 the language is changed to "The Congregational Meeting House." Four years before this it had ceased to be town property. In March, 1814, "John Crane and others" pray the town to be incorporated as a religious society. Their petition was "passed over." In the next meeting it was not noticed. Now John Crane and thirty-one others petitioned the General Court to be incorporated as a religious society in Northbridge. Their request was granted. They are spoken of as "members of the Congregational Society in Northbridge." But now they are incorporated as such, August 27, 1814, and they became liable to pay all taxes voted by the society and responsible for the support of the minister, and the members can be released from the obligation only as they furnish a certificate that they have joined some other religious society. Still must all belong to some religious society and help in its support. This continued until the amendment of the Constitution, in 1833, when the towns were relieved from all responsibility for the support of ministers, and citizens from the liability to be taxed for religious purposes, and all connection between church and state at last ceased.

The Congregational Society was invested by the act of incorporation with the meeting-house property, and was authorized to hold other property. We find no action of the town acknowledging this incorporation or the transfer of the property, but the town takes no action after March, 1814, as to ministerial support or of control of the meeting house. It considers itself a tenant of the society, and obtains permission from the society to put up a hearse-house in the "burying-ground." Soon after the incorporation of the society an effort was made to raise a fund for the support of the minister, as was said in the preamble of the subscription: "To abolish forever ministerial taxes in this town, and to establish a fund for the support of a learned Congregational, Calvinistic Ministry in Northbridge, the subscribers promise to pay;" $2475 was subscribed, in sums from $20 to $500, but in 1816 it was voted to return the sums already paid in, and a committee was appointed to devise some other way of raising the fund. This was never done, and most withdrew their contributions. But Mr. Paul Whitin, Sr., left his in the hands of the society, and this, increased by interest, enabled the society, in 1867, to purchase the parsonage now owned and used by it. The society at once assumed all ministerial charges, and taxed the property of the members. But this did not satisfy all, and for several years the pews were taxed to raise part of the funds needed. From 1838 to 1846 the salary was raised by subscription; from 1846 to 1850 property was taxed; then there was a return to subscription; and now, as in all societies, the voluntary system of support is used.

Early in 1835 the society, having determined to have a new meeting-house, and having purchased the land for it, voted to move and repair the old meeting-house, if it was deemed worth moving. But not being deemed worth removal, it was soon taken down. The first Sabbath of May, in the same year, Dr. Crane preached his last sermon in the old house. The records of the parish show no vote to build the new meeting-house, but February 5, 1836, they voted to convey the land and the new house to the deacons of the church, and they direct their committee to convey their thanks to Mr. Orra Taft for the bell he had given them. Now the old New England custom of ringing the bell for Sabbath services, for tolling the years of the dead, and for marking the hours of noon is begun. It was also voted to have the foot-stoves filled at the stoves in the meeting-house.

The parish was as reluctant as the church to allow any of its members to leave for the formation of a new parish in Whitinsville, in every instance where a petition for this was presented, either passing it or voting not to grant it. But when the separation took place they did not lose heart. They went on in their work of maintaining the ordinances of religion at the Centre. In 1832, soon after the resignation of Dr. Crane, Rev. Samuel H. Fletcher was called and installed, March 14th. He was dismissed in March, 1834. Rev. Charles Forbush was installed June 4, 1834. He continued pastor until his death, June 9, 1838. Rev. Lewis Pennell was installed April 3, 1839, and dismissed April 11, 1842. Rev. William Bates was ordained and installed November 5, 1845, and dismissed November 23, 1857. Mr. Bates was the last installed pastor. The church has since been supplied by Revs. Messrs. George B. Safford, Hiram Day, Sylvester Hine, Calvin Terry, D. W. Richardson, W. H. Haslewood, Thomas L. Norton, James Wells, J. T. Crumrine, R. M. Burr and J. H. Childs. Rev. Mr. Childs is the present acting pastor, who also has the charge of the Rockdale Church. In 1877 this parish united with the parish in Rockdale in the support of the minister, who has since had the care of both parishes, residing at the Centre.

The church gathered by Rev. Mr. Crane, in 1782, of eight members (five from the church in Uxbridge, three from the church in Upton), received five on confession the same day, thus beginning their separate life. As was customary, there were no "Articles of faith," it being understood that all accepted the "Catechism of the Westminster Assembly" as the standard of belief. They entered into covenant with God and each other. In this covenant there is a consecration of themselves to God the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and a giving of themselves to each other to walk together as a rightly-ordered Congregational Church, to maintain all Gospel ordinances and watch over each other,—a consecration to work

against all ungodliness in the world, to maintain secret and family worship, to train their households in a Christian manner; especially catechising them in the family, instructing, exhorting and commanding them to attend the more public catechising and instruction of those meetings which may be appointed for that end. The articles of faith were adopted probably April 1, 1814, but were not recorded. There is evidence that church discipline was not a mere name, as we have record of discipline for watering cider, for deceiving in trading for a horse; and the church recognized its own duty to repair a wrong done a member, in making confession to one whom it felt it had misjudged. For the first few years, like all the churches of the period, it received but few additions—only eighteen for twenty-six years. But it has known its times of enlargement, as in 1808, 1820 and especially in 1831, when fifty-four additions were made; and the removal of so many, to form the village church did not take as many members as had been added in this year. It had, January 1, 1888, one hundred and six members.

The Village Congregational Church in Whitinsville.—During the latter part of Dr. Crane's ministry it had been common to hold meetings in the school-house in this neighborhood Sabbath evenings, at which he and other ministers occasionally preached. The feeling that more was needed led to the formation of a Sabbath-school in 1833, having two sessions each Sabbath.

The conviction that a church should be formed, and regular Sabbath services maintained, becoming fixed, several members of the first church sought dismission from it for this purpose. This being denied, five gentlemen, not members of this church, were requested to call a council "to advise on the question whether it is expedient to establish a church and society in said village of South Northbridge." The council met April 17, 1834, and advised that it was expedient that a church should be formed and Gospel ordinances established. In 1833 "The Chapel" had been built and had been dedicated to religious uses early in 1834. Regular preaching was now provided from Rev. Caleb B. Elliot, of Millbury, and afterwards from Rev. William Whittlesey, of New Britain, Conn. The society was formed June 20, 1834. The members of the first church desiring to form the new church, still failing to obtain letters of dismission, called by their committee a council to be held July 31st, "to carry out, if it should be thought best, the recommendation of the previous council." By this council the church was constituted, consisting of thirty-three members. Seven more were received by letter from the first church August 26th, and became identified with the church in its beginning. Rev. Michael Burdett was soon called, and was installed April 15, 1835. He was dismissed April 29, 1841, after a pastorate of six years. Rev. Louis F. Clark was ordained and installed pastor June 1, 1842, and continued his labors here as pastor until his death, October 3, 1870,—a man greatly beloved and greatly useful. Rev. John R. Thurston was installed April 20, 1871, and continues pastor.

The church has been prospered, having received in all 710, and it numbered January 1, 1888, 231.

The present house of worship was built in 1846 and was dedicated November 12th of that year. It has since been enlarged.

The Congregational Church in Rockdale.—There were no regular public religious services in this village until after P. Whitin & Sons purchased the property in 1856. They finished a hall over the store and dedicated it to religious worship. In the fall of 1861 Rev. E. F. Williams, of Uxbridge, was employed, and labored there somewhat more than a year. His work was blessed by a revival, and there was some thought of forming a church. When Mr. Williams left, Rev. Mr. Harding, of Boston, was engaged to supply, and he preached there for some years, though not residing there for pastoral service. From November 1, 1871, to December 1, 1872, Rev. J. C. Halliday preached and resided there. For some time after this there was not regular preaching, but the Sabbath-school was maintained, and the pastor at Whitinsville preached there occasionally. In 1877 the people united with the parish at Northbridge Centre in the support of a pastor and since that time regular Sabbath services have been maintained. It had long been felt that a church organization was needed for the best religious result and plans had several times been made for forming one, but they had not been carried out. December 30, 1879, a council was called and a church of fifteen members was formed, which has since grown to thirty-nine, January 1, 1888. This church, with the church on the Hill, has Rev. James H. Childs as pastor.

The Quakers.—We have seen[1] that early in the last century a few families of Quakers moved up the Blackstone Valley in what is now Northbridge, and they experienced difficulty from their unwillingness to serve in the French and Indian War. They had the same difficulty after the town was incorporated during the Revolutionary struggle. By colonial statute, passed in May, 1776, among those exempted from the necessity of military service are "those persons who had, before the nineteenth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, been by law deemed to be of the denomination of Christians called Quakers." It appears from the State archives that one Thomas Eddy, who had become a Quaker in 1777, was allowed exemption on petition of the town, by the Colonial Council, July 27, 1778. Said Eddy had been sent to the garrison at Rutland, but had refused to do duty on the ground that he was a Quaker. January, 1779, the selectmen of the town, having doubts whether the town had a right to assess

[1] Page 426.

the Quakers for their part of the tax of two hundred pounds laid upon the town "to pay men who had been, or had hired men, to go into the army," send a petition to the "Honorable Council and house of Representatives" that they would solve their doubt "and make it certain whether we have a Right to tax said Quakers." Thus scrupulously were their rights regarded. We have no record of what answer was given to this petition, but as later we find frequent mention of a "Quaker Tax," we learn that it was felt that they must in some way contribute to the defence of the country.

After the Revolutionary War we find no evidence of any difficulty with the town from their peace principles.

Before the town was incorporated the first meeting-house was built by the Quakers. On petition of Samuel Aldrich, for the building of a meeting-house, a committee was appointed at the Smithfield Monthly Meeting of Friends, November 28, 1765, "to judge whether there was need of one." This committee reporting favorably, a committee, consisting of Samuel Aldrich, Moses Aldrich and Moses Farnam, Jr., "was appointed to oversee the building of said house."

"Twelfth Month, 1776, the Building Committee exhibited an account of the Cost of Building the Uxbridge (now Northbridge) Meeting-house, amounting to £70 16*s.* 1*d.* lawful money, which is accepted." Forty pounds of this money was contributed for this purpose by Rachel Thayer, of Mendon. We see it is ten years after the committee is appointed to oversee the building of the house before the final account of cost is rendered, and we do not know when it was first occupied, but probably before the "Town's Meeting-house." The first mention of this meeting-house is in the town-meeting of March, 1778, when it was "voted to warn town-meetings by notifications to Be posted at Capt. Baldwin's Mill, Ye Quaker meeting-house, and ye Town meeting-house in Northbridge." This became the custom ever after. This meeting-house stood about one-fourth of a mile south of the present house, on the east side of the road. Respecting the present meeting-house the following items are furnished: "At an Uxbridge Monthly Meeting in 1804, Nathaniel Aldrich, Richard Mowry, Elisha Arnold and others were appointed to exchange lots and contract for building the present meeting-house in Northbridge. They reported in the Third Month, same year, that they had done so. The new house to be built for $650 and the old house. The new one was built that year." Saml. Aldrich was one of the contractors for building it. In this house the Friends have worshipped God for more than four-score years. They have met each week, and the spirit has moved to words of exhortation, as to the faith and the life. In recent years their numbers have diminished, but their meetings are maintained with the instruction of the young in the Sabbath-school. In May of each year Quarterly Meeting is held here. There has been special interest in temperance the past few years.

The meeting in Northbridge was a part of the Smithfield Monthly Meeting till Seventh Month, 1783, when the several meetings held in Uxbridge, Northbridge, Richmond, N. H., and Leicester were set off and formed a separate Monthly Meeting under the name of the Uxbridge Monthly, which continues until the present time. We have no record of the residence in the town of a minister approved by the meeting, and the ministry has been by those belonging to the meeting but residing usually in Uxbridge. Mrs. Salome C. Wheeler, who is an approved minister, residing in Uxbridge, usually ministers at the Northbridge Meeting-house.

Baptists in Northbridge.—From the following certificates it is manifest that there was early in the history of Northbridge an acknowledged body of Baptists, having a "society," if not a church organization:

We, the Subscribers, being chosen a committee by the Society of People called Anti-pedo Baptist, we (who?) met together for religious worship on the Lord's day, in Northbridge, to exhibit a list of the names of such persons as belong to said society or congregation: Do certify that Timothy Winter, Nathaniel Cooper, Jun., John Cooper, David Dunn, Jonathan Bassett, Barnabas Aldrich, William Rawson, Joseph Hill, Nathaniel Cooper, do belong to the said congregation, and that they do frequently, and usually, when able, attend with us in our meetings for Religious Worship, on the Lord's Day, and we do thereby believe are, with respect to the Ordinance of Baptism, of the same religious sentiments with us.

Dated Grafton, Aug. 15, 1774.

Recorded by the clerk Aug. 29, 1774.

Joseph Rice,
Ebenezer Wheeler,
James Leland,
} Committee of the Baptist Society in Grafton.

Samuel Powers and John Rooks, of Northbridge, were included in another certificate of the same date.

From this we infer that thus early in the history of the town these men, wishing to be relieved from paying the town tax for the support of the Congregational minister, and building the meeting-house, obtained this relief by these certificates.

John Cooper, an ordained Baptist elder, was for many years the preacher, preaching frequently until near the time of his death, in 1818. His brother Nathaniel also preached occasionally. "The Baptists had their meetings in private houses, mostly in those of the preachers."

In April, 1787, it was voted that the warrant for town-meeting be put, "one at the place where the Baptist meet for publick worship," from which it is manifest that they early had a place of usual meeting, probably the house of "Elder John Cooper," near the Cooper grave-yard. Jesse White, the blacksmith, was deacon.

In 1793 Whitney speaks of ten families of Baptists, "at present destitute of any settled teacher." Yet there was a Baptist society as late as 1812, for Abner Cooper and John Cooper, "committee," certify that "Phineas Taft, of the town of Uxbridge, is a member of the religious society in the town of Northbridge called the Northbridge Baptist Society." After the death of Elder John Cooper they did not have preaching regularly. Mr. Sawyer, and after him Mr. Rufus Bennett, preached occasionally, but soon all public

services ceased, and the society has had no existence for many years. The few of this persuasion in the town have identified themselves with the Baptist societies of Farnamsville, or North Uxbridge, or with the Congregationalist or Methodist Churches in the town.

THE METHODIST CHURCH IN WHITINSVILLE.—The first Methodist services in the town were held in the house of Rufus Bennett, near the Quaker Meeting-house, early in 1828. Miss Rebecca Bradford, of Providence, R. I., a school-teacher, secured the preaching of the first sermon by her pastor, Rev. Mr. Osgood, in this house. "As a result of this and other meetings, a revival of religion followed, in which a number were converted. Among them were Amasa Benson, Amos White and Lyman Aldrich, who became pillars in the church. Mr. Bennett, who had been connected with the Baptist Church of Upton, joined them, and became a local preacher among them.

"The meetings were held in private houses, in the school-house near the Quaker Meeting-house, and in the stone school-house at Plummer's Corner, and the Lord's Supper celebrated in Captain Amos White's new barn a number of times.

"At the session of the New England Conference, which met at Lynn July 23, 1828, Bishop Elijah Hedding presiding, 'Northbridge Circuit' was organized. It was in the New London District, Edward Hyde, Presiding Elder. Will. J. Lovejoy and Joseph Iveson were the preachers."

During most of the years until 1850 preachers were appointed for this circuit, and religious services were maintained. Two camp-meetings and several grove-meetings were held on the Benson farm. But it was not in this part of the town that Methodism was to have its permanent and central place. The village of Whitinsville had been and was still growing and giving promise for the future, and here was the Methodist Church to find its home. The first Methodist preaching here was secured by Mr. Charles Taylor. The preacher was Rev. Joseph W. Lewis, of Webster. He was assisted by Chas. W. Ainsworth, of Millbury. The services were held in the hall just erected on Railroad Avenue, which became the place of worship for many years. This was early in 1850. April 24th of the same year, at the session of the New England Conference in Boston, Bishop Thomas A. Morris presiding, "Whitinsville took its place in the list of appointments. It was included in the Worcester District, J. Hascall, Presiding Elder; H. P. Andrews, preacher." "June 23, 1850, Dr. Hascall organized the Quarterly Conference" here. Since that day the church has maintained regular worship, and had constant preaching. They remained in the hall where they began for twenty-five years. October 22, 1875, the new meeting-house was dedicated. In 1882 a troublesome debt was removed, with the generous help of friends in the place. It was a happy day, October 22d, when they held their meeting-house and parsonage free of all encumbrance. The church has grown with the village, and now numbers ninety-one members. The preachers have been: 1850–51, H. P. Andrews; 1852, Cyrus L. Eastman; 1853, Jonathan L. Esty; 1854, Jonathan D. Bridge (during this year a collection of $6.50 was reported "to assist fugitive slaves"); 1855, it was united with East Douglas; 1856–57, Wm. P. Blackmer; 1858–59, Geo. H. Mansfield; 1860, Nath. A. Soule; 1861–62, William Merrill; 1863–64, Abraham M. Osgood; 1865–67, William A. Braman; 1868, Robert G. Adams; 1869, D. D. Hudson; 1871–73, Emory A. Howard (during this pastorate, the Spring estate was purchased, with the house which has since been the parsonage, and the ground for the new meeting-house); 1874–75, William Merrill (during this pastorate the meeting-house was completed and dedicated); 1876–77, Edward A. Manning; 1878, J. W. Fenn; 1879–80, Seth C. Cary; 1881–83, Lyman D. Bragg (during this pastorate the debt on the property was paid); 1884–86, James Mudge; 1887, E. Stuart Best.

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—For some years previous to 1871 there had been an increasing number of United Presbyterians in Whitinsville. They had brought from their homes in the north of Ireland and Scotland a strong affection for their own faith and worship. They had worshipped occasionally and "communicated" with the United Presbyterian Church in Wilkinsonville. Some had united with this church. But they felt they must have for themselves and their children more regular Sabbath services, and early in 1871 they began such services with Rev. Mr. Cresswell as minister, and soon a "congregation" was formed and became connected with the Boston Presbytery. Worship was held at first in Smith's Hall and subsequently in "The Chapel" formerly used by the Congregational Church. Here they continued until they went into their new meeting-house, save during an interval of about seven months, when, owing to internal difficulties, the congregation was disbanded for a brief time. It was reorganized December 16, 1874. In 1881 a meeting-house was built on Cottage Street, in the erection of which, friends in the village greatly assisted them. It was dedicated February 22, 1882. In 1888 a parsonage was built on the same lot with the meeting-house. The preachers have been Rev. Robert Harkness, January 21, 1873, to April 22, 1874. For three years it was supplied by various ministers. Rev. J. L. Thompson was installed June 11, 1878. He was released April 11, 1882. Rev. J. Crawford McKay, installed April 24, 1883; resigned in July, 1884. It was supplied by Presbytery with various preachers, among them Rev. J. R. McAllister from January, 1880, to July, 1887.

Rev. Wm. Hughes was installed October 25, 1888, and is the present pastor.

ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH.—The great increase in

manufacturing in the recent years has brought many of foreign birth into the town for labor. In 1875 there were one thousand three hundred and six who were born in Ireland or Canada; most of these were of the Catholic faith. They have always belonged to the parish of Uxbridge and been under the care of the Priest resident there. As their numbers increased, it was felt that they should have a church in this town, and Rev. Dennis O'Keefe purchased the land for one in 1868. His successor, Rev. Dennis Moran, built the church. The first service was on Christmas, 1870. Rev. Henry L. Robinson became pastor in 1871 and remains such. He is assisted by Father Langier, who especially ministers to the French, who are the larger part of those of the Catholic faith. The church was moved to its present site on Church Street, and enlarged and a basement added in 1883.

CHAPTER LXVI.

NORTHBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

SCHOOLS AND LIBRARY.

IMMEDIATELY on the incorporation of the district, attention was given to the interests of education. At the second town-meeting, September 21, 1772, a committee was appointed to "Squadron" the district for school purposes. In November, the same year, they report their work making seven "Squadrons," some of which were very small. In 1785 the second and third were united, making six, and in 1793 the fifth and sixth were united, making five squadrons. But this last union, putting Adam's Corner, Northbridge Hill and what is now Whitinsville into one squadron, proved unsatisfactory, and in 1796 James Fletcher and others, in what is now Whitinsville, received permission to be a district by themselves, and to build their own school-house and not to be taxed for the building of any other school-house. The next year a similar privilege was granted to the families in the vicinity of the Quaker Meeting-House, on the same conditions. The same year five families at Riverdale were made a district. In 1802 another district was founded, including the families at Prentice's Corner and on the northeast side of the meadow. In 1832 we find eight districts, which continued, with occasional changes of families near the border lines, until the district system was abolished and the town system adopted in 1867.

At the first the schools were kept in private houses and in the meeting-house. There is evidence that a school-house stood on the hill on the east side of the road, north of the burying-ground. But it does not seem to have been in use at the time of the incorporation of the district. It is not until 1791 that the building of school-houses was agitated. That year an article was put into the warrant to see if the town would build a house in each district; but it was passed over in the meeting. In 1795 it was voted to build a house in each district, and a committee was appointed for the purpose. But the next year the article to grant and raise money to build school-houses in the town of Northbridge was dismissed, from which it is manifest the work was not yet begun. And at the next meeting, the same year, they refused to appoint a committee to set the school-houses in each district. It is evident that the dissatisfaction with the new squadrons had something to do with this delay, as the same year James Fletcher and five others were made a new squadron if they would build their own school-house, and the next year the same action was taken for six families near the Quaker Meeting-House. At the meeting in June, 1796, a committee was appointed to instruct the committees appointed the previous year to build school-houses and to order them to set them in the most convenient place and to say how big each school-house shall be. From the absence of any further reference to school-houses in the records and from the recollections of persons recently living, we judge that the school-houses were built in most of the districts soon after this, as on the Hill in 1797. Yet it is manifest that not in all, very soon, as in 1807 a vote is passed "to allow district No. 7 to build a school-house if they please," and as late as 1810 there is a petition from certain families to be set back to the "Winter district" until suitable school-houses have been built in the districts to which they had been assigned. The whole town was taxed for building these houses, those of two districts being exempted who were to build their own houses. Also the lands of non-resident owners were taxed for the same purpose.

The school-houses then erected sufficed until the district system was abandoned in 1867, except that another had to be erected to meet the demands of the increased population of Whitinsville, and it had to be twice enlarged until it had six rooms. After the adoption of the town system new houses were built for all the schools, save at Adam's Corner, where the house was thoroughly repaired. A new two-story house was built in Whitinsville in 1869, and enlarged for two more schools in 1872. In 1878 another large school-house was built in Whitinsville for four schools; and now measures are being taken to erect a large brick school-house in the centre of this village for the high and grammar schools and for primary schools, thus providing twelve school-rooms in Whitinsville.

Until 1865, the town had had only the district schools, including all grades, and in Whitinsville the grades of Primary, Intermediate and Grammar. In the annual report of that year, the committee pleaded earnestly for a High School, which the State laws required of every town having five hundred

families, this town having five hundred and fifty; and a vote was passed to establish a High School. This was done at once, and the school was located in Whitinsville, and has been maintained ever since, doing good work and accomplishing all that could be reasonably expected, giving those who are unable to go out of town for education the opportunity to pursue their studies several years longer than formerly. The committee the same year urged the lengthening the terms of school, which had heretofore been only six months, with a private school kept in some of the districts. Their recommendation was adopted the next year, and since that time the schools have been kept between nine and ten months.

In the beginning the care of the schools devolved on the selectmen. In 1799 an article was put in the warrant for the March meeting, "To see if the town will choose a committy to regulate the school districts," but it was voted "not to choose a school committy." But in 1805 it was voted "to choose a school committee of five;" the change was not acceptable, and a committee was not chosen again until 1810, and from 1813 to 1819 none were chosen. From 1820 the school committee has been chosen every year. In 1826 "it was voted to allow Dr. Crane fifty cents each visit and to visit each winter-school twice." At the same meeting a school committee of eight was chosen, one for each district. The next year "it was voted to comply with the requisitions of the law in choosing a school committee," and three were chosen, and it was "voted each District be allowed to choose their own prudential committeemen, agreeable to *usual* custom." The innovation of the previous year, in having the prudential committee of the districts chosen by the town, was not acceptable. But the next year, 1828, the town again chose the prudential committees of the districts and continued to do so until 1862, when the choice reverted to the districts again, where it remained until the district system was abolished in 1867. In 1828, Mr. Adolphus Spring and Dr. Crane were a visiting committee to supplement the work of the prudential committee. Dr. Crane received twelve dollars for his visits. From this time for several years the town's committee are spoken of as "visitors." Previous to 1858 the whole committee was chosen each year; this made possible, and sometimes actual, an entire change of persons in the board in a single year, and might bring in a board none of whose members had had any experience in the care of schools. This brevity and uncertainty of tenure was unfriendly to the adoption and carrying out any plans of school-work which extended over years, and was a hinderance to that progress which was needed. In 1858 the plan was changed, and each member now serves three years, and two new ones are chosen each year, and thus there is a continuity of service, and the benefit of experience is secured. There has been for many years an earnest endeavor to increase the efficiency of the schools. A new and powerful impulse was received in this progress about 1847. In 1843 the committee, of which Rev. Lewis F. Clark was chairman, made a very plain report as to the deficiencies in the schools and in the school-houses, and calling for progress. Their report was printed, and it was evidently pondered; we see a slow increase in appropriations for several years, until 1847, when a very large increase of almost fifty per cent. was made, and since this time there has been great advance, and the town has been ready for any expense needed for the success of the schools. In 1843 the town was very near the lowest in the State for the amount appropriated per scholar, there being but forty-three out of three hundred and seven that raised less; now there are but sixty-nine that raise more. In 1852 the appropriation was $2.96 per each child of school age; now it is $11.20. As a result of this interest and these efforts the schools are doing good work, for which every parent and every citizen may be thankful. Much of this gain has been due to the untiring efforts of Dr. Rouse R. Clarke, who was first chosen a member of the committee in 1852, and served the town almost without interruption until his death, February 2, 1888. For many years he was acting superintendent, though unwilling to be called such. He brought to the work great love for the cause of education, a high estimate of its importance, a large measure of common sense, a friendliness to new ideas, with an unwillingness to undervalue the old methods, and great faithfulness in the care of the schools. When the new school-house was completed on Cross Street, in Whitinsville, the following vote passed unanimously in the town-meeting April 7, 1879: "Resolved, that in recognition of the long-continued and eminent services of Dr. R. R. Clarke on the Board of School Committees, his constant and zealous efforts to advance the interests of our schools, whereby they have been raised to the present high standard, it is hereby ordered that the new school-house on Cross Street shall be designated and known as the 'Clarke School,'" and the following resolutions were passed at the town-meeting, April 2, 1888, after his decease:

Resolved, That we, the citizens of Northbridge, desire to place upon the record our high appreciation of the services of the late Dr. Rouse R. Clarke, in behalf of our public schools.

For almost thirty years his best thought and most earnest efforts were devoted to their interests. During all this time it was his greatest ambition to do all in his power. Believing that the stability and freedom of our civil and religious institutions depend upon the education and morality of the people, he entered upon his life-work with a sincere desire to serve his generation by doing what he could to advance the interests of education in our midst.

For all these years he has spared no expense of time or effort to accomplish this. We believe the present success of our schools is largely due to his untiring devotion to their welfare. We cannot express too strongly our high appreciation of his valuable services and the deep sorrow we feel for our great loss.

Resolved, That the clerk be directed to enter these resolutions upon the Records of the Town, and forward a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

THE WHITINSVILLE SOCIAL LIBRARY.—At a meeting of the citizens of Whitinsville, held December 10, 1844, to take into consideration the establishment of a Social Library, P. Whitin, Esq., was called to the chair. It was stated that the sum of one hundred dollars was left as a legacy, by Miss Sarah Fletcher, to be appropriated to such a Library whenever it should be thought best to establish one; and that this sum, with the interest on the same, was now available. Voted that we consider it expedient to establish such a Library at the present time. Voted, To choose a committee of three to draft a constitution, and present it at a future meeting. L. F. Clark, Horace Annsby and Leander Gorton were appointed on this committee.

The constitution presented by this committee, with some amendments, was adopted December 17th, and the society was organized under the name of "The Whitinsville Social Library." Signatures were obtained to the constitution, and December 24th the officers were chosen with Rev. L. F. Clark president.

By February, 1845, eighty-six subscribers had become members of the association by payment of one dollar as initiation fee and signing the constitution, which imposed an annual assessment of one dollar. Two hundred and fifty books had been purchased, and arrangements made for loaning them. This is the origin of the Social Library.

The association became *incorporated* April 14, 1858, under the provisions of the forty-first chapter of the Revised Statutes of Massachusetts.

April 9, 1860, a legacy of five hundred dollars was received from Ezra W. Fletcher, of which it was voted to use only the interest.

The library was for many years kept in "the chapel" of the Congregational Society, and was used by subscribers, and a few others, as the teachers, to whom its privileges were extended by the association. But when better and permanent accommodations were provided in the Memorial Building, in 1876, it was determined to offer its privileges to all the inhabitants of the town on certain conditions, and the following vote was passed by the association:

To make the Library free to the Inhabitants of the Town of Northbridge, subject to such Rules and Regulations as the Association or Corporation may adopt, upon condition that the Town shall annually appropriate and pay to the treasurer of the Corporation for the maintainance and support of said Library a sum not less than Three Hundred Dollars. The Library ceasing to be free to the inhabitants of said town when the Town ceases to make the above mentioned annual appropriation for its maintainance and support.

The town accepted the proposition of the association at its annual meeting in March, and has since made annual appropriations for the support of the library. The needed changes in the constitution and by-laws were made, and the library is still under the control of the association, of which any citizen of Northbridge may become a member by payment of one dollar annually, or a life member by payment of ten dollars, and signing the constitution. At the annual meeting, February 13, 1888, the fee for life membership was made five dollars.

Rev. L. F. Clark was re-elected president every year but two, until his death, in 1870. Dr. R. R. Clarke was chosen to succeed him, and re-elected annually until his death, in 1888, when Geo. A. Annsby was chosen, and is now president. From the small beginning with two hundred and fifty volumes, the library has grown apace, and, as we learn from the annual report made February 13, 1888, contains 4,507 volumes. The number who took books the last year was 418, and the number of volumes circulated was 6,875.

CHAPTER LXVII.

NORTHBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

MANUFACTURES.

WHILE the early settlers were agriculturists, the necessity of mills for sawing their lumber and for grinding their grain soon led to the building of mills for this purpose, as the abundant water privileges on the Blackstone and Mumford Rivers gave them ample opportunity for doing. Samuel Terry erected a saw-mill at "Ye Falls," on the Mumford River, at what is now Whitinsville, in 1727 or 1728. Some time before 1740 Woodland Thompson built a saw-mill on "Oil Brook," a small stream running into the Blackstone, on the west side, a little south of Riverdale. In 1764, James Nutting, Sr., sold "two grist-mills and a saw-mill" at what is now Riverdale. Having purchased the property in 1753, without mention in the deed of dam or mills, we infer he built the dam and the mills, thus first making use of the privilege, and building the first grist-mill in the town. Some time between 1805 and 1814 the privilege at what is now Rockdale was first put to use, and a saw and grist-mill were built by John and Jesse Eddy.

But these elementary manufactures were not those which were to grow and build up the town. The manufactures which were to employ its citizens in great numbers, and bring to them comfort and wealth, were those of iron, cotton, wool and leather.

IRON MANUFACTURES.—The very early development of the manufactures of iron in this town was doubtless due to the existence of iron ore within its limits. September 16, 1700, Mendon (then including Northbridge) voted "that noe person shall carry any mine or iron ore out of or from the Town Common, upon penalty of twenty shillings a load, the one-half to the informer, the other half to the use of the towne;" At a meeting October 14th, the same year, Samuel Thayer was permitted to carry away the "ore that had been digged," "provided sd Thayer paid twenty shillings in money to Capt. Chapin for the town's use;" and a reward was voted to the informer.

March 3, 1712, the town reaffirmed the vote forbidding to carry away ore from the "Town Common," but said, "as for any yt was in Impropriated Lands, they might Repair to the owners." This ore was in the Uxbridge part of the town. The location of the "Iron Works" at "ye Falls of Mumford's River" was due to the power which "ye Falls" afforded, to the abundance of wood for charcoal for smelting, and to the evident expectation of finding ore near at hand. The man who established the works here was Samuel Terry (clerk), of Barrington, Mass. He purchased four hundred and eighty-eight acres of land, with the water privilege at "ye Falls," and "all the mines or minerals" thereto belonging, for £488, equal to £162 in gold, in 1727.

This reference to "mines or minerals" is doubtless to "Mineral Hill, so called," which we find mentioned in deeds of a later date. The next year Terry sold all the lands and a saw-mill and "Iron Works" to Hugh Hall, of Boston, for £700, equal to £206 in gold. As there was no mention of "Iron Works" in his deed of purchase, we must infer he had built them, and had prepared to manufacture iron. Hall sold the property to Gershom Keyes (trader), of Boston, for £920, equal to £212 in gold, in 1732. The next year Keyes sold all the land and the saw-mill and one-half of the "Iron Works" to Jonathan Bacon (gent), of Bedford, for £1600, equal to £368 in gold. The increase in price would indicate that Keys had improved the "Iron Works." He reserved one-half of the works, with all its privileges, and we infer he soon bought back Bacon's half interest, as he afterwards sold all the "Iron Works" and thirty acres of land belonging thereto, and from the fact that Bacon's name does not appear in any subsequent deed of the works. Keyes sold one-half of the "Iron Works" to Joseph Scott (braiser), of Boston, for £300, equal to £62 in gold, in 1735, and one-half to Samuel Grant (upholder), of Boston, in 1736, for £300, equal to £61 in gold. These owners, Grant & Scott, evidently rebuilt the "Iron Works," as they are spoken of in the next deed as "lately built," with three fireplaces and one hammer. They are subsequently called the "Forge or Refinery." Grant sold his interest the same year (1736) to John Merritt (merchant), of Boston, for £808 14*s.* 3*d.*, equal to £168 in gold. In the deed an "ore yard" is mentioned. Soon Merritt bought out Scott's interest for £870, equal to £170 in gold. The deed is dated 1740, but we infer that he had bought it before this, for he leased the property in 1739 to Thomas & Nicholas Baylies (iron-masters), of Uxbridge, for twenty-one years, for £34 lawful money of Great Britain per year. Lawful money was then worth four and one-half times as much as paper. The inventory of the works is given, and it is described as all furnished and suitable to make pig-metal into bar iron. This is the first mention of the product. It was for many years called Baylies' Refinery; but it was still held by Merritt after Baylies' lease expired in 1760. Before 1765 Merritt, now of Providence, leased the "Iron Works" to John Heseltine, of Uxbridge. Merritt held the property until his death. It was sold September 16, 1771, by John Overing, the executor of Mr. Merritt's will, to Col. Ezra Wood, of Upton, for £450, now equal to gold, as specie payment had been resumed. James Fletcher, who married Col. Wood's daughter December 24, 1771, now occupied the property and carried on the "works." The old works were situated about twenty rods below the bridge, on the south side of the river, the water for the power being conveyed in a ditch from the dam, which was about one hundred feet west of the present dam next to the bridge. About this time the works were removed to a building on the south side of the river, close to the present dam, which was built at that time. The new works went by the name of "The Forge." It was also called "Fletcher's Forge," and it had the reputation of early and hard work. In 1794 Col. Wood sold two-thirds of the "Iron Forge and Refinery" to James Fletcher, and one-third to Paul Whitin. Mr. Whitin had married Mr. Fletcher's daughter, Betsy, in 1793.

They continued to manufacture "bar-iron" from scrap-iron until 1812 or 1813. Mr. Whitin did not work in "The Forge." He was a blacksmith, and had a shop on the north side of the river, at the opposite end of the dam from "The Forge." He at first did only the work of an ordinary blacksmith, but he soon determined to engage in the specialty of making hoes and scythes. Hiring a man who understood the art of tempering and other processes in the manufacture, he himself soon became expert in them, and in a few years his business became profitable. During the suspension of trade with England, caused by the embargo of 1807–09, a large demand arose for certain agricultural tools, which had been previously imported from England. One of these, in the manufacture of which Mr. Whitin was one of the first to engage, was the large hoe used by the negroes at the South. He had three forges, a trip-hammer and a grindstone operated by power. Mr. Whitin continued this business until his death, in 1831, in the sixty-fourth year of his age. Many years before his death he engaged in cotton manufacture. His second son (John C., born 1807) worked in the mill from his ninth year, when not in school, at first in the picker-room. When about twelve he was placed in the machine-room of the company, and for the next three years worked on repairs, thereby serving in some measure an apprenticeship to the business which he followed for life.

In the year 1826 Col. Paul Whitin formed a partnership with his two elder sons (Paul, Jr., and John C.), for the manufacture of cotton goods. They built the brick mill now standing on the site of "The Forge," on the south side of the river, having a capacity of fifteen hundred spindles. In this firm Mr. John C. Whitin had the superintendence of the mill and the repair of the machinery. He had early

been impressed with the imperfection of the machinery used, especially of that used in picking the cotton, and in 1830 he directed his efforts to its improvement. With two lathes, not worth more than fifteen dollars each, and with an occasional job done in a neighbor's shop, he, with his two assistants, completed the first picker in about a year. Having so far perfected the picker, he applied for a patent and secured it in 1832. Meanwhile the new firm, which had been formed on the death of Paul Whitin, Sr.,—consisting of Mrs. Paul Whitin, Sr., Paul Whitin, John C. Whitin and Charles P. Whitin,—had purchased the mill of "The Old Northbridge Manufacturing Co."

The picker Mr. John C. Whitin had made had attracted the attention of other manufacturers, and the firm determined to make them for sale, using as a shop the picker-house of the mill just purchased, a building thirty-two by forty feet. Machinery and tools were set up in it and put in operation. They were crude as compared with what are now used; yet with the improved devices of Mr. Whitin, pickers or lappers were produced so superior to those previously in use that from 1834, when the first machine was sold, the demand steadily increased. For many years most of the pickers in use throughout the country were made at these works.

Mr. Whitin was encouraged to build other machinery in the same line. The list has been increased from time to time, so as to include cards, card-grinders, doublers, railway heads, drawing-frames, ring-frames, spoolers, warpers, dressers, looms, &c.; indeed, all the machinery used in the cotton-mill, except roving machinery, mules and slashers, is now made here. To accommodate this rapidly-increasing business, the original shop, the "Picker-house," was enlarged and new buildings were erected. In 1847 "The New Shop" was built, three hundred and six by one hundred and two feet, two stories with basement, on the north side of the river.

This year Mr. James F. Whitin, the youngest son of Colonel Paul Whitin, was admitted to the firm. In 1860 Mr. John C. Whitin purchased the "Holyoke Machine Works" on his own account, which he retained until 1864, giving it much of his time for supervision. During his engagement in Holyoke, Mr. Chas. P. Whitin had the charge of the machine-shop.

In 1864 the firm of P. Whitin & Sons was dissolved and the business of the firm was divided. In this division Mr. John C. Whitin took the manufacturing of machinery, which had in thirty years grown from one picker a month from the old "Picker House," to the production of hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of a large variety of machinery, from the large shop of 1847 and its adjuncts. On coming into his separate proprietorship, Mr. John C. Whitin erected a new shop parallel with the shop of 1847, north of it, four hundred and seventy-five by seventy feet, three stories, with basement. The increasing business has compelled the erection of a large foundry, which has been twice enlarged; of a large blacksmith shop, and in 1883 of a large shop on the south side of the river, three hundred and eighty-six by eighty-six feet, three stories high, so that now there are in all nearly eleven acres of floor all connected, and devoted to the various departments of the manufacture. In place of two men helping Mr. Whitin, the force employed now is over eight hundred, and the improved machine tools render the work of each man equal to that of three men using the old-time tools.

Mr. Whitin secured patents on the Picker or Lapper in 1833; on the Union Card in 1862. These proved useful to manufacturers and brought considerable profit to the inventor. These inventions bore no comparison, however, in intrinsic value with the many improvements in tools and implements for the working of metals and the simplifying of existing methods. As long as he continued in active management of the shop he took the deepest interest in all improvement in tools. The last to which he gave special attention was the machine for drilling spinning-frame rails, which has proved such a success. It was with him a principle not to seek the protection and profit of a patent for any tool he was to use himself. He felt that the gain in his own work was all the profit he should desire.

In 1870 the business, which had been during the six previous years in the sole proprietorship of Mr. John C. Whitin, was organized into a joint stock corporation, under the name of "The Whitin Machine Works,"—John C. Whitin, President; Josiah Lasell, Treasurer; and Gustavus E. Taft, Superintendent. Mr. Lasell was son-in-law to Mr. Whitin and had been in his employ since 1860.

In 1881 Mr. Taft became agent and Mr. Harvey Ellis superintendent.

On Mr. Whitin's death, April 22, 1882, Mr. Lasell became president and treasurer. January 1, 1886, his son-in-law, G. Marston Whitin, became treasurer. On the death of Mr. Lasell, March 15, 1886, his oldest son, Chester W. Lasell, was made president. On the death of Mr. Taft, June 24, 1888, his oldest son, Cyrus A. Taft, was made agent. During all these changes in officers of the corporation the business has gone on with continued success.

Thus for one hundred and sixty-one years has the manufacture of iron been maintained in this place, first as the manufacture of iron from the ore, then as the manufacture of bar-iron from pig-metal and scrap-iron, then as the manufacture of hoes and scythes, and now for nearly sixty years in the manufacture of cotton machinery, beginning with a single machine and now including almost every kind of cotton machinery. For more than one hundred and sixteen years one family has been in ownership and charge of the works. For nearly one hundred years Mr. Paul Whitin, Sr., and his sons have operated

them, and to their mechanical skill, business capacity and industry and energy has this great development been due.

THE WHITINSVILLE SPINNING RING CO.—In 1872, Charles E. Trowbridge, master mechanic of the Whitinsville Cotton-Mill, and Arthur F. Whitin, who was then employed in the repair shop, perfected and patented special tools for making rings for spinning and twisting. They began the manufacture of rings in 1873, under the firm-name of the "Whitinsville Spinning Ring Co." By their improved methods and tools superior work is secured, and a great saving of labor is effected. One man can produce a perfect ring in two operations, after the forging, while with the old methods the ring passed through several hands, and numerous operations, and the ring would not be of such uniform excellence of finish.

The company began the manufacture of rings for the cotton-mills of Whitinsville and vicinity, but the fame of their superiority quickly spread and arrangements had to be made for increased production. The rings have been sent all over the country, and many have been exported. The business has increased six-fold since 1878, but its growth has been a natural one; no traveling agents have been employed. Arthur F. Whitin is treasurer, Chas. E. Trowbridge is agent, and George E. Trowbridge is superintendent.

Mr. Trowbridge has secured a number of patents on rings and ring-holders, and has recently patented a new process of producing a metallic ring, which effects a great saving of travelers, on new rings, and a much better yarn is produced by the consequent saving of breakage. The company began the manufacture of the double adjustable ring in 1886, and now produces all varieties of rings known to the trade. The work began in the repair-shop of the mill. In 1884, needing more room, it was moved to the "old cotton-mill" building of 1826, on the south side of the stream, and occupied the basement and the first story. In 1887 an enlargement of twenty by sixty-five feet was made, and a new building erected, with a furnace chimney, for hardening and annealing. Twenty-five men are employed.

While the manufacturers in iron at what is now Whitinsville are the oldest in the town and have been the most successful, they have not been the only ones.

At Northbridge Centre a foundry was in operation as early as 1790, situated opposite the Dr. Robinson place, on the west side of the road, some thirty rods south of the present meeting-house. Hollow-ware and sad-irons were cast here. The business was carried on by a man named Lothrop.

The same premises were afterwards occupied by Frebun White for the manufacture of axes, employing two hands besides himself. The axes were carried to Providence and sold to the South. This was from 1812 to 1820. Capt. Amos White made "custom axes" in a shop near his home; "afterwards he manufactured to a considerable extent for the trade boot and shoe edge tools, hammers, &c., &c., until his death, in 1853, a part of the time, in company with Dr. Starkweather, doing the work at Riverdale, on the east side of the river. But that business failing, he removed to his home shop and manufactured for a time alone and then with his son Luke, and last with his son-in-law, Orison W. Brigham.

The stone part of the present cotton-mill at Riverdale was built 1852 by Sylvanus Holbrook for Harvey Waters for the manufacture of scythes by machinery which he had invented. These were the first scythes made by machinery in the world. Mr. Waters also made bayonets by machinery during the war of 1861–65. He continued the business here until 1865.

COTTON MANUFACTURES.—In 1808 "the cotton factory fever" struck this town, and in 1809 Col. Paul Whitin erected a cotton-mill at the upper dam, which was about three hundred feet east of the present dam of the Whitin Machine Works. Col. James Fletcher contributed the water privilege as his share in the enterprise. After the mill was erected Mr. Whitin organized a company, of which he was the principal stock-holder, for the manufacture of cotton goods, styled "The Northbridge Cotton Manufacturing Company." The act of incorporation is later, being dated June 9, 1814. This was the third cotton-mill erected in the Blackstone Valley above Pawtucket, the mill of Almy Brown and the Slaters at Slatersville and the original mill of the present Blackstone Co., at Blackstone (then South Mendon), preceding it by two years. The manufacturing consisted in breaking, carding and spinning. The raw material, having some seeds and much dirt mixed with it, was put out to families to have the seed and dirt removed. The "pickers" had not yet been introduced. Some families took a bale, some half a bale, and others less. For this work four to six cents a pound was paid. The yarn was also put out to families to be woven by hand, the weaver receiving eight cents per yard for weaving No. 16 yarn, which was the grade made at that time. The weaving was done in this manner for six or eight years, after which power looms were introduced. The original Northbridge Mill was of wood and had a capacity of fifteen hundred spindles. Paul Whitin, Jr., then ten years of age, commenced work in this factory on the day of its starting, tending a breaking machine. The mill was operated several years with small returns. It was rented for two years to Gladding & Cady. It was sold in 1824 to William & Thomas Buffom. It was bought in 1829 by Samuel Shove, who operated it until 1831.

In 1815 Col. Whitin, not content with what he was doing in the Northbridge Cotton Manufacturing Company, entered into partnership with Col. James Fletcher, his father-in-law, and Mr. Fletcher's two sons, under the firm-name of Whitin & Fletcher,

and they fitted up the "Old Forge" building, on the south side of the river, for a cotton-mill of three hundred spindle capacity for the manufacture of yarns. This mill was operated until 1826, when Mr. Whitin, who had owned an interest of one-half, now purchased the other half of the Fletchers, and formed a new partnership with his own sons, Paul, Jr., and John C., under the name of P. Whitin & Sons, for the manufacture of cotton goods. Paul Whitin, Jr., was at this time twenty-six years of age. His previous training, save what he had as a boy working in the mill, had been mercantile, and in the business of the new firm he took charge of the mercantile and financial department.

John C., then nineteen years old, had had his training in the mill and in the machine-room of the Northbridge Cotton Company, and was thus prepared for his part in the new firm, the management of the mechanical and manufacturing department. Mr. Paul Whitin, Sr., only invested capital and had no personal care or responsibility in the management of the business. The company erected a new mill of 1,500 spindles on the site of the "Old Forge" mill. This mill was of brick, thirty-two by sixty feet, two stories, with attic room and basement, and was used for its original purpose until 1845.

Soon after the erection of this mill, cotton manufacture was begun in another part of the town and continued for some years. In 1830, Sylvanus Holbrook built a mill on the east side of the river at what is now Riverdale, and fitted it with cotton machinery and began to make sheetings. The next year he built at the "upper village," now Rockdale, "The Cotton Mill" north of the old woolen-mill, and began the manufacture of sheetings and drillings. In 1836 one-third of the looms were put upon print cloths. In 1837, having discontinued the manufacture of satinets, Mr. Holbrook put cotton machinery into the woolen-mill and he made Kentucky jeans until the mill was burned, in 1839 or '40. He rebuilt the mill and filled it with cotton machinery and manufactured cotton goods.

In 1846, the north or "Cotton Mill" was burned. Mr. Holbrook repaired the walls and floors, but never provided it with machinery. In 1851 fire destroyed all the factory buildings but this and a large number of dwellings. This closed all manufacturing in this village until the property was bought by the Messrs. Whitin in 1856. We now return to Whitinsville.

In 1831, Colonel Paul Whitin having died, the firm was re-organized, Mrs. Paul Whitin, Sr., and her sons, Paul, John C. and Charles P. being the partners. Charles P. Whitin had attained his majority the previous year. He had been employed in the office of the old firm. In the new firm Mr. Paul Whitin retained the financial and mercantile departments, Mr. Charles P. Whitin took charge of the cotton manufacturing and Mr. John C. Whitin took charge of the new department, the manufacture of cotton machinery. The old Northbridge Cotton Manufacturing Company's mill was bought and put in operation, and continued in operation until 1861. In 1845 the stone mill was built, with a capacity of seven thousand five hundred spindles.

In 1847 James F. Whitin, the youngest son of Colonel Paul Whitin, was admitted to the firm. He had, for many years, had charge of the books of the concern. In 1849 the firm bought up the capital stock of the Uxbridge Cotton Mill of ten thousand spindle capacity at North Uxbridge. They operated it until the firm was dissolved in 1864. In 1856, having purchased the property in Rockdale, they built the Rockdale Cotton Mill, with a capacity of ten thousand spindles. About 1857, they bought the stone cotton-mill, in East Douglass, of about eight thousand spindle capacity, and operated it until the war.

In 1864, the firm of P. Whitin & Sons, manufacturers of cotton goods and of cotton machinery, was dissolved and the business was divided. The cotton manufacturing, which had increased from one thousand five hundred spindles to thirty thousand, was retained by Mr. Paul Whitin taking the mill in Rockdale and the property at Riverdale, which P. Whitin & Sons had purchased some years before; by Mr. Charles P. Whitin taking the mill in Whitinsville, and Mr. James F. Whitin taking the mill in North Uxbridge. Mr. John C. Whitin took the manufacturing of cotton machinery.

At this time THE PAUL WHITIN MANUFACTURING CO. was formed, with Mr. Paul Whitin as president, and his son, Charles E. Whitin, as treasurer and agent. To the Rockdale Mill this company soon added the mill at Riverdale, putting a brick addition to the stone building which had been occupied by Mr. Harvey Waters for the manufacture of scythes and bayonets, and filling it with cotton machinery, making it a mill of seven thousand spindles in capacity. The company still operates both mills, making sheetings.

In 1884, on the death of Mr. Paul Whitin, Mr. Charles E. Whitin became president, and remains such, and Mr. Harry T. Whitin, his eldest son, became agent.

Mr. Charles P. Whitin enlarged the stone mill at Whitinsville in 1865, making its capacity thirteen thousand six hundred spindles. In 1866 he united his two elder sons, Edward and William H., with him in the business under the name of "The Whitinsville Cotton Mill." The same year he, with his brother, James F. Whitin, built "The Linwood Mill," of fifteen thousand spindle capacity, under the name of "The Whitin Brothers." Since the death of Mr. Charles P. Whitin, the business has been carried on by the sons under the same firm-name, the youngest son, Mr. Arthur F. Whitin, having been added to the firm in 1881.

Thus has this manufacturing interest grown from fifteen hundred spindles in 1810 to nearly fifty thou-

sand spindles, employing nearly eight hundred hands.

WOOLEN MANUFACTURERS.—We have seen that the privilege at what is now Riverdale was first improved by Jas. Nutting before 1764. In July of that year he sold the property to Hezekiah Hall, of Uxbridge. He sold it the same year, October 4th, to Edward Hall, of Uxbridge. We are unable to trace all the changes, but in March, 1780, Ezra Wood sold the land, "together with a grist mill, and saw mill and mill dam, and all the other buildings on the same," to Henry Dunn. The property descended by will to his sons David and Henry. About 1817, they built the "cloth mill," and began the woolen manufactures of the town. They took wool from the farmers and carded it. Then the farmers spun and wove it and carried it back to the mill, where it was pulled, colored and sheared.

The Dunn brothers fitted up a mill which Sylvanus Holbrook hired, but soon left it, having purchased the property at the upper village, now Rockdale. Osmus Taft now hired their mill and operated it in 1822 and '23. Then the Messrs. Dunn took the mill and manufactured satinets. But they becoming embarrassed, Deacon Solomon Nelson, a relative, and a Mr. Benson, from Enfield, Conn., took the business and carried it on. Not being successful, the business came into the hands of Sylvanus Holbrook about 1829, probably by failure to redeem the property from mortgage given to him in 1826. Mr. Holbrook rented the old mill to the younger Dunn for the manufacture of woolen hat bodies.

All these buildings were on the east side of the river. January 16, 1776, John Eddy, from Smithfield, Rhode Island, bought the property at the "upper village," now Rockdale, of Thomas Emerson. Some time before 1814 a dam was built, and a saw and grist-mill erected. May 30, 1814, Mr. Eddy and his son Jesse sold the dam and buildings, and six-tenths of three acres and eighty-two rods of land, one-tenth each to certain grantees: Antipas Earle, Silas Earle and Timothy Earle, of Leicester, Levi Lincoln and Daniel Waldo, of Worcester, and Amasa Roberts, of Northbridge. The other four-tenths were to lie in common with the six-tenths—that is, two-tenths to Jesse Eddy and two-tenths to William Hendricks, all for the formation of a copartnership for the manufacturing of "woolen and cotton goods, or any other business mutually agreed upon." June 14th, the same year, these gentlemen became incorporated as the "Northbridge Cloth Company," and as individuals, conveyed the property to this new company, January 25, 1815, and the company began the manufacture of satinets, and continued it until 1819. March 2d, of this year, the company sold its property at auction. It was purchased by Esek Pitts, of Mendon, gentleman; Samuel Pitts, of Mendon, clothier; John Farnam of Grafton, clothier, and Jesse Eddy, of Northbridge, yeoman, who continued the business. December 17, 1821, John Farnam and Samuel Willis, having become owners of the fourth part bought by Mr. Pitts, deeded to Sylvanus Holbrook, a brother-in-law of Mr. Farnam, three-fourths of the property, Mr. Holbrook to take possession April 1, 1822. October 11, 1822, Jesse Eddy sold his fourth part to Mr. Holbrook, and he now became sole owner. The mill, which had before been called "Eddy's Mill," was now called "Holbrook's." Mr. Holbrook enlarged the old mill, and continued to manufacture satinets. The weaving was all done by hand until 1823, when power-looms were introduced. Broadcloth was also made by Mr. Holbrook, woven by hand on four looms, each two yards wide. Of this article it is said, "it was made of the very best stock, and was really fine and nice." The manufacture of broadcloth was discontinued about 1831. The woolen-mill was a three-set mill. The manufacture of satinets was continued until 1837, after which no woolen goods were manufactured in the town. The textile manufactures of the town were to be of cotton alone.

MANUFACTURES OF LEATHER.—Among the primitive industries of the town was that of the shoemaker. He was soon followed by the tanner and currier, to prepare the material for his art.

Benjamin Basset, John Adams, Benjamin Farrar, Simeon Bassett, Alfred Huse and Daniel Adams were long remembered as of the traveling fraternity of shoemakers, who carried their "kit" from house to house and shod the families for the season. But they were not to continue travelers, nor were they to be content to supply the home demand. As early as 1810 Cheney Taft began the manufacture of the first "sale" work in the town. He made what were called "nigger shoes," in the summer, and went South to sell them in the winter. Others soon followed, and rooms were fitted up in the houses and little shops were built near the homes for the new manufacture. Between 1810 and 1820 eleven individuals were engaged in the business; between 1820 and 1830, twelve (some of these worked alone, others employed one or more hands); between 1830 and 1840, sixteen individuals and four firms; between 1840 and 1850, thirteen individuals and two firms; between 1850 and 1860, six individuals and two firms; between 1860 and 1870, two firms; between 1870 to December, 1877, three firms. But while the individuals carrying on the business diminished, the number of persons engaged in the work did not diminish—the individuals were employed by the firms. The largest number of persons employed was when but one firm was conducting the business, and employing sixty-six hands in the shop and ninety-four outside. Usually more men were working at their homes and in shops near them than at the large shop or factory, taking the cut work and returning the finished product.

Among the principal firms were those of J. & Z. Bachelor, Fuller, Bachelor & Co., Joel Bachelor, Jr., John M. Slocomb, A. & M. L. Taft, Bachelor &

Paul Whitin

Adams, A. Taft & Son, Bachelor & Allard, Allard & Adams, Newell, Daniels & Co., A. & A. B. Keith & Co. This last firm built the large four-story factory near the summit of the hill (still standing) in 1867, and introduced all the improvements in machinery. This firm, being changed to A. B. Keith & Co., continued business until May of 1873. In July of the same year James Tucker & Co. took the factory and continued the business until December, 1877. Of the "factory" Deacon Joel Bachelor, who began the business in 1827 and had continued it for forty years, alone and associated with others, took the charge from the first, and continued in charge as long as it was in operation. Since 1877, the factory has been closed. But few are now working at the business, being employed by firms in other towns. Many have moved away, and many have sought other employments. Thus this industry, which employed so many, in shops and at their homes, for so many years, has almost entirely ceased. The volume of this business was considerable. In 1837 600 pairs of boots and 53,500 pairs of shoes were made, valued at $50,000, and ninety-five persons were engaged in the business.

In 1871, while only one hundred and sixty persons were employed by the one factory, yet by the aid of machinery 17,280 pairs of shoes and 95,520 pairs of boots, valued at $338,480, were made, being more than six times the product of 1837, with less than twice the number of workmen—each one, thanks to machinery, accomplishing more than three times as much as the workman of 1837, and in *one* month all the workmen averaged $51.50 for the month's wages. This business was largely done at the Centre, and that part of the town has suffered severely from its extinction.

This large development of the shoe business naturally encouraged the business of tanning and currying, and quite a number, as Joseph Congdon, Charles & Derby Bigelow, Robinson & Rice, Jere Robinson, Edward Proctor and Moses Walradt pursued the business with success, some as late as 1868. After this time only leather prepared elsewhere was used.

THE GRANITE INDUSTRY.—From the first, granite for home use has been quarried in the town, and as mills and store-houses have been built of stone, the business has been quite large. Mr. Hasen O. Bean was the first to export granite, using the Blackstone Canal in the years 1827 and 1828.

Mr. John Donegan began operations at what has since been known as Plummer's Quarry, in 1854, employing some twenty men, and continued work for two years. At this time Mr. Israel Plummer began to operate the quarry, and continued the business for many years under the name of the "Plummer Granite Company," employing as many as seventy-five men during the season. In 1872 Mr. Henry S. Taft took the business and continued it until 1884, employing about the same number of men, shipping each year some five hundred car-loads of granite of ten tons each, one-fourth of it dressed. Since January, 1884, this quarry has not been worked.

In 1865 Mr. George Blanchard began operations at a quarry one-half mile southwest of Whitinsville, and has continued them to this date, employing from fifteen to forty-five men.

In 1870 Samuel Fowler & Son began operation on the east side of the Blackstone, about one-half mile below Rockdale, at a ledge which had early in the history of the town received the name of "Shining Rocks." The business is still continued by the son, Mr. Samuel Fowler, who employs from fifty to seventy-five men.

In the manufactures of iron, cotton and in work on granite nearly eighteen hundred of the people of the town are employed

The great amount of business done in the town made a bank of discount and a bank for the savings of the workmen very desirable, and

THE WHITINSVILLE NATIONAL BANK was established in 1865, as a bank of deposit and discount, with one hundred thousand dollars capital, with Mr. Paul Whitin president and Mr. H. A. Goodell cashier. Mr. Whitin continued president until his death, in 1884. He was succeeeded by Mr. Charles P. Whitin, who held the office until his death, in 1887, when Mr. James F. Whitin was made president, and still holds the office.

THE WHITINSVILLE SAVINGS BANK was established in 1874, with Mr. John C. Whitin president and Mr. H. A. Goodell treasurer. On Mr. Whitin's death, in 1883, Mr. Charles P. Whitin became president; at his death Mr. James F. Whitin was chosen to the office, which he still fills. November 1, 1888, there were 1238 depositors in this bank, and the total of their deposits was $389,895.77. It is probable that nearly, if not quite, as large deposits are held by citizens of the town in saving banks in other towns.

The growth of the town in population is as follows: 1776, 481; 1790, 569; 1800, 544; 1810, 713; 1820, 905; 1830, 1053; 1840, 1449; 1850, 2230; 1860, 2633; 1865, 2642; 1870, 3774; 1875, 4030; 1880, 4053; 1885, 3786.

CHAPTER LXVIII.

NORTHBRIDGE—(*Continued.*)

INDIVIDUALS.

THE briefest sketch of a town's history should include some notice of the men who have especially contributed to its development. Of these a few will now be noticed.

COLONEL PAUL WHITIN, or *Whiting*, as the name was originally, who laid the more recent foundations of the business which now exists in the village that received his name, "was born in Roxbury, in that

part of the town near Dedham, December 3, 1767. He was the son of Sarah and Nathaniel (Draper) Whiting. His father died when he was a child. His mother was married in 1770 to James Prentice," who lived at what is now known as "Prentice's Corner," in this town. When quite young he was apprenticed to Jesse White, of this town, to learn the blacksmith's trade. His advantages for education were exceedingly limited; his whole attendance at school did not probably exceed six months. Few men have ever entered upon business life with less encouraging prospects. When he closed his apprenticeship his health was poor and continued so for some years. He had no pecuniary means of his own and no relations to whom he could look for aid. But he had what was better—an honest purpose to do according to his ability. He struggled with and overcame difficulties to which most would have yielded. By perseverance and a diligent improvement of those intervals of labor that many young men spend in idleness, he acquired a good knowledge of those branches of study necessary for the successful prosecution of business. He was eminently a self-educated man. A book for aiding him in acquiring a correct use of language was always by him. He was as familiar with this as with the tools of his shop. When he was twenty-eight years of age he was chosen town clerk, and he was chosen to this office thirteen successive years. He was often elected to other town offices. He was regarded as an excellent military officer. He was for several years justice of the peace. He was repeatedly urged to allow himself to be chosen as Representative to the Legislature, but this he invariably refused on the ground that it would require a sacrifice in his business, that he could not then afford to make. To show his habits of industry, it may be proper to mention that it was his custom to redeem, by extra labor, all the time that he spent in military duties or public business.

Colonel Whitin was a lover of good order in society, and could never endure those practices that were an infringement upon it, or that were calculated to present a dangerous example to the young. He attached great importance to the institutions of the Gospel, and was prompt to aid in maintaining them. The Sabbath he regarded as a holy day, and any violations of it he hesitated not to class with other gross immoralities. Though he never made a public profession of religion, he was regarded by those best acquainted with his religious feelings as a true Christian. He died on the 8th of February, 1831, in the sixty-fourth year of his age.

Mr. Whitin married Betsey Fletcher, the daughter of Colonel James Fletcher, of this place, December 3, 1793. She was, during Colonel Whitin's life, a most efficient helper in the work he did for the community and the world. She survived him thirty-seven years, and was, until near the time of her death, a member of the firm of P. Whitin & Sons, and contributed her share to its success. They had ten children, of whom eight lived to years of maturity.

Paul Whitin, Jr., the second son of Colonel Paul and Betsey (Fletcher) Whitin, was born February 5, 1800. His childhood and youth were most of them spent here. He attended the district school for the few months of the year it was kept. When about twelve he spent some time with an uncle in Amsterdam, N. Y., and attended school. He also had two terms at Leicester Academy. From his tenth year when not in school he worked in the cotton-mill and on the farm. At the age of eighteen he went to Boston in the dry-goods store of James Brewer. At twenty-one he formed a partnership with a fellow-clerk, and opened a dry-goods store on Maiden Lane, in New York, under the name of Lee & Whitin. In 1826 he returned home, and, with his father and younger brother, John C. Whitin, formed the firm of P. Whitin & Sons. He took charge of the mercantile department, having the charge of the store, of buying the supplies of the mill and selling the product. For this his training had fitted him. He retained the same department in the firm as reorganized after the death of Paul Whitin, Sr., in 1831, until its dissolution in 1864, a period of thirty-eight years. He conducted it with ability and thoroughness, and thus contributed an important element to the success of the business of the firm. After the firm was dissolved he continued in the manufacture of cotton goods, being president of the Paul Whitin Manufacturing Company, with mills at Rockdale and Riverdale, until his death. Though never robust of body, his regular habits and his attention to the laws of health enabled him to accomplish a large amount of business and to preserve life to a good old age in the full possession of his faculties. He always took a deep interest in town and public affairs; was early called to town offices. He was elected to the Legislature in 1837, and to the Senate in 1849. His perfect integrity and his sound judgment won the confidence of all men, and he was sought for many places of trust, which he filled till very late in life. He was chosen director of the Blackstone Bank at Uxbridge October 6, 1828, and remained a director until he was chosen president October 6, 1845, which office he filled until 1865, when he resigned to become president of the National Bank in Whitinsville. This last office he retained until his death in 1884, thus completing fifty-six years of important connection with these banks. He was a director of the Worcester Mutual Fire Insurance Company from 1838, and attended a meeting only the day before his death; also a director of the Worcester Manufacturers' Mutual from 1860. He was a director in the Providence and Worcester Railroad from its organization until two years before his death, when he resigned his position. He was for many years an active member and trustee of the Worcester County Agricultural and Horticultural

John C. Whitin

Chas. D. Whitin

Societies. He always took a deep interest in all branches of agriculture and especially in horticulture, and did much to advance them in the vicinity. Though called to so many trusts, he neglected none. His fidelity to them was as great as to his own personal concerns. He united with the Congregational Church at the Centre in 1820. He was very active in the formation of the Village Church in Whitinsville, and was always true to his covenant of love to and interest in it, and ever faithful in attendance upon and support of its ordinances. He was a just man who feared God, a man of decided religious convictions and of deep feeling, though of few words as to his personal experiences. By his life and deeds he was ever a power for good in the community. Retiring in usual health on the eve of February 7, 1884, he fell asleep to wake in eternal life.

Mr. Whitin married Sarah R. Chapin, of Uxbridge, August 21, 1822. She was ever a most efficient helper to him in all good. Four children survived him,—Hon. Charles E. Whitin, who continues the business; Mr. Henry Whitin, for many years a commission merchant in New York; Mrs. Sarah Orvis, of Manchester, Vt.; and Miss Anna L. Whitin, at home.

JOHN CRANE WHITIN, the fourth son of Colonel Paul and Betsey (Fletcher) Whitin, was born March 1, 1807. Until he was fifteen years of age he attended the school of the district during the usual summer and winter terms. The rest of each year, after he was nine years old, he was employed in the cotton-mill, working at first in the picker-room. When twelve he was placed in the repair-room, and worked here three years, the only apprenticeship to his life-work. Early in 1822 he went to New York, to be in the dry goods store of his elder brother Paul, Jr., and remained there until the latter part of 1825, when he returned home to form with his father and his brother Paul, Jr., the firm of P. Whitin & Sons, for the manufacture of cotton goods. He took charge of the manufacturing and mechanical departments of the business. He was soon diverted to the manufacture of cotton machinery, to which he devoted himself exclusively, making it his life's work. What he did in this has been spoken of sufficiently in the chapter on "Manufactures."

He was endowed with great energy, was full of enterprise, and yet sufficiently conservative for safety. He had capacity for very hard work; he had, to an eminent degree, common sense in mechanics; he was quick to see what would work in a machine, and could construct it entirely in his mind before he made a pattern. This saved him from the failures so many mechanics have when they come to put their ideas into wood and iron. He never made a pattern which was not used enough to pay for it—a fact which is true of very few men who made thousands, as he did. He was called to various offices of trust—men learned to look on him as one in whom they could confide implicitly. At the time of his death he was a director of the National Bank, Whitinsville, president of the Whitinsville Savings Bank, and director of the Providence and Worcester Railroad. He had been Representative to the General Court, and was Presidential elector in 1876.

Mr. Whitin became a decided Christian in early manhood, and united with the church at Northbridge Centre December 4, 1831. He was one of the original members of the church in Whitinsville, and was chosen one of its deacons in the beginning, in 1834, and retained the office until his death, though for some years relieved from active service. He was superintendent of the Sabbath-school for twenty-five years. He was always in his place of service, and always ready to do his part in maintaining the ordinances of religion. He had a deep and intelligent interest in the varied benevolent causes of the day, which led to steady and large contributions to advance them. He was reticent as to his own feelings, but clear and decided in his views, and always ready to act up to his convictions. His religious vows were as sacred as his business promises.

Mr. Whitin married, May 30, 1831, Miss Catharine H. Leland, of Sutton, by whom he had several children, one of whom, a daughter, the wife of Josiah Lasell, survived him. Mrs. Catharine Whitin died January 31, 1873. She was a woman of remarkable grace and beauty of character. Mr. Whitin married, January 20, 1875, Miss Sarah Elizabeth Pratt, of Hopkinton, who survives him. Their only child, John C., died in infancy.

For years Mr. Whitin had contended with a rheumatic affection which had rendered him liable to sudden death, but, conscious of his readiness for that event, he ever kept busied as his strength allowed in the care of his estate and in works of benefaction. After a brief confinement to the house, the messenger came at midnight, April 22, 1882, without an instant's warning, but did not find him unprepared, for he had lived in the fear and the service of the King who called him.

CHARLES PINCKNEY WHITIN, the fifth son of Colonel Paul and Betsey (Fletcher) Whitin, was born August 6, 1809. His education was obtained in the schools of the town and in the academy at Leicester. It was such that at the age of sixteen he taught school acceptably in the stone school-house near Plummer's Corner. He early worked in the cotton-mill in which his father was interested, and here learned the rudiments of the art of cotton manufacture, in which he afterwards became so proficient. He continued with his father and brothers until his twenty-first year, when he went to Willimantic to fit up and take charge of a cotton-mill. Having been called home by his father's last sickness, he ever after remained in his native town, and became identified with and most active in its growth and prosperity. The same year, 1831, he became an active member of the firm of P.

Whitin & Sons, which had been formed in 1826, and in which he had had an interest from the first, and which was reorganized on the death of Colonel Paul Whitin. He had charge of the cotton manufacturing department, and in this he became an expert and an authority. He superintended the erection of the stone mill in Whitinsville in 1845, the enlargement of the North Uxbridge mill in 1847 and 1848, and the erection of the mill at Rockdale in 1856 and 1857. He had great interest in the improvement of the water-power of the Mumford River, devising and building the reservoirs and dams, which have increased its steadiness and reliability so much.

Whenever his brother, John C. Whitin, who had charge of the machine shop, was absent, the care and responsibility of this devolved upon him, and he had the practical charge of the shop from April, 1860, to January, 1864, while his brother was engaged at Holyoke. When the firm of P. Whitin & Sons was dissolved, January 1, 1864, Mr. Whitin took the cotton-mills in Whitinsville and East Douglas, and carried on the business of cotton manufacture in his own name, having associated his sons with him. In 1865 he built the mill at Linwood, with his brother, James F. Whitin, and in 1881 he purchased the mill in Saundersville.

In all his business life he was eminently a practical man, quick to discern what should be done and prompt to do it. He was thorough and faithful, so that all he did was well done. He was untiring in industry, and though not physically rugged, especially in his younger years, he had great power of endurance. He was also a man of most excellent judgment. In his special department of cotton manufacture, it may be doubted if he had a superior, and his judgment was often sought by others. He was observant and careful of all details, conservative of what had done well in the past, yet quick to see a real improvement and ready to adopt it. He was safely progressive as well as careful, and therefore successful in business.

He was reared in a Christian home, and early yielded to religious influences, and united with the church at Northbridge Centre on his eleventh birthday, August 6, 1820, and for sixty-five years he honored his profession by a consistent Christian youth and manhood. He was identified with the church in Whitinsville from the first, in 1834, and ever gladly did much for its prosperity by personal effort and generous contribution. He was deeply and intelligently interested in the great missionary and benevolent agencies of our day, and was always a steady and liberal contributor to them.

He was thoughtful of the needs and interests of others, and ever ready to minister to their comfort and pleasure in many ways, often doing it in ways unknown to the recipients of his bounty. He loved to be an unknown and unthanked benefactor. He was especially fond of children, and always had a kind word for them, and many of them received the fruits of his interest, not knowing whence they came.

He united to a remarkable degree strength and tenderness, firmness and gentleness, vigor and delicacy. He was widely loved as well as respected. As a citizen he was ever studious of the best interests of the town and the State, and was ever ready to do his part to promote them. But he was never desirous of office, rather shunning publicity of service. He was selectman in 1852, and Representative of the district in 1859. At the time of his decease he was director of the Douglas Axe Company, and president of the Whitinsville National and Savings Bank. His great work was done in this home community, and it was well done. He was confined to the house but a few days, and fell asleep without pain to wake in life, August 29, 1887. A true man and a devout Christian.

Mr. Whitin married Miss Sarah J. Halliday October 21, 1834, who survived him with four sons, three of whom, Edward, William H. and Arthur F., were associated with him in business, and who still continue it. His son Lewis F. is in the commission business in New York. The only daughter, Helen L., married George L. Gibbs, of this place. She died on May 9, 1885.

James Fletcher Whitin, the youngest son of Colonel Paul and Betsey (Fletcher) Whitin, was born December 21, 1814.

His education was received in the schools of the town, and in the academies of Uxbridge, Leicester, Munsen and Amherst. On the completion of his schooling he went into the counting-room of the firm of P. Whitin & Sons. Soon the care of this department came to him, and he retained it until the firm was dissolved, January 1, 1864. In 1847 he became a member of the firm. When the firm was dissolved he took the cotton-mill at North Uxbridge. In 1866 he built, with his brother, Mr. Charles P. Whitin, the mill at Linwood, and has continued in the business of cotton manufacture until the present time.

He married, July 23, 1842, Miss Patience H. Saunders, of Grafton. A son, George M. Whitin, who was for several years the superintendent of the cotton-mill at North Uxbridge, died suddenly January 24, 1883. A son, Albert H., is the only child now living.

Paul Whitin Dudley, the son of Amasa and Ann (Fletcher) Dudley, was born April 3, 1817, in Amsterdam, N. Y. His parents had removed there some years before from Whitinsville, but soon after his birth returned to their old home. Mr. Dudley's childhood was spent in Whitinsville, in Sutton (Manchaug) and in Uxbridge. In these places, at the common schools and the academy at Uxbridge, he obtained his education. He went into his father's store in Uxbridge and learned the business of his life, that of a merchant. He continued with his father, and in the settlement of his business when he became unable to care for it himself, until he was twenty-nine, when he

James A. Mitin

P W Dudley

J. Lasell

came to Whitinsville and took charge of the store of P. Whitin & Sons. He retained this charge until the firm was dissolved in 1864, when he formed a partnership with Mr. Charles P. Whitin, to continue the same business under the firm-name of P. W. Dudley & Co. Mr. Dudley had the active management of the business until his death, July 1, 1872.

Mr. Dudley was a thorough business man, exact and methodical. He was untiring in industry. His perfect integrity and his ability inspired such confidence that he was often called to positions of trust in the town and in the church. He was chairman of the Board of Selectmen in the trying years of 1862, '63, '64 and '65, declining a re-election the next year. He was from the first a director of the National Bank. Individuals often called on him for help in their affairs, and he was most ready to assist. Though the calls outside of his business were so many, nothing was neglected, and his industry and method were such that nothing was half done.

He was a benevolent man. Hating waste, he used his means most generously and conscientiously for every good cause and for individual need. Not content with giving of his means, he gave personal service freely. Many can witness of these deeds of personal service, especially during and after the war, for soldiers and their families. Many of these deeds were known only to himself and those helped, and often not to them. No good cause or deserving person ever appealed to him in vain. He was deeply interested in everything that made for the public welfare, local and national. He was especially active and earnest in the temperance cause. At the time of his death he was president of the Worcester South Temperance Union and a member of the State Temperance Alliance. To this cause he gave freely of time and money.

He was a very conscientious man and never hesitated to obey the voice of duty, though it might be a most unpleasant task, and he did the most trying of duties in such an honest and gentle way as to command the respect of those whom he might have to rebuke or antagonize. All knew and felt that there was not a trace of malice or harshness in the man.

He was a true and faithful Christian. He identified himself with the Village Congregational Church when he came to Whitinsville in 1846, and was always at his post, and ever ready to do his full share and to make up, as far as possible, the lack of service by others. He was chosen deacon January 11, 1866, and continued in the office until his death. He was also superintendent of the Sabbath school for several years. In this office he gave due expression to his love for and great interest in children. Kind words and deeds for them were constant.

October 19, 1842, Mr. Dudley married Miss Sarah A. Tobey, of Worcester. She, with four children—three sons and a daughter—survives him. He was preparing to attend the Sabbath evening service when he was stricken by paralysis. He remained unconscious until his death, the next morning. Though cut down in mid-life, he was not called until he had done a good work for the community, for his family and for his Master.

Josiah Lasell, the son of Chester and Nancy (Manning) Lasell, was born in Schoharie, N. Y., August 6, 1825. His parents were of Pilgrim extraction, and held and practiced the faith of their fathers in its finest and sturdiest qualities. Here and amid such home influences Mr. Lasell spent his childhood. He fitted for college in his native place, and entered Williams College, where his brother Edward was professor of chemistry, in 1840. He studied law for a time at Schoharie; but his instincts and tastes for teaching drew him from the law as a profession. Yet, without doubt, those months spent in this study helped to prepare him for his business career, which was to be his larger life-work. He first taught in the boys' school of Professor Piquet in Brooklyn, N. Y.; then for several years in Spingler Institute, New York City, of which Jacob Abbott was the principal. In 1852 he and his brother-in-law, Professor G. W. Briggs, joined his brother, Professor Edward Lasell, of Williams College, who had projected and secured the incorporation of Lasell Seminary in Auburndale, in this State, in the enterprise of establishing a seminary of high grade for young ladies. A few months after they began the work Professor Lasell, the founder, died, and Mr. Josiah Lasell became joint principal with Professor Briggs, and continued in this work until 1860. June 5, 1855, he married Jane, the only daughter of Mr. John C. Whitin, of Whitinsville.

In 1860 Mr. Whitin called him to his assistance in the conduct of the machine works he had just purchased at Holyoke, in this State. He remained in Holyoke until January, 1864, when Mr. Whitin, having sold the works, and having become sole proprietor of the Whitin Machine Works, Mr. Lasell came to Whitinsville to have the care of the books and accounts of the concern, and to render Mr. Whitin such assistance as he might need. When the Whitin Machine Works was incorporated in 1870, Mr. Lasell was made its treasurer, and he shared in the labors of the president, Mr. Whitin, and as the latter was obliged to lay aside his work more and more, it devolved more and more on the treasurer, who relieved him almost entirely of the burden of the details of it.

At the death of Mr. Whitin, in 1882, Mr. Lasell was made president and he also retained the treasurership until January, 1886. It was largely by his inspiration and under his direction that the recent great enlargement of the works has been made.

As a teacher Mr. Lasell had rare qualities and great success. He had a true teacher's genius to awaken enthusiasm and to impart instruction to the aroused pupil. Many pupils will say, as one did to

the writer many years ago, "No teacher ever did so much for me as did Mr. Josiah Lasell." And his work as a teacher is fittingly commemorated in the name of the institution, with whose early history and success he had such intimate connection.

As a business man he developed large capacity. Though not educated to business, his well-trained mind grappled successfully with its problems. He took wide and far-reaching views of the varied forces affecting business interests, and knew and could state his reasons for his opinions. He believed in large developments yet before us, and formed his plans to provide for them. He was, too, the master of details, and had unusual capacity of accomplishing a great deal of work with seemingly slight effort. He was also able to see and appreciate the difficult and intricate mechanical questions connected with machinery.

He was called to varied offices of trust, as director of the Providence & Worcester and of the Rome & Watertown Railroads, director of the Whitinsville National and Savings Banks. And very many in a large circle of kindred and friends naturally looked to him for counsel, and never failed to find in his judicious advice the help they sought.

As a friend, hosts can testify how true, kind, considerate and ready with word and deed of help he was. Incapable of malice, he cherished the most charitable and kindly views even of those from whom he might differ or who had wronged him. Severe words were very rarely, if ever, spoken of any. Pleasant and cheery ones came easily from his lips and carried comfort to many hearts. As a citizen he took deep interest in all that concerned the country and the State and the community, and sought so to discharge his duties as should best help the public weal.

In early life he cherished the Christian hope, and made public profession of his allegiance to Christ. At Holyoke he was superintendent of the Sabbath-school and gave efficient help in the music of the worship. In Whitinsville he was a Sabbath-school teacher until he took charge of the choir, which he led for several years. His interest in the musical service of the house of God continued until the last, and the last evening of his life he sang with his wonted fervor in a praise service, and in a few hours passed into the life of praise, March 15, 1886, much mourned and much missed as a man, citizen and friend.

He left a widow and two sons, Chester W. and Josiah M., who continue in the business of their father, and two daughters, Catharine W. and Jennie L., the former of whom is the wife of G. Marston Whitin, the treasurer of the Whitin Machine Works.

GUSTAVUS E. TAFT was the son of Cyrus and Lucinda Morse Taft. He was born in Peacham, Vt., August 29, 1829, to which place his father had moved rom this town a few years before. When he was ten years of age his parents returned to Whitinsville. He received his education in the schools of the town and in the academy at Uxbridge. At seventeen he entered the machine-shop of P. Whitin & Sons as an apprentice. Here he developed his mechanical powers, from which so much of his success in life came. He continued in their employ until 1860; when, Mr. John C. Whitin having purchased the Holyoke Machine Shop, Mr. Taft went to Holyoke to be superintendent of the works. He remained in this position until Mr. Whitin sold his interest in Holyoke, and took the machine shop in Whitinsville, on the dissolution of the firm of P. Whitin & Sons, January 1, 1864. Mr. Taft then became superintendent of the shop where he learned his trade, and he was identified with all its enlargements and the great growth of the business. To this great development he contributed much by his eminent abilities as an organizer of labor and a manager of men, and by his great mechanical skill exercised in the improvements in tools, greatly increasing their efficiency, and by his inventive skill. He made important improvements in cotton machinery, in cards, in spinning-frames and looms, many of which were very valuable. For some of these he obtained patents. His most valuable patent was for the "Whitin Gravity Spindle," the joint invention of himself and Mr. Henry Woodmancy. It was obtained July 18, 1882. A patent was also obtained for it in England, France, Germany and Holland, and it has been made and sold abroad and in the United States in great numbers. It is an important application of a new principle to the driving of the spindle, and greatly increases its producing capacity.

In 1881, Mr. Taft was made agent of the corporation, and remained such in the active management of the business until his death.

He ever had a deep interest in local and national affairs, though so engrossed in business that he could give but little time to any public affairs. But he was always ready to do his full share in contributing to any measures that would advance the interest of the community. In all personal relations he was eminently friendly; ever ready to grant a favor, and in such a manner that one seeking it was made to feel that it gave him real pleasure to do it. And if he was constrained to refuse a request, it was so kindly done as to make manifest his regret that he must refuse. He remembered and helped the needy in an unostentatious way, hiding the hand whence the benefaction came. He was a firm believer in the protection of American industries, as best for workman and employer.

November 8, 1855, he married Miss Ruth L. Lamb, of Clinton, Me., who with six children survives him. His three sons are engaged in the same shop where his life-work was done. He had for years contended with a fatal disease, suffering much and knowing that he was liable to sudden death. But he kept at his work with great cheerfulness until very near the end, which came after a short confinement to the house—

Gustavus E Tapp

came in an instant—June 23, 1888. A strong man, of large ability in mechanics and in business, of unimpeachable integrity, of most friendly spirit, of winning ways and kind action.[1]

CHAPTER LXIX.

NORTHBOROUGH.

BY JOSEPH HENRY ALLEN.

Territory, 10,150 *acres*; *population*, *in* 1885, 1853.

NORTHBOROUGH is the youngest in age, the third in size, and the least in population, of the four borough towns (so-called) formerly included in the town of Marlborough.[2] It lies on the old county road between Boston and Worcester, thirty-three miles from the former, ten from the latter; the track of the first emigration to Connecticut, in 1635, ran through its southeastern corner. Its shape is an irregular polygon, of six or seven sides, with a broad angle thrust out to the southeast; its dimensions are from four to five miles each way. The larger part of it is valley, lying rather lower than either of the surrounding towns. The Assabet River (here a slender stream) rising some miles to the south, flows about three miles of its course, northeastwardly, through the town, and is joined by four brooks,—Stirrup Brook, which is the outlet of Great and Little Chauncy Ponds, making here a course of nearly two miles; Hop Brook (once fringed with wild hops), which courses the southwest border of the town; Cold Harbor Brook, which flows about three miles from Straw Hollow and Rocky Pond, in the edge of Boylston, and is then joined by Howard Brook, a shorter stream (where possibly a few trout may still survive), which overflows a broad meadow a little farther north. The Assabet, then flowing with considerable force, furnishes large water-power at Hudson, Rockbottom and Maynard (formerly Assabet), joining the Sudbury to form the Concord, and so to the Merrimack, near Lowell.

TOPOGRAPHY.—These water-courses have traced the lines of population and business enterprise. The first white settler was John Brigham, who, in 1672, occupied "Licor-meadow Plain," which we understand to be Cold Harbor Brook Meadow, just north of what went as Liquor Hill till 1834, when it took the gentler name of Assabet. Saw-mills and grist-mills were early built on all these streams. A fulling-mill was set up by Samuel Wood (who removed from Sudbury about 1750) near where the main road is crossed by the Assabet; bog-iron was found and worked, and potash was made hard by. A tan-yard was established by Isaac Davis in 1781, near the Assabet, where it makes the boundary from Westborough; two miles farther down its course a cotton factory was built, in 1814, during the dearth and poverty of the War of 1812; and, a little farther still, the "new factory" was built, of brick, by the brothers Davis in 1832. In the south of the town, the Assabet Valley widens into "the Plain," quite flat for perhaps a mile and a half in length by half as much in width. Farther north the surface of the town is very diversified, with stony and rugged hills on the northern and western borders.

The chief elevations are Mount Assabet (before mentioned), which rises about one hundred and fifty feet from the valley, near the geographical centre, a pleasant rounded and wooded eminence; Edmond, Sulphur and Ghost Hills are bolder elevations towards the north; Tomlin Hill, more low and flat, in the southwest; Bartlett Hill, a long and handsome oval, near the Boylston line; and Ball Hill, broad and stony, over which the town road climbs heavily towards the northwest. In general, the forests are well preserved on the higher ground, and give the town the advantage of a landscape much admired for its picturesque beauty. Solomon Pond (so named for an Indian once drowned there), of twenty-six acres, lies prettily among high sloping banks of pine, toward the northeast; and Little Chauncy, of sixty-five acres, in the low-lying meadows of the southeast.

The rocks of the northerly hills are mostly gneiss, in strata lying at a dip of 70° to 80°; near their foot are iron and lime, not worked.[3] At the west is a large amount of micaceous slate, or schist, containing (it is thought) much iron. Hills and pastures are plentifully strewn with boulders, some of them weighing a great many tons. Most of these are of gneiss, and split favorably for building uses. In some parts large garnets are common: I have found one over an inch in diameter, and one of half that size, very clear and perfect. Quartz crystal is sometimes found in very fine specimens. Some of the

[1] The writer of this history gladly acknowledges his great obligations to the researches of Rev. L. F. Clark and Mr. Charles O. Bachelor, in the early history of Northbridge. He has made free use of the materials they gathered.

[2] In the year 1656, on petition of the inhabitants of Sudbury (founded in 1638), the colonial Legislature of Massachusetts Bay made to that town a grant of about forty-five square miles of territory to the westward, known as *Whipsuppenicke*, including a reservation of six thousand acres held by the Indians of *Ognonikongquamesit*. (These names are also written *Whipsufferadge* and *Ockoocangansett:* the reader takes his choice.) This territory—of which the central point is about thirty miles due west from Boston—was, in 1660, incorporated as a town, under the name Marlborough. In 1717 the western portion, till then known as Chauncy (a grant of land near Chauncy Pond having been made to President Chauncy, of Harvard College), was separately incorporated as Westborough. Ten years later the eastern portion was further divided, its southern part becoming Southborough; and the North Parish of Westborough, organized in 1744 as a "precinct," was in 1766 incorporated as the "district" of Northborough, becoming a town, with right of representation in the Legislature, under a general law passed in 1775. Of the four borough towns, Marlborough belongs to Middlesex County, the other three to Worcester.

[3] Lime was quarried and burned here about a hundred years ago.

northerly hills are effectually paved with ledges and boulders.[1] The general quality of the soil is good, though too sandy in the south; with more gravel also, and less clay, than some more productive soils. Apples are a good crop, and peaches were, fifty years ago; but pears and quinces have never flourished so well. There are clay-beds, especially one of great value, close to the eastern boundary, where bricks of rarely excellent quality are made, light red and very hard; these bricks were selected, among other samples, as the best in building the great Cochituate Aqueduct.

This sketch of the geology of the town would not be complete without a notice of the discovery, made November 17, 1884, of a part of the skeleton of a mastodon, on the farm of William U. Maynard, near the Shrewsbury line. The bones are those of a young animal, which had floundered in a peat-bog and there perished. They were found resting on a bed of blue clay, seven feet below the surface of the ground—the peat being four or five feet in thickness. Most of them are deposited in the museum of the Worcester Society of Natural History; the teeth, by which the species was identified, are in the Peabody Museum, Cambridge. This discovery is the single proof of the existence of that animal east of the valley of the Hudson.[2]

TOWN HISTORY.—The northerly portion of Westborough had been recognized as a separate "precinct," or parish, with church and minister of its own (the Rev. John Martyn) since 1745.[3] But its independent corporate life began with the year 1766, when a summons was issued to the inhabitants of the Second Precinct—

To conveain at the meeting House in 2d Precinct on Monday, the thertyeth Day of this instant, January, at one of the clock in the afternoon, then and there . . . to see if the Precinct will peticon to the Grate and Jenearal Cort to be set of a Destrict or not . . . and see if the Precinct will chuse a Commity or order the Precinct Committee to Preambulate the Line between the first and second Presencts of Westborough . . . and employ a Servair (surveyor) to Run the Line and set up Bounds where they cant be founde [and to see] upon what tairms they would be set of upon; and it was voted that we should be set of on the same tairms that South Brimfield was, and to have our part of the town stock of amonition and wates & measeurs & ministry lands, and also our proportion of the money that is granted or assest.

In accordance with these votes, on the 24th of January, 1766, the precinct was

erected into a District by the name of Northborough; and [it was ordained] that the same District be & hereby is invested with all the priviledges, powers & immunities the Towns in this Province by Law do or may enjoy, that of sending a Representative to the General Assembly excepted [this right being exercised till 1775, as a part of Westborough]; their proportion of all monies, arms & ammenition, weights and measures belonging to said town the inhabitants of said District shall have and enjoy, a proportion thereof equal to the proportion they paid of these charges of said Town according the last town tax;

all of which appears to have been amicably arranged. The first corporate act of the district thus created is copied here in full, as a fair specimen of the process of organization in these small political communities, then (it will be noticed) under Provincial rule. It is a record of the meeting held March 4, 1766:—

This town covined according to a warriant bearing Date the tenth of February Last Issued oute by Francis Whippele, Esqr., one of his Majesty's Justics of y^e peace appointed by the Grate and General Court to issue Dis^t Warrant & then proceeded and acted on y^e articels folloing: 1. Voted & chose Bezaleel Eager Moderator; 2^dly Voted & chose Timothy Fay Dis. Clerk; 3^dly Voted & chose for Selectmen y^e ensuing yeare, Josiah Rice, Jacob Rice, Bez^a Eager, Timothy Fay, Jesse Brigham; 4^thly Voted for Assessors for y^e yeare ensuing, Jacob Rice, Timothy Fay, Levy Brigham; 5^thly Voted & chose for a Towne Treasurer Jacob Rice; 6^thly Voted & chose for a Constibele y^e ensuing yeare William Badcock; 7^thly Voted & chose Wardens ensuing yeare, Josiah Bowker & John Carruth; 8^thly Voted for Sirvayors of Highways ensu^in yeare, Samuel Gamwell jun., Jon^a Bruce, Samuel Maynard, Timothy Brigham; 9^thly Voted & chose for Tithing men y^e ensuin yeare, John Ball, Eliphalet Warren; 10^thly Voted & chose for Hogreeves y^e ensuing yeare, Henery Gaschet; 11^thly Voted & chose for deare reeve for y^e ensuing yeare, Samuel Gamwell; 12^thly Voted & chose for Surveyor for Claboards & Shingles ensuing yeare, Stephen Jenney; 13^thly Voted and chose John Martyn for Sealer of Leather; 14^thly Voted & chose Henery Gaschet and Jorge Oak Fence Vewers; 15^thly Voted & chose Jesse Maynard Survayor of Whete; 16^thly it was put to vote to see if Town would let there Swine go at large y^e ensuing Yeare, it past in y^e affirmmitive; 17^thly it was put to vote to see if y^e town would chuse y^e Selectmen to Joyn with y^e Town of Westborough as a Committee to divide y^e Town Stock according to the act of Court, it past in the affirmmitive; 18^thly it was put to vote to see if the town would ajourn there meeting to Lew^t John Martyn's for fifteen minits; it past in y^e affirmmitive; then upon y^e ajournment voted that they would reconsider y^e vote of chusing Stephen Ball warden; 19^thly voted and chose John Carruth warden, and all y^e above said officers have Been sworn to their Respective Officirs. Then Dissolved said Meeting. *Bezaleel Eager*, Moderator. Attest, *Timothy Fay*, Clark.

The first act of civil administration (April 1st) appears to have been to build a pound for stray cattle, of stone, twenty-five feet square, with walls five feet high and two and a half feet thick, topped with timber; but this was found too costly, and it was voted (June 18th) "to build the same of timber." A proposal to buy a "buering cloth" was negatived; but provision was made to employ a reading and writing schoolmaster, with committee to provide schooling; also to raise the school-money, and to provide a jury-list. The sum of £3 16*s.* was afterwards (November 22d) granted to pay the schoolmaster's board for seventeen weeks. The rate of a day's wages was fixed at the same date, for men working out their own road-tax, at three shillings for the summer and two shil-

[1] Good old Silas Bailey, who, at past eighty, had just done his day's work with a bush-scythe, told me that when he bought his farm, near the north border, a neighbor more experienced, viewing it, feared at first that it might not have stones enough; but, being told there were "enough to fence it all into acre lots," was well satisfied with the purchase.

[2] An Indian skull was found during the excavation for these remains, but "cannot have been long in the peat," and "it is evident that it has no association with the mastodon" ("Nineteenth Report of the Curator of the Peabody Museum," where the skull now is, p. 493). A pamphlet on the discovery was printed by Franklin P. Rice for the "Society of Antiquity," Worcester; a copy is in the Public Library of Northborough.

[3] Mr. Martyn was ordained May 21, 1746. "Although the ceremonies of the ordination took place in the meeting-house, yet it appears from the town records that it was in a very unfinished state, having neither pulpit, galleries, glass windows, nor even permanent floors. It was not till June, in the following year, that a vote could be obtained 'to glaze the meeting-house and lay the floors,' and not till the next autumn that the pulpit and gallery-stairs were built."

lings for the autumn months. The highway rate to repair roads was sixty pounds. For a year's care of the meeting-house was paid 13*s.* 4*d.*; for the day's work of an assessor, eight shillings; for expenses of a delegate to the General Court, £1 1*s.* 4*d.*

The following year (July 29, 1767) the district voted—

to join with the Church in appointing Thursday, August 13, as a day of fasting and prayer to Almighty God to sanctify His Holy hand in taking away our Pastor (Rev. John Martyn) by Death, and for direction in resettling the Gospel among us again; and £60 lawful money (are) granted for preaching the Gospel among us.[1]

Mr. Martyn had been settled as pastor of the Second Parish May 21, 1746. He was a son of Captain Edward Martyn, of Boston, where he spent his early life under the care of an excellent mother, who had been left a widow in easy circumstances some time previous to young Mr. Martyn's entering college. He graduated at Harvard University in 1724. For several years after he left college he devoted his attention to secular pursuits, and was for some time an inhabitant of Harvard, in this county. At the age of forty he directed his attention to theological pursuits, and became an able, faithful and useful minister. He possessed, in a large measure, the confidence and affections of his flock, was honored in his life and deeply lamented at his death. His age was a little over sixty.

September 21, 1767, the district "concur with the church in giving Mr. Peter Whitney a call to settle as minister and pastor of the church and congregation in Northborough." The sum of one hundred and sixty pounds was voted "for settlement," to be paid in two installments, at the beginning and end of the first year, and an annual salary was granted of sixty pounds to be paid "in Spanish milled dollars, 6*s.* each, or in the several species of coined gold and silver," as enumerated. In accepting this proposal Mr. Whitney writes:

I am not insensible of the present scarcity of our Medium, and therefore I object nothing against your proposed annual support for the first few years, but yet can not suppose it sufficient for my abiding support, and therefore if you are pleased to add to your offered salary the sum of £6 13*s.* 4*d.* lawful money, to take place the fifth year from my settling among you, amounting to £66 13*s.* forepence as a settled yearly support, I do then fully accept your invitation, and stand ready to be consecrated to your service (God permitting), when you shall think proper. Gentlemen, I hope (speaking in my fear of God) I have no disposition to build myself on your Ruins. I desire neither to be cumbered with abounding riches, nor to be straitened in my worldly circumstances; may I but have what will support me in my office to the honor of Religion.

This manly and straightforward appeal was acceded to; and it is later recorded, "N. B. what was payed to the Rev. Mr. Whitney before he was ordained is £25 18*s.* 8*d.*" December, 1779, owing to the depreciation of the Continental currency, the salary was raised to £2933 6*s.* 8*d.*; but was the next year (December 4, 1780) restored to the original amount, payable in coin, with the addition of twenty cords of wood; and the sum of £13 6*s.* 8*d.* was afterwards (December 27, 1784) voted to cover arrears of loss by depreciation.

Mr. Whitney (son of Rev. Aaron Whitney, the first minister of Petersham) was born September 17, 1744; graduated at Harvard University in 1762; and was settled as minister of Northborough November 4, 1767. "Distinguished for the urbanity of his manners, easy and familiar in his intercourse with his people, hospitable to strangers, and always ready to give a hearty welcome to his numerous friends; punctual to his engagements, observing an exact method in the distribution of his time, having a time for everything and doing everything in its time, without hurry or confusion; conscientious in the discharge of his duties as a Christian minister; catholic in his principles and in his conduct, always taking interest in whatever concerned the prosperity of the town and the interests of religion, he was for many years the happy minister of a kind and affectionate people. At length, having continued in the work of the ministry almost half a century, he suddenly departed this life February 29, 1816, in the seventy-second year of his life and the forty-ninth of his useful ministry."[2] He was an eager and outspoken advocate of the patriotic efforts of '75 and '76, which his father as strongly opposed, and was the author of a "History of Worcester County," still held in much esteem. Of his ten children, the most widely known was Rev. Peter Whitney, of Quincy (1800–43, born 1770).

March 1, 1773, the district takes into consideration a pamphlet circulated from Boston, "in which the rights of this Province are stated, and also a list of grievances and infringements of those rights made by Administration at home;" and it is resolved—

that the rights of this people are very justly stated in said pamphlet, and that the grievances and infringements therein pointed out are real and not imagenary ones, as too many indeavour to insinuate; [also] that it is the indispensable duty of all men, and all bodies of men, to unite and streanously to oppose by all lawful ways and means such unjust and unrighteous incroachments, made or attempted to be made upon their Just Rights, and that it is our duty earnestly to indeavour to hand those rights down inviolate to our posterity as they were handed down to us by our worthy ancestors; and that the thanks of this District be given to the Town of Boston for their friendly, serviceable and necessary intelligence, and that they be desired to keep up their watch and guard against all such unjust invaders and incroachers for the future.

In fulfillment of this resolve, we find that the next year (November 28, 1774) a hundred weight of powder and three hundred weight of lead, with two hundred and forty flints, are voted for the general defence. Soon after (January 9, 1775) the district resolves to join in sending delegates to the Provincial Congress, "whenever met or wherever met;" and on the 10th of April (a few days before the battles of Lexington and Concord) provision is made "to pay fifty minute-men one shilling each for each half-day they shall meet to learn the military art, for sixteen

[1] Provision for the support of public worship was made by the State Constitution a town charge until 1833.

[2] Allen's "Topographical and Historical sketches of the Town of Northborough," p. 80.

half-days, beginning March 27." For these objects forty pounds are appropriated, and fifteen pounds appear as "raised and paid." The fifty minute-men, as soon as the tidings came from Lexington, before one o'clock of April 19th, "were directed, without a moment's delay, to put themselves in readiness to march; and in three or four hours from the time when the news arrived they had taken leave of their families and were paraded in the yard of Captain Samuel Wood's house, whence (the Rev. Mr. Whitney having in a fervent prayer commended them to the protection of the God of armies) they immediately set out on their march for the field of danger and blood." Two months later (June 17th) they took part in the battle of Bunker Hill.[1]

On the 22d of May, 1775, the district warrant still runs in the old way, "In his Majesty's name." The next day, May 23d, we find a summons, "Greeting in the name of the Government and the People of the Massachusetts Bay." But for an interval of some months that followed there is a sort of interregnum; either the warrant issues from the county authorities at Worcester, or the town appears to be acting by its proper sovereignty. The official title "town" first appears in the constable's warrant of June 6, 1775, when a meeting is called "to appoint and chuse a person, if they see fit when meet, *to represent the Town* in the Grate and General Court or Assembly,[2] to be convened, held and kept for the service of the Colony at the meeting-house in Watertown, on Wednesday, the 19th day of July next, it being in observance of a Resolve of the Honorable Continental Congress, directing and advising the same." This warrant, and the first exercise of complete town sovereignty in the appointment of its own Representative, mark the date of coming to its full majority. There follow upon the records, from time to time, a few items which we copy, as illustrating the way these little commonwealths toiled through the dreary and disastrous period till the return of peace in 1783 :—

June 3, 1776. Voted that it is the mind of this Town to be independent of Great Britain, in case the Continental Congress think proper, and that we are ready with our lives & fortunes if, in Providence, called to defend the same.

July 8. Voted to assist in raising the men that are sent for.

May 22, 1777. Appointed a Committee of three persons chosen for to prevent monopoly and oppression (apparently the first symptom of stringency arising from the debasement of Continental money).

June 23. Chose Gillam Bass to take care & lay before the Court the evidence which may be produced against the persons in Northborough who are looked upon by said Town as inimical to this and the United States of America, agreeably to a late directing Act. [The suspected persons are John Taylor, Thomas Billings, Silvanus Billings (who made contrite acknowledgment[3] & was received back into amity by the Town, May 17, 1781), James Eager, John Eager and Widow Miriam Eager. The estates of four of these were confiscated at the close of the war.]

Jan. 5, 7, 1778. Voted and accepted the Articles of Confederation of the Congress of the United States of America.

April 2. Appointed a Committee to collect clothing for the Continental soldiers (just after the terrible winter at Valley Forge).

April 13. It was voted "to see if they would accept of the form of goverument [of Massachusetts] as it was settled by the Convention of this State; and a unanimous vote passed in the negative."

June 15. It is voted ("according to the second claws of Warrant") to determine "an everidge of the whole of the publick cost that they have been at, ocationed by the present war, since the 19th of April, 1775, untill this time, and all necessary cost that may in the future arise on account of said war, each one to pay according to his estate, as in other taxes." The total amount was found to be:

	£	s.	d.
Up to June 29, 1778	1474	14	1
Future costs (estimated)	705		
Interest	42		
Clothing	140		
Additional, to Sept. 28	222	13	4
Additional, March 8, 1779	110		
	2694	7	5

May 17, 1779. It is resolved "that a [State] Constitution, or form of Government, [shall be] made as soon as may be;" and the Town Representative is instructed "to vote for the calling of a State Convention for the sole purpose of forming a Constitution."

Sept. 13. Under the pressure of financial distress, the common revolutionary expedient is adopted, of fixing a "maximum," or scale of highest prices to be asked for any commodity: in this scale we find Barley at £4 10 a bushel; Milk at 2 sh. a quart; labor of making a pair of shoes, 48 shillings; other in proportion. As a further indication of the range of prices, we find soon after (Oct. 30, 1780) a grant of "£6000 to purchase beef for the army," and (May 17, 1781) "the Town granted the sum of £3300 to pay for three horses" for the public service. Again (March 6, 1780) there is an appropriation of £4000 to be equally divided for the building of a School-house for each of the four "Squadrons."

May 18, 1780. Report of the State Constitution, which is accepted, with the recommendation of four Amendments; but if these cannot be had, "will accept the Constitution as it stands." [The first of these proposed Amendments is that the Governor must belong to some Protestant religious connection; the others are chiefly certain legal formalities for the ensuring of private justice.]

July 13. Voted & granted the sum of £10,000 to pay seventeen men hired into the service, nine for the term of six months, & eight for the term of three months.

Dec. 28. The town, taking into consideration the hardships undergone by those who had entered into the service of their country, and especially the losses they had sustained by being paid in a depreciated currency, generously voted to raise their quota of men, and to pay and clothe them at its own expense, allowing them 40 shillings each per month, in hard money, and £21 per year, also in hard money, in addition to their clothes. Six men were called for the following summer, & the Town granted £122 5s. in hard money ($407.50) to pay the same; at the same time they were required to purchase for the use of the army 3518 lbs. of beef, for which the Town granted £77 in hard money ($256.66). (Previous to June, 1778, it appears that this town had expended in money and service towards carrying on the war, £1474. 14. 1,—in a Depreciated currency, probably, the precise value of which it is difficult now to determine.)

"After the close of the war the embarrassments arising from the want of a circulating medium, when almost all were deeply involved in debt, caused much uneasiness, and led the people to devise measures for their removal." August 7, 1776, Isaac Davis was chosen as a delegate to attend a county convention at Leicester, on the 15th, to whom the following, among other instructions, were given by a committee appointed by the town. The delegate was

[1] In this company served as lieutenant "Capt." Timothy Brigham, who had been present, as one of eight volunteers from this precinct, at the attack on Ticonderoga, under Gen. Abercrombie, in 1758. I remember visiting him with my father, when near his death, at the age of 93.

[2] The following are the names of the town Representatives for nearly fifty years following: 1775–77, Levi Brigham; 1778, '82, '85, John Ball; 1779, '80, Paul Newton; 1783, Seth Rice; 1787–98 (7 years), Isaac Davis; 1800, '01, Nahum Fay; 1802–26 (18 years), James Keyes.

[3] He "owned that he was unfriendly in not bringing Caleb Green to justice, who was a notorious villin and an enemy to his country."

to use his influence "that the Convention petition his Excellency, the Governor & Council, to call the General Court together in the month of October next at fartherest; and that the Convention present a humble and decent petition to the General Court to set up & establish a Mint in the Commonwealth, &c." Complaints were also made of the salaries of the civil list being so high, and of various other grievances under which the people labored. The delegate was also to use his influence "that the whole order of Lawyers be annihilated, for we conceive them not only to be building themselves upon the ruins of the distressed, but said order has increased, & is daily increasing, far beyond any other set or order of men among us, in numbers and affluence; and we apprehend they may become ere long somewhat dangerous to the rights & liberties of the people." "There was nothing, however, of the spirit of rebellion or insubordination in the resolutions that were passed at this meeting, or in the conduct which followed; and though it appears from the representations of all, that the people generally were reduced to the greatest straits, yet only three or four individuals were found willing to join in the rebellion [Shays'] of that year, and to seek redress by measures of violence."[1]

It is likely that this town had its fair share of the suffering of that dismal "critical period of American history" between the close of the Revolutionary War and the adopting of the United States Constitution. But of this there is less evidence on the records than we might expect, excepting those troubles from expansion of the currency hinted above. The problem of pauperism, however, now comes up; and for the first time (November 9, 1789) we hear of a proposal "to see if the Town would vendue the poor off to the lowest bidder." This was negatived, probably from compunction at the novelty of it. But six months later (May 10, 1790) "the same passed in the affirmative, and that there be a notification put up and the names of the poor put in, that are to be vendued,"—that is, boarded at the town's expense, where they could be boarded cheapest.[2] The ordinary rate was from seventy-five cents to a dollar a week. I remember being present at such a "vendue;" it would be about sixty years ago. In 1835 the town adopted the more humane and decent method of providing a "poor-farm" for those unable to maintain themselves,—not "foreign paupers," but native citizens fallen into poverty or distress. And the number of those so dependent was very small, unless in such exceptional periods as that following the Revolutionary War; thus, in 1826, "only two persons have been a town charge, the whole expense of maintaining whom, for a year, is less than one hundred dollars."

The wounds of war, and of the years that followed, were at all events soon healed, to judge from a sermon preached June 1, 1796, by Rev. Mr. Whitney, in which he says: "The great increase of our members [since 1767, from 82 families to upwards of 110], the remarkable growing wealth and prosperity of this people, must be ascribed to the peace, union and harmony which has subsisted among us. In considering the number of inhabitants (not far from 800), the extent of territory and the distance from the capital, I know not a more wealthy place."[3] Mr. Whitney's ardent hope, which he expresses in the same sermon, of a new and "respectable meeting-house," which, as he says, "proclaims the opulence of the place and encourages population," was fulfilled twelve years later, in 1808, when the present "First Parish" meeting-house was erected, at a cost of eleven thousand five hundred dollars, a large sum and a handsome building for its day.

CHURCHES.—Throughout Mr. Whitney's term of service, of forty-nine years, and for more than fifteen years afterward, "the ministry had not only a *permanent*, it had also a *secular* character, which it has greatly lost. In a sense easily enough understood, though not at all familiar, the Town WAS the parish; the town's people WERE the congregation. In a harmless and neighborly way, Church and State (in those narrow boundaries) were one."[4] So little were modern sectarian differences felt, that in the choice of Mr. Whitney's successor, in 1816, although the liberal movement in theology was well pronounced, only eleven votes out of one hundred and eight were cast against the settlement of the candidate chosen, who was understood to be in full sympathy with that movement. This was Joseph Allen (Harvard University, 1811, D.D. 1848), whose ministry, as sole or senior pastor, lasted more than fifty-six years, till his death, February 23, 1873. For eleven years of this period the parish was undivided. In 1827 a Baptist Church was gathered;[5] and in 1832 "the Second Congregational Society was formed (under Rev. Samuel Austin Fay) by those of stricter orthodox or evangelical faith: the original members were Asaph Rice and 34 others.[6] And the next year, that is, on the 11th of November, 1833, the old 'Third Article of the Bill of Rights' was repealed; the citizen was relieved from all legal ob-

[1] The paragraphs marked as quotations are from Dr. Allen's History of Northborough ("Sketches").

[2] In March, 1817, "Mary Rice was put up at vendue," and struck off to Joseph Carruth at 88 cents, clothing and doctoring to be found by the town.

[3] Copied in a discourse by Rev. A. S. Galvin, of Worcester, on occasion of erecting a memorial tablet to Peter Whitney, in the First Parish meeting-house of Northborough, May 20, 1888.

[4] From a memorial discourse by the present writer, given in the First Parish meeting-house on occasion of erecting a tablet to the memory of Joseph and Lucy Clark Allen, October 30, 1887.

[5] Church reorganized, and its present house of worship built, in 1860.

[6] The first meeting-house of this society, on the Boylston Road, is now occupied by the "Allen Home School," under the charge of Edward A. H. Allen. Their present commodious and handsome building, in the village, was erected in 1846.

ligation to pay for the support of any church, and the voluntary system, as we have it now, came into full play." Since then, to meet the wants of the increasing Roman Catholic population (partly French Canadian), a succession of "visiting clergy" began in 1850, which resulted in the building of St. Rose's Church, a handsome edifice, which was dedicated May 3, 1885.[1]

Much the longest pastorate was that of Rev. Joseph Allen, which extended over fifty-six years. He was born in Medfield, Mass., August 15, 1790. His early home was on the farm that for five generations, since 1648, had been owned and tilled by his ancestors; his grandfather, a man of note and of amazing bodily strength, had held a King's commission in the colonial militia; his father had enlisted as a boy of sixteen in the Continental army, and endured some of the hardships of the later Revolutionary campaigns and of Shays' Rebellion. From a constitution impaired by early studies, prudent regimen had built him up to an even and active condition of health, which kept sound till past the age of eighty. His ordination as "minister of the town" was October 30, 1816. He married, February 3, 1818, Lucy Clark, daughter of Professor Henry Ware, of Harvard University, to whose intelligent and devoted co-operation much of the character of his ministry was due. His work was especially effective in the department of public and general education. His death was on the 23d of February, 1873. A tablet was erected by his children in the parish meeting-house to the memory of both their parents, and dedicated October 30, 1887.[2]

The next longest of the later pastorates was that of Rev. Samuel Stanford Ashley (b. May 12, 1819; d. October 5, 1887). He was born in Cumberland, R. I., the eldest of eleven children; educated at Oberlin, Ohio; settled first in Fall River, Mass., and, in 1852, in Northborough. In 1864 he engaged in the army-service of the United States Christian Commission. In this capacity he was noted for absolute fearlessness in his humane service on the battle-field. At the close of the war he was employed by the American Missionary Association to serve among the freedmen at Hampton, Va., and afterwards in North Carolina, where he was a member of the Constitutional Convention and Superintendent of Public Instruction. In 1881 he was appointed acting president of Straight University in New Orleans; but, suffering here from yellow fever, returned to the North. From 1874 to 1878 he was in the employ of the Missionary Association in Atlanta, Ga.; but failing health obliged him to return to country life and occupation in his former home. Here he resided as a useful, honored and public-spirited citizen, actively interested in the town library, the public schools, and the cause of temperance, until his sudden death from heart complaint, in 1887. He was, says a warm and grateful testimonial of the library trustees, "in health or sickness, in season or out of season, unfailing in his efforts for the interest of the charge given him."[3]

SCHOOLS.—Before the public provision, made in 1766, private instruction had been maintained in the precinct by voluntary contributions (see below). In 1770 the district (not yet a town) was divided into four "squadrons" for school purposes; and, in 1780, an appropriation of £1000 was made to each squadron for the erection of a school-house. The whole sum (which was extremely "soft") amounted in hard money to only £52 6*s.* 8*d.*, made up afterwards to £163 13*s.* 4*d.* There were afterwards six school districts; and, sixty or eighty years ago, there was no great disparity of numbers among them; now, probably, more than half the population are gathered about the centre. In 1837 a two-story brick schoolhouse was built for the central district. Again, about 1865, more definite steps were taken towards the system of graded schools, and, in 1878, a neat high school building was erected on the Common near the meeting-house.

The ministers of the town have taken from the first the active lead that was their duty in the matter of public instruction, and have had in it the full confidence of the public. Dr. Allen, for example, "served as chairman of the school committee for fifty-one successive years, omitting only a season of two years, when a change was tried that seemed likely to do better without his aid." To this task he gave especial zeal and energy, the more efficient from the hold he had by natural temperament upon the affection of the young. The "district school as it was"—that is, with the advantage as well as disadvantage of bringing together pupils all the way from five to twenty for the winter's school-companionship—held, as is generally claimed, exceptionally high rank in Northborough: there was one season,

[1] The present pastors of the above churches are, First Parish, Obed Eldridge, settled in 1884; Baptist, Rev. C. D Swett, settled in 1884; Second Congregational, Edward L Chute, settled in 1885; St. Rose, James McCloskey, appointed November 1, 1886.

[2] The names of his children are Mary Ware, wife of Dr. J. J. Johnson, now of Northborough; Joseph Henry (the writer of this sketch), now of Cambridge, Mass.; Thomas Prentiss, died at West Newton, November 26, 1863; Elizabeth Waterhouse, now of Northborough; Lucy Clark, wife of A. E. Powers, of Lansingburgh, N. Y.; Edward A. H., head of a private school in Northborough; William F., Professor in the State University at Madison, Wisconsin.

[3] The following is a list, nearly complete, of ministers of the several churches: 1*st Parish*—T. B. Forbush, 1858–63; H. L. Myrick, 1866–68; F. L. Hosmer, 1869–72; C. T. Irish, 1873–76; H. F. Bond, 1877–81; Obed Eldridge, 1883. 2*d Congregational*—S. A. Fay, 1832–36; D. H. Emerson, 1836–40; Joshua Bates, 1840–42, W. A. Houghton, 1843–51; S. S. Ashley, 1853–64; G. E. Sanborne, 1865–70; H. Dutton, 1870–79, (author of a sketch of Northborough in a history of Worcester County, published by C. F. Jewett, Boston, 1879); G. B. Adams, 1879–81; E. A. Adams, 1881–85; E. L. Chute, 1885. *Baptist*—(after several short terms of service), Charles Farrer, 1848–55; Silas Ripley, 1855–65; D. F. Lamson, 1865–73; W. K. Davey, 1873–77; E. A. Goddard, 1877–78; J. Tillson, 1878–82; C. Titus, 1883–84; C. D. Swett, 1884.

for example (1831–32), when the five district schools were manned by five very distinguished students from Harvard College, including three of the four highest scholars of the senior class and the first junior scholar (now Professor Bowen). Under such a dispensation it may be fairly claimed that the district school, in its three summer and three winter months, and relieved in the interval by all the variety of country occupations, had a far higher educational value than the more perfect mechanism that has taken its place. The old way, it is true, had become outgrown and impossible through the change in population and manners of life; but the change that came about has brought with it some regrets.[1] The country school has had the merit, among other things, of training and sending out a large number of young men and women to the work of education elsewhere, many of them to advanced instruction in the State Normal Schools. I have a list of twenty-one of these pupils (female) of the Normal School which was established successively at Lexington, West Newton and Framingham.[2]

I copy here the following memoranda from a record in the handwriting of Rev. Dr. Allen:

In the Laws of Massachusetts it is enacted (1641) that "If any do not teach their children and apprentices so much learning as may enable them to read perfectly the English language, [they shall] forfeit 20 shillings; and the Selectmen of every Town are required to know the state of the families," etc. In 1770 there were 85 families in Northborough. These were divided into four "squadrons," and a vote was passed to build four school-houses, which cost each in our currency $150.40. One of these earliest school-houses is described as "rough-boarded, without plastering or paint, with one door, a very large chimney in one corner, three small windows, and furniture to correspond; yet from this building graduated a Recorder of the City of New York, and here was partially educated a missionary to India, who was also a Founder of the college in Georgetown, D. C., and a Doctor of Divinity."

In 1742 a new school-house was built in the North District (to take the place of the old one, destroyed by fire), at a cost of $517.95; the annual cost of the school was here $86. "The wood was furnished by individuals, and cut by the boys, who made the fires. The teacher was at his desk as often before as after sunrise, ruling the books, setting copies, mending the goose-quill pens, and preparing practical sums for the scholars to work out and copy into their manuscripts. School kept five and a half days in the week, with 15 minutes' recess forenoon and afternoon, and 30 m. for dinner; the rest of the time was devoted to business. Imperfect lessons, whispering and mischief, cost too much among that pine shrubbery."

A brick school-house was built in 1837 for the Centre District (established in 1811), at a cost of $2230 (afterwards repaired and refurnished at an expense of $1000). The entire cost of school buildings for 100 years, not including repairs and incidentals, was $24,262. The appropriations in the same time for schools, including the above, amounted to $88,968.

As supplementary (it would seem) to the public schools, to secure more advanced instruction, there was organized, in May, 1780, by private subscription, a "Seminary," at a cost of ninety-six pounds, sixteen shillings, three pence and three farthings, which sum was divided into 35 shares; shareholders to have their children's education at an assessed rate, and others to pay 4s. per month for each scholar. At a meeting of the Proprietors, held Monday, December 4, 1781, it was "Voted to give Master Flint five pound per month for the following three months." The Seminary building was "upon the common near the pond-hole." How long the plan was continued does not appear.

About 1825 or 1826, courses of public lectures began to be given by the minister of the town, on astronomy and similar topics, supplementary to the common school course of popular education. The neat town-hall, built in 1822 (near where the high school now stands), gave convenient accommodation, and the lectures ripened into a "Lyceum" (organized in 1828), one of the first in the country, where for more than thirty years free lectures were given and debates in the earlier years were held once a week in winters. The coming together of so many college-men as teachers added greatly to the interest of these debates, which brought out, too, no little native talent. Mr. John C. Wyman, that prince of story-tellers, now of Boston, would probably say that some of his earliest lessons in oratory were received in our modest town-hall. The Lyceum, in course of time, degenerated to courses of paid lectures, as in other places; but in its day it was a much-prized adjunct to the district school.

A Juvenile Library was created by annual contributions in 1824; and a "Social Library," founded as early as 1792, was incorporated with the Parish "Free Library," in 1828. A Public Library, established in 1866, by uniting seven existing libraries, and with the aid of a donation of one thousand dollars from Hon. Cyrus Gale, is kept in the new and commodious town-hall (built in 1867), and now contains something over seven thousand volumes.

The following memoranda of local incidents during the period 1823–45 may here be found of interest:

1823, Nov. *Voted*, "not to permit Asaph Rice to use the School-house for religious meetings." *Voted*, "to provide means to warm the meeting-house, [for the first time!] by a stove or otherwise."

1824, May. "Chose a committee of 13 to investigate means to suppress the great and growing evil of intemperance; and that a committee of 6 be chosen to assist the Selectmen in selecting intemperate persons to be posted up, according to law." In the same year a new hearse is bought, at a cost of $88.82; and the sum of $300.36 was paid for a furnace for the meeting-house.

1826, March. At the request of Joseph Davis and others, a committee was chosen to see if the town will purchase the several libraries, and have a Town Library. A School Committee was for the first time appointed, the charge having hitherto been born by the minister and selectmen.

1827, April. A committee was chosen "to investigate the subject of encouraging the singing in this town." May. The sum of $100 was appropriated for a Singing-School; any surplus to be disposed of to the choir through Thaddeus Mason. Many of our older inhabitants will re-

[1] Another illustration of "how we did it" in those days may be not out of place here. It is in a letter from the admirably skilled and successful master of a singing-school: "I think it was fifty-two years ago this coming fall (1888) that I attended a singing-school here [in his native town]. Your father sent for me to do his chores and study. I went, and, being interested in music, I commenced to teach the boys in the study from the blackboard. The boys from the town heard of it, and, by your father's advice, I adjourned to the vestry [in the basement of the town-house], where I had about fifty pupils, and taught twenty-four evenings, charging nothing. The pupils paid for the lighting. It was thought to be a success." This teacher (Joseph A. Allen, of Medfield) was afterwards superintendent of schools in Syracuse, N. Y., where he had high reputation as an instructor; and he was for some years the superintendent of the State Reform School at Westborough.

[2] A list is mentioned by Dr. Allen "containing the names of fifty-seven teachers, male and female, whose education was obtained principally in our public schools, who found employment as teachers, in this and other places, during the first thirty years of the present century." Since then "the number must have been much larger, as more than thirty have graduated at our Normal Schools, most of them at the one in Bridgewater."

call the rich and bold tones of Mr. Mason's fine tenor voice in the village choir. We find it later (1829) "recommended that $50 be appropriated as compensation to Mr. Thaddeus Mason as leader of the singers for one year, and $19 to Anson Rice for using his viol for one year."

1828. The First Report on Town-Schools speaks of their "high reputation in past years," but says their "multiplication of studies is a very serious evil," that "more attention should be paid to writing," and that good order should be maintained "by persuasive and gentle measure, so far as may be practicable." The next year the number of pupils reported is 349.

1829. It is voted "that the Northborough Branch of the American Lyceum may hold their meetings in the town hall;" also, "to refund to the members of the Baptist society their proportion of expenses of painting the meeting-house, the singing, &c.;" to procure a map of the town; and "that it is inexpedient for the Town to take measures to become a Parish."

1831. *Voted* to accept the Gassett Donation,—a sum of $3,000, "presented to the Town by Henry Gassett, Esq., of Boston,—one of its provisions being that after the income has reached a certain amount, fifty dollars shall be bestowed, once in three years, upon "the most worthy and best Mother, to be selected by five mothers and five fathers chosen by the Town." A portion of the income is devoted to the support of the First Parish Church. Also to expend $40.10 for school apparatus; to purchase a Poor Farm; and not to grant a petition that the Schools be under the sole control of the people of the several districts, according to law; so the schools are left in charge of the general town committee.

1832. *Voted* not to grant the use of the town-house for public worship, and the following year the First Parish pay $20 rent for its use as a "vestry," or lecture-room.

1835. The committee in a long report recommend the establishing of a High School; measures are taken looking to this, but the plan is abandoned in 1837, when a school building is erected in the centre district for two schools, a higher and a lower. In 1837 it is also "voted to purchase four acres of land of Lowell Holbrook for a burying-ground,"—the beginning of the present cemetery of about ten acres (the old burying-ground of about 3 acres was laid out in 1729, and cleared of wood in 1804). A poor-farm was purchased for $4150. In 1838, number of paupers, 16; in 1840, 20.

1840. Number of enrolled militia-men, 128; two years later, 189.

1845. The first fire-engine is purchased (at second-hand) by the town for $171.75.

HEALTH, &c.—When the "Second Precinct" of Westborough was organized in 1746, there appear to have been forty families in the place.[1] In the autumn of this year, and for seven years following, particularly in 1749–50, "this society was visited by a very mortal sickness among children, by which the growth of the society must have been very sensibly checked, and which must have been attended with circumstances of peculiar distress. The sickness in the earlier season appears to have been dysentery; the later, throat distemper, better known now as scarlet fever. Sixty children out of a population which could not have much exceeded three hundred were victims of the disorder. Still, in 1767 the number of families had increased to eighty-two, and in 1796 to one hundred and ten. In 1810 the census gives the entire population as seven hundred and ninety-four, and in 1820 as ten hundred and eighteen, which seems to have been a slight over-reckoning.

Since the mortality of 1749–50, the general health of the town has been exceptionally good. For forty-six years, beginning with 1780, the deaths were four hundred and fifty, not quite ten a year (less than one and a half per cent. of the population), more than half of them from old age. I recall a succession of years when (if my memory is right) the annual deaths did not exceed seven in a population of full one thousand. The growth of little manufacturing centres, with their varieties of a crowded foreign population, has, of course, much changed this ratio. Some seasons of scarlet-fever epidemic (especially one short but severe in 1839), and scattered cases of typhoid, have affected the health-list, but have not altered the general good reputation of the town. Increasing frequency of drought[2] and low wells had begun to be felt as a serious inconvenience; and in 1882–83 (in good part by the urgency and liberality of Mr. D. B. Wesson, a wealthy Springfield manufacturer of fire-arms, and of Hon. Cyrus Gale, an aqueduct was laid from a reservoir constructed at Straw Hollow, just over the Boylston line, at a cost of $58,150.44, and since then the village has been amply supplied with pure and wholesome water. The engineer's report gives the following description of the work:—

> The length of the dam on top is 625 feet, the greatest height in the middle 20 feet, in the area of the pond created about nine acres. The greatest depth of water is 15 feet, and the total storage capacity is approximately 30,000,000 gallons, or a supply for your population equal to at least six months' consumption. The waste gate was closed early in December, 1882, and the pond was first full to high-water mark on June 14, 1883. This level gives a head of 145 feet at the railroad track, which is sufficient to throw fire-streams at that point 80 feet high. The head at Woodville is 193 feet, and at Chapinville 205 feet. Fire-streams can be thrown at these points 100 feet high.
>
> In regard to the nature of the water secured by your plan, your people have already expressed satisfaction with its soft qualities, and undoubtedly storage in the reservoir will tend to remove its slight color. On sanitary grounds, its use should become general for domestic purposes, as no well-water in your village will be found to be its equal in purity. PERCY M. BLAKE, *Civil Engineer.*

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician of the town was Stephen Ball (born about 1730), descendant of one of the early settlers of Concord, Mass. His son Stephen ("Old Dr. Ball," 1767–1850) had a wide and long-continued practice in Northborough and its vicinity, and was a physician of high repute; he married (about 1800) Miss Lydia Lincoln, of Hingham. The second of their thirteen children, "young Dr. Stephen" (born 1802), settled here about 1825, earning special reputation as a surgeon; he removed to Boston in 1837, where he continued an extensive and successful practice till his death, in 1871. A younger brother, Abel (1810–76), was also a practitioner in Boston. In 1836 Dr. Joshua J. Johnson (1809–84) settled here in practice, removing afterwards to Worcester (1857) and to Keene, N. H. (1858), returning to Northborough in 1865, having married (1840) the eldest daughter of Rev. Dr. Allen. Their only surviving child, Mrs. William H. Johnson, lives in Westborough. In 1848, Dr. Henry Jewett became a resident of this town,

[1] The householders, who were also church members, were the following: Ephraim Allen, Samuel Allen, John Carruth, Gershom Fay, Silas Fay, Jonathan Livermore, John McAllister, Mathias Rice, Jacob Shephard, Joshua Townsend. (May 21, 1746).

[2] The most formidable drought recorded is one of three months, from March 20 to June 20, 1826. The coldest season known was that of 1816, when there was frost in every month, and the corn froze unripened in the ear.

where he still enjoys an excellent practice. Other physicians have been Henry Barnes, who married a daughter of Dr. Ball, Sr., died 1879, and his son, Henry J., practices in Boston; Dr. I. C. Guptill and Dr. Chas. Oakes (homœopathic).

TEMPERANCE.—The evil of rum and cider-drinking (for in those days brandy, whiskey and beer were less popularly known) had become a general vice during the generation following the Revolutionary War. It was partly outgrown before the War of 1812, but had come in again as a result of camp-life in that war; and many strong, substantial and prosperous men in this town of the generation next following drank themselves to poverty, their farms into debts, and their families to distress. As early as 1817 the following testimony is found—one of the very earliest symptoms of the great temperance movement that has come since—showing a practical sense of the harm and a desire to abate it. Its signers were among the leading citizens of the town, and there is no indication of its having been urged from any outside source, though the minister's hand may possibly be traced in it:—

Impressed with the belief that the practice of using wine or ardent spirits on funeral occasions is attended with needless expense, which, to the poorer class, is no inconsiderable burden; and, moreover, that it has a tendency to interrupt those devout feelings and pious meditations which such occasions ought to call forth: We, the undersigned, are willing to use our influence to discontinue such practice; and we engage for the future to allow of no wine or spirituous liquors to be carried to the mourners at our own houses, but if any of the mourners or others think it necessary or expedient to use it, to cause it to be placed in a separate apartment for the use of such persons.—(Signed by Samuel Sever, William Eager and others, 30 in all.)

Northborough was thus very early in the field in movements looking to the temperance reform. A society "for the suppression of intemperance" was formed May 30, 1823. The record of temperance organizations since this date has probably been about the same with other places in the vicinity; and, while the town has had a good repute for order and sobriety, there is nothing especial in this respect to distinguish it from the rest. A half-century ago or more, it is said, each week three wagon-loads of produce went to Boston, and each return-load included its barrel of rum. Since the railroad was built, with its vastly greater freighting facilities, there is little perceptible change in the outward look of things; under "local option" there has generally been no license for legal sale of liquors; the native population is said to have largely outgrown its old drinking habit; and such drunkenness or other disorder as there may be prevails more, it is likely, among the foreign or vagrant population.

During the war of secession this town furnished to the service one hundred and forty recruits, being nine over and above all demands of the general government. Of these, two were commissioned officers; the record of one of them, Capt. S. Henry Bailey, is given below. Appropriations for the public service were made by the town to the amount of $10,647.57, in addition to $8,840.70, which was afterwards refunded by the State.

BUSINESS, &c.—Most of the manufacturing and other enterprises of the first century of the town's existence have been already noted. Wool-carding, the making of potash, and the working of bog-iron began before or about 1800. The manufacture of horn-combs, introduced by Haynes & Bush in 1839, was extended in 1860 into the tortoise-shell manufacture of jewelry, &c., by Hon. Milo Hildreth, who has had about twenty hands at one time in his employ. Two smaller establishments, Farewell's and Whittaker & Proctor's, have been started since. Ornamental combs, chains and large quantities of horn buttons are included in these industries. The tortoise-shell comes from Zanzibar, the Fiji Islands and other tropical regions. The old cotton factory, built in 1814, was burned down in 1860, but has been rebuilt, and has since 1866 been carried on by Daniel Wood as a woolen-mill for the manufacture of blankets, &c., employing now about one hundred and twenty-five hands, half of them Canadian French[1] and the rest Irish. The other factory is owned by Ezra Chapin, and since 1869 is used for making satinets. The manufacture of corsets has made a flourishing trade since 1877. A shoe-shop was conducted here for a few years, though not on a large scale, and a valuable bone-mill, established in 1860 by J. B. Root, employs the water-power of the Assabet.

The agricultural branch of the then Boston and Worcester Railroad, running from South Framingham, was completed to Northborough in 1855. It has since become the property of the Old Colony Railroad, and in 1866 was opened through to Fitchburg. It gives at the present time five passenger trains each way between this place and Boston; direct connection also with Taunton, Providence and New Bedford.

FAMILIES.—The family names most conspicuous in the early history of the town have appeared from time to time in the foregoing notes. These names have more significance than might appear to one who has been familiar only with the more changing population of a later day. To quote from a memorial discourse before cited:

It is said that the New England population of 60 or 70 years ago were

[1] There are in Northborough some three hundred of these Canadian French, seventy-five families, adults and children, most of them connected with the two factories, the larger number in "Chapinsville." In the Factory School, established 1880, almost all the children are French, and in their homes use their native language, which is, however, dropped in a few years, the parents continuing to use it. These people come from below Montreal, on or near the St. Lawrence. One of the earliest comers, Oliver Contois (here called Counter), came in 1850, and has lived here ever since. Their names often undergo odd transformations, thus M. Pierre becomes "Mr. Stone;" M. Rivière, "Mr. Brooks;" M. Sarracin, "Mr. Rice," &c. About a dozen of them only have become citizens, and these, mostly, a little before the late election. Not till within a year or two have any French children attended the high school; at present there are two, but none have completed the high-school course of study.

the purest blood, or had the most of a certain family likeness, of any community speaking the English tongue. They had grown into it by nearly 200 years of close association here, and wide separation from the rest of the world; and nothing, certainly, could do more to bring out and invigorate that quality than the independence of the town life, and the habit of acting together in their own little public, to decide all matters of common interest or duty. . . . I think that until within 50 years it was rather uncommon to know a family that was not born, bred and married within the town boundaries; and the few exceptions only made the general fact stand out more sharply.

It is accordingly of interest to take into our limited view the history of a few typical families,—not all, or perhaps the most familiar, of those that might be selected; but those of which the following memoranda have been kindly put into my hands, here given alphabetically:—

BAILEY.—Rev. Benjamin H. Bailey, now of Malden, Mass., writes to me as follows: "My grandfather, Silas Bailey, came from West Berlin to the old farm of my boyhood [of 214 acres] about 1795. The farm was bought of Abraham Munroe, grandfather of Mrs. F. D. Bartlett. My grandfather died late in the autumn of 1840, aged 84. His wife, Lavina, sister of Mr. Jotham Bartlett, died a few weeks before her husband, aged 82. There were 11 children, 7 of whom grew to manhood or womanhood. Timothy, the oldest son, a farmer in Berlin, died about 1838, aged 57. Silas died in Worcester in 1860, aged 86. Holloway [my father] died in Northborough, Feb. 12, 1872, aged 87 years, 7 months. My mother, Lucy Sawyer, was the youngest but one of 11 children of Benjamin and Rebecca (Houghton) Sawyer, of Bolton. Their family consisted of 5 children, of whom I am eldest. Three grew to manhood, of whom two remain, myself and my brother, John Lewis, now living at Newton, Mass. Silas Henry was killed at Spottsylvania, Va., May 12, 1864, aged 29 years. He was captain of Company G, 36th Regiment Mass. Volunteers. His comrade in arms, now Rev. H. S. Burrage, of Portland, Maine, in a history of this regiment, and this engagement (most disastrous to our troops), says, p. 168: 'Of the commissioned officers, Capt. Bailey, the beloved commander of Co. G, had received a mortal wound. Corp. Hall, of his company, was one of the first to fall in our close conflict with the enemy, and some of his comrades carried him to the rear of our line of battle. Capt. Bailey moved at once to the spot, and as he was bending over the dying corporal, a minnie ball entered his forehead, and he fell forward upon the corporal's body. Some of his men carried him to the field-hospital, but nothing could be done for him. He breathed all day, but consciousness did not return; and so we were called to part with a faithful officer and a noble-hearted companion. He had entered the service with a patriotic desire to serve his country, and his last words to those whom he loved, written after the battle of the Wilderness, showed that he had counted the cost, and was willing, if need be, to lay down his life in the endeavor to secure the great objects for which on our part the war was waged.' In the letter above referred to Capt. Bailey says, after giving detailed account of the awful carnage: 'We stand and wait, and fall if we must, I think, willing sacrifices. May God give us the victory, and keep us till his own time for our meeting.'"

BALL.—Of the Ball family, several members of which are spoken of above, in the mention of physicians, I have the following account. Of the four sons of Nathaniel Ball, of Concord, John (who was killed by the Indians in King Philip's War, 1675) left five children; of these, John (d. 1722) had seven; of these, James (1670–1730) had eight, of whom James (b. 1695) was the father of Stephen, the first physician who settled in the district of Northborough. Of his six children, Stephen (1767–1850) was the second; a younger brother, Jonas, was a well-known citizen in my boyhood, keeping the "Ball Tavern" on the Worcester Road. Of the thirteen children of Dr. Stephen Ball, besides those before mentioned, were Louisa, wife of Dr. Fitch, of Virginia, afterwards of West Newton, Mass.; Elizabeth, wife of Dr. Henry Barnes; Harriet, wife of Charles Mayo, and afterwards of Jairus Lincoln and Benjamin (1820–59), who published a volume narrating his adventures and remarkable travels in Eastern Asia, the island of Java, and Mauna Loa, the famous volcanic island of the Hawaiian group, and lost his life in an equally hazardous expedition in Nicaragua. Several of the others have left an honorable and kindly record.

BRIGHAM.—Conspicuous among the excellent and dignified fathers of the town, a few years ago, was Nathaniel Brigham (1785–1870), whose ancestor, Thomas Brigham, migrated from England in 1634, settling afterwards in Sudbury. The line of descent was through Thomas (1643–1719), David (b. 1678), Levi (1717–87), and Winslow (b. 1756). Of his eight children, Elijah W. (b. 1816) went into business in Boston; Catharine married George G. Valentine and, with her sister Mary, lives in Northborough. (The brothers, Charles and Frederick Brigham (d. 1881), were of only remote kindred to the above.)

DAVIS.—From a representative of the large and widely-honored Davis family I have the following: Isaac Davis was born in Rutland, Mass., February 27, 1749. When a young man he came to Westborough to teach the tanner's trade to the sons of Mr. Stephen Maynard, and married Mr. Maynard's step-daughter, Ann Brigham. In 1781 he bought the place in Northborough now occupied by Mrs. George C. Davis, and established a tan-yard there. Of Isaac Davis and Ann Brigham nine children lived to maturity. Three sons lived in Northborough—Phinehas, b. September 12, 1772; Joseph, b. February 28, 1774; Isaac, b. September 23, 17—. Another son, John Davis, afterwards Governor of Massachusetts and United States Senator ("Honest John"), was born June 13, 1787, died 1854. Of the children of Phinehas Davis, Mrs. Nathan Davis Wells (b. November 4, 1865) and her son James are the only descendants now living in

Stephen Ball

Cyprus Gale

Northborough. Of the children of Joseph, George Clinton Davis (b. February 28, 1813; d. April 26, 1873) was the only one who spent his whole life in Northborough; a younger son, James (b. June 20, 1818), now lives in this town. Of the descendants of Isaac, Mrs. Adeline Sanford, Miss Sarah Davis and Mrs. Ann Fiske also live in Northborough.

FAY.—The Fay farm lay hid from from public view, more than most, among the woods and hills towards the western part of the town, but the family is a large and important one. Of Paul Fay (the remotest of whom I have any record: 1719–90), the son here best known was Asa (1762–1837, a retiring, hard-working, and somewhat eccentric farmer of the old school; and his son was Lewis (1799–1880), father of ten children, of whom Joseph T. (b. 1819) is engaged in business near the village.

GALE.—Cyrus Gale, youngest but one of seventeen children, was born in Westborough October 7, 1785, and died in 1880, at the age of ninety-five.[1] He began life at sixteen, as a market gardener, in Roxbury, and at twenty-one held a stall in Faneuil Hall Market, Boston. He removed to Northborough in 1812 for the benefit of his failing health, and here became active in various lines of business,—postmaster, agent of the cotton factory, and storekeeper, as well as a large owner of land; in later years a director of the bank and largely interested in the railroad. His wife was a sister of the brothers Davis. He was for several years in the State Legislature, and in 1852 a member of the Governor's Council; a strong friend of temperance, and actively interested in politics. An offer to the Commonwealth of land and building-stone, with admirable advantages of water and situation for the Women's Prison (now in Sherburn), was not accepted. His wealth and public spirit were of essential help in the building of the handsome and commodious Town Hall, soon after the close of the Civil War, and in establishing the Public Library. His eldest son, Frederick William, (born 1818, Harvard University 1836; married to Miss Sarah Whitney, of Brookline), was lost, with his wife and child, in the sinking of the steamship "Arctic," off the coast of Nova Scotia, in October, 1854. Of his other sons, Cyrus lives in Northborough; George died in 1856; Walter Scott, born in 1832, lives in California. A daughter, Hannah, was wife of George Barnes, of Northborough; died in 1851.

RICE.—Edmund Rice, from Hertfordshire, England (born about 1594, died 1663), settled in Sudbury in 1638 or '39; had eleven children. His son, Edward (1619–1712), had eleven. Of these, Jacob (1660–1746) removed to Marlborough. His son Jacob (1707–88), the first of the family who lived in Northborough, was one of a family of nine; had eight children. Amos (1743–1827) had a family of ten children, of whom Asaph (1768–1856) was a well-known citizen from fifty to seventy years ago, puritanic in principle and eccentric in habit; dearly loving a sharp set-to of speech in town-meeting or lyceum debate; he drove his weekly wagon-load of country produce to Boston from his farm on the cross-way between the Worcester and Boylston roads, starting at two in the morning, and getting his arrears of sleep (it was said) as he walked beside his team of slumbering horses—a unique character who could not be spared from the reminiscences of this time. Of his nine children, the two best known were Anson (1798–1875), kindly, public-spirited, a frequent moderator at town-meetings, an important figure in the village choir with his great bass-viol;[2] and John (d. 1881), a useful citizen and active business man, of excellent intelligence and admirable private character, who died, suddenly, while on the railway train for Boston. The present representative in Northborough of this strong and numerous family is Charles A., son of Anson, born 1825. A sister, Mrs. Mary F. Sherman, also lives here.

SEAVER.—Samuel Seaver (1770–1838), a wool-carder by trade, was the father of seven children. Of these, the eldest son, Abraham Wood (1809–87), went at fifteen into the store of Gale & Davis, afterwards becoming partner with Mr. Gale (Cyrus Gale & Co., succeeded in 1845 by Cyrus Gale, Jr., & Henry Maynard). Between 1845 and 1853 he was engaged in the paint and oil trade in Boston; then with Milo Hildreth, in Northborough, in the comb manufacture. In 1854 he became cashier of the Northborough Bank (George C. Davis, president), which office he held, with a short interval, until his last sickness, "a quiet but busy man, enjoying the confidence of the community, well known and highly respected through the central and eastern portions of Worcester County. He has held many positions of honor and trust, with credit to himself and profit to others, and declined an appointment as Judge of the Second Worces er District Court." His brother Samuel was the father of three sons,—Edwin Pliny (Harvard University, 1864), superintendent of schools in Boston, living in West Newton; Walter, a young man of very winning character and noblest promise, a most successful teacher, who died in 1867; and Francis, cashier of the Manufacturers' Bank, Boston.

VALENTINE.—From John Valentine, who came to Boston in 1745, there were descendants in the fourth generation—sons of William, who settled in Northborough in 1804—Gill (born 1788), the eleventh child, and Elmer (born 1795), the fifteenth and youngest. Of the five children of the former, George Gill (1815–69) and Thomas W. (1818–79), long a teacher of high repute in Brooklyn, N. Y., and elsewhere,

[1] At the time of his birth his father's age was fifty-eight, so that their united ages covered the extraordinary term of one hundred and fifty-three years.

[2] Mr. Rice sang (he told me) in the choir at Dr. Allen's ordination service, in 1816, and at his funeral, in 1873.

are the best known names. Elmer, who was the founder of the Baptist Society in this town, was long a successful teacher here and an admirable writing master. Of his fifteen children, the eldest, Charles Elmer (born 1822, married Olive Seaver), an excellent and beloved teacher in the Boston school, was instantly killed by a passing train while leaving that by which he had just arrived in West Newton, where he resided (1870). The widow of Elmer (Rebecca Crawford) lives, at a great age, in Northborough.

WILLIAMS.—George Williams, a merchant of Salem, and his wife, Lydia Pickering (of whom an admirable portrait, painted in her old age by Gilbert Stuart, is in the Williams house in Northborough), were the parents of twelve children. Of his eight sons, the best known names are those of Timothy, a Boston merchant; Samuel, a London banker; and Stephen (1772–1838), owner of a fine stock and fruit farm in the westerly part of Northborough, whither he removed in 1799. His portion of the family estate had been lost by shipwreck; but a later inheritance enabled him to make the purchase of his Northborough farm. Of his brother Samuel it is told that, being on his return voyage from England, his vessel was run down and that he found himself, roused suddenly out of sleep, clinging to the shrouds or bowsprit of a large ship bound for England. Thus forced back, he conceived a horror of the sea, and never visited his native country, but went into business in London, where he was long well known for his hospitalities to visiting Americans. Among his good gifts, he sent to his brother Stephen a number of very fine stock-breeding animals, and pictures of the noblest of British bulls adorn the walls of the pleasant and hospitable old house. With the kindest of hearts, Mr. Williams' manner was curt and taciturn; he would turn aside not to betray himself, if beguiled unawares into a laugh; he cherished, like a lover, his choice varieties of rare fruit; and when the apple-harvest came he would leave at his minister's back-door the briefest of written messages: "Send your barrels!" A man of generous and noble traits, who, with his wife (Alice Orne, of Salem, 1769–1856), a lady of dignified, refined and quiet manner, made a greatly prized variety among our rural population. His son, George Henry (married Frances E. Simes, of Portsmouth, N. H.), has of late years lived upon his father's farm. His elder daughter, Mary, married Captain Edward Orne, of Salem, a shipmaster in the Asiatic trade; their two sons were Henry (formerly of Pontotoc, Miss., and later of Memphis, Tenn., where he died in 1862), and Charles, long in business in Hong Kong, who died in New York in 1881; a daughter, Mary, now lives in Cambridge. The younger daughter, Elizabeth, married Benjamin D. Whitney, of Brookline: he lives with his daughters in Cambridge. Ellen, daughter of George H. Williams, is the Northborough representative of the younger generation.

WOOD.—The family of Wood in this vicinity are descended from William Wood, who migrated from England in 1638. His son Michael died in Concord in 1674; his son Abraham in Sudbury in 1742, or a little later; his son "Captain" Samuel came in 1749 to Northborough, where he built a fulling-mill, and died in 1760. Of the twelve children of his son Abraham, representatives are found through the seven daughters under the family names of Davis, Garrett, Rice, Valentine and others. The youngest of the twelve, Samuel, born 1799, had four sons and one daughter. One of the sons, Samuel, born 1831, is now president of the bank.

STATISTICS.—The following figures show the recent growth of the town, the ratio of gain being the largest of the towns in this county excepting four: Population in 1875, 1398; population in 1885, 1853: increase, 455.

The gain is chiefly due to the immigration of French, most of whom are factory operatives from Lower Canada. From 1865 to 1875 there was a decrease, real or apparent, of 225. In the century since 1776, when the population was 562, there has been a gain of 836, or nearly 150 per cent. Number of voters in 1885, 393[1]; number of ratable polls, 573; number of families, 416; population of native birth, 1485; population of foreign birth, 368; natives of Massachusetts, 1485; natives of Ireland, 99; natives of Canada, 154; having both parents native, 983; having both parents foreign, 629; unmarried (about one-half), 976; having both parents Canadian French, 272; having both parents Irish, 215.

The following list is taken from the town reports of 1888:—

State tax, $1440; county tax, $856; town grant, $14,300; overlayings, $236.29—total, $16,832.29. Tax on polls, $1186; tax on real estate, $11,830.23; tax on personal estate, $3108.14; tax on resident bank stock, $707.92—total amount of tax to be collected, $16,832.29. Number of polls, 593; value of real estate, $946,340; value of personal estate, $248,592; value of resident bank stock, $56,613. Bank shares are taxed at $113. Rate of taxation, $12.50 per $1000. Number of dwelling-houses, 332; horses, 311; cows, 835.

The following statement is from the local newspaper: The daily shipment of milk from Northboro' averages at present about 300 cans holding 8½ quarts each. During the spring months the daily shipment reached 400 cans. Twenty-two cents per can is the price paid during the summer. Winter prices are a trifle higher. —(September, 1888.)

The export of apples to foreign markets began in 1864. It is estimated that in fruit seasons the exports amount to 10,000 barrels.

Financial summary for the year 1887–88. Expenditures: Schools, $4836.04; highways, $1757.60; bridges,

[1] Being 21 1-5 per cent. of the population. The highest ratio in the county is in Lunenburg, 30 1-2; the lowest in Webster, 16 per cent.

$294.51; snow bills, $103.70; Fire Department, $356.73; street lighting, $378.50; Public Library, $434.29; pauper account, $2229.76; cemeteries, $200; Town Hall, $377.29; water damage, $3556.97; State aid, $489; contingent expenses, $1958.43—total, $16,-972.82. Interest charges and State claims, $10,845.82; total, $27,818.64.

CHAPTER LXX.

PETERSHAM.

BY LYMAN CLARK.

Locality—Topography—Railway Connections—Historical Resources—Early Settlement—Petitioners and Proprietors—Services in the Indian War—First Meeting—Settlers—Relations with the Indians—Alarm—Armed Worshippers.

LOCATED in the northwestern part of Worcester County and bounded by Athol, Phillipston, Barre, Dana and New Salem, with eastern and southern angles connecting with Hubbardston and Hardwick, is found the town of Petersham, the only place bearing the name in the United States. The plantation, as it was originally called, was intended to be laid out six miles square, or containing thirty-six square miles. The four angles of its boundary lines coincided nearly with the points of the compass. A range of hills extends from the extreme northern portion of the town southward, in a position central between the eastern and western bounds. It is said that on these hills is found the highest cultivated land in Massachusetts east of the Connecticut River, the elevation being but a few feet lower than the summit of Wachusett Mountain.

On either side of this range of hills may be found streams flowing southward into Swift River, or, in the northwestern part, northward into Miller's River. East and west of these streams hills or elevated ground may be found as the traveller approaches Dana on the western or Hubbardston on the eastern border. A portion of the territory originally belonging to the town has been set off to increase that of Dana.

The railway connections of the place are with the Fitchburg, by stage nine miles to Athol; the Massachusetts Central by stage, ten miles to Barre. At North Dana, five miles distant, is a station of the Springfield and Athol Branch of the Boston and Albany, and at Williamsville, six miles eastward, is a station of the Ware River Railway. All of these stations are used to some extent in communicating with the world, that at Athol having been hitherto the chief point.

HISTORICAL RESOURCES.—Mention may properly be made of the early town records from 1757–1793, which are specially valuable; also of the early church records, which begin with the organization of the church, 1738. Rev. Peter Whitney, son of Rev. Aaron Whitney, the first pastor, wrote the first historical sketch of the town, of which we have knowledge, in his "History of Worcester County," which was the first published history of the county. Jared Weed, Esq., prepared an address upon the history of the town, the MS. of which has been in possession of Mr. Joseph Willson, of Bellows Falls, Vt. A bower has twice been built upon the Common and the people assembled to listen to an historical address, followed by festivities appropriate to our national holiday. The first occurred July 4, 1854, which was specially observed in view of the completion, on the 19th of April previous, of a hundred years from the date of the incorporation of the town. Dr. William Parkhurst presided. Rev. Edmund B. Willson delivered a carefully prepared, very full and complete address, presenting the previous history of Petersham. This was published in pamphlet form, with historical appendices, and is the basis of later historical labors relative to the town, furnishing much of the information contained in this article. Reference is made to this address for more full information on many topics than is here contained.

The second historical anniversary was held in pursuance of a resolution of Congress relative to local histories, under a bower on the same spot, July 4, 1876; Deacon Cephas Willard, ninety years of age, presided. Lyman Clark, then pastor of the First Congregational Church (Unitarian), delivered the address which was intended to supply some information relative to the earlier period not contained in the previous address, and to add historical facts pertaining to the period of twenty-two years which had passed since the previous celebration. This address was published in the *Athol Transcript* for July 11 and 18, 1876. George W. Horr, LL.B., in the year 1879 prepared a valuable historical article for a "History of Worcester County." Hon. John G. Mudge has carefully prepared the record of the soldiers of the War of the Rebellion, and furnished much other information. Mr. J. B. Howe has for many years collected materials for the history of the town, many items of which have appeared in the *Athol Transcript*. A valuable MS. in his possession contains the letters of Captain Park Holland, prepared from a diary kept by him of six years' service in the Revolutionary War, service at the time of Shays' Rebellion, and surveying tours to the eastern part of what is now the State of Maine. Acknowledgments are made to these various sources of information contained in this article, including courtesies by Mr. C. B. Tillinghast, in charge of the State Library. The preparation of a full history of the town remains for the future. Probably few towns of the State will be found to have more interesting historical resources than are furnished by the annals of Petersham.

EARLY SETTLEMENT.—In the month of April,

1733, John Bennet, Jeremiah Perley and sixty-five others petitioned the General Court for a grant of land six miles square. The proposed grant was to be located from a point beginning six miles from the northwest corner of Rutland, the southern line running westerly six miles. The reason urged in favor of the grant by the petitioners was previous service in the Indian Wars under Captain Lovell, of Dunstable, and Captain White, of Lancaster. Two previous petitions had been sent to the General Court without avail. This petition was acted upon favorably on the 25th day of April, 1733, the General Court having excluded nine of the petitioners and added five new names, making seventy-one proprietors. The grant was at the average rate of three hundred and twenty-four acres per man, or about twice the amount now allowed under the bounty laws of the United States, and may be thought a generous recognition of the "Hardship and Difficult marches they underwent" . . . "after the Inden Enemy and Into their Country," which were humbly assigned as reasons for the grant.

It is probable that those marches had at some time led the petitioners over the lands which they thought desirable for a plantation, and that thus the location was fixed in their minds. Some of them were men of means, thus giving the enterprise of establishing a plantation responsible endorsement. The petitioners lived chiefly in the northwestern part of Middlesex and northeastern part of Worcester Counties. The towns of Lancaster, Boxford, Harvard, Lunenburg, Concord, Groton, Dracut, Haverhill, Billerica, Grafton, Rutland, Sudbury, Worcester, Amesbury, Exeter, N. H., Bedford, Chelmsford and other places were represented among the proprietors.

Petitioners and Proprietors.—The names of the original petitioners were: "Benoni Boyenten, Moses Hazzen, William Hutchins, Caleb Dalton, John Hazzen, Jacob Perley, Samuel Stickney, Phinias Foster, Stephen Merril, Benjamin Barker, Robart Ford, Abner Brown, Samuel Hilton, John White, Benjamin Walker, Joseph Reed, John Baker, John Goss, Joseph Wrighte, Richard Hall, Oliver Pollard, Samuel Fletcher, John Dunton, William Spalding, John Varnum, John Leveston, Junr., Joseph Whelock, Robarte Phelps, Jonathan Houghton, Jacob Emes, Henry Willard, John Bennet, Jeremiah Perley, and in behalf of Joshua Hutchins, Jathro Eames, Jonas Houghton, Ezra Sawyer, James Houghton, Samuel Sawyer, Aron Rice (Ried?), Jonathan Adams, Moses Chandler, Samuel Rugg, Jonathan Atherton, Ephraim Houghton, Jonathan Wilson, Steven Houghton, heirs of Samuel Mossmann, Benjamin Gates, Fairbanks Moores, Joseph Whitcomb, Samuel Larned, Daniel Houghton, Peter Atherton, John Wilder, Edward Houghton, Henry Houghton, David Whitcomb, Timothy Hale, Jonathan Parling, Samuel Brown, John Sawyer, Joseph Willson, Samuel Willard, Ephraim Farnsworth, Edward Hartwell, Ruben Farnsworth." The five of these petitioners who were excluded by the General Court were: Edward Hartwell, Joseph Wright, Joseph Whelock, Robart Phelps and Jonathan Houghton, Jr.

Nine persons required to be admitted among the proprietors were: Thomas Farmer, Henry Coulburn, Jonathan Farrer, Samuel Shaddock, Samuel Trull, Jacob Corey, Joshua Webster, Abiel Foster, Samuel Tarbol. Thus the names of seventy-one proprietors were recognized in the grant, many of whom never became settlers, but transferred their lands to children or other assignees. In a subsequent report of the names by the proprietors' clerk, the name Aaron Ried appears instead of Aron Rice, and Sam[ll] Terrill in place of Samuel Trull. It may be deemed more likely that the true names were Ried and Terrill, an imperfect signature possibly explaining the early error, which was corrected by the proprietors' clerk after ample acquaintance.

Samuel Willard appears to have borne the military rank of major; Jeremiah Perley and Jonas Houghton, that of captain; John Bennet and Samuel Tarbol, that of lieutenant.

Services in the Indian War.—The following statement is made by Willson, in his address at the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town, of the services referred to in the petition of the proprietors. "What proprietors of this town rendered services under Captain White, of Lancaster, or what the particular services rendered were, it is out of my power to tell; but we have the means of identifying above forty of the seventy-one proprietors of this town, as having been volunteers under the famous and redoubtable Captain Lovell, of Dunstable, on the last but one of his marches into the Indian country,—they constituting about three-fourths of his whole force. This was the expedition in which a camp of ten Indians was surprised, and the whole number exterminated." It is not easy to pass this allusion without expressing a sense of humiliation in view of the fact that this warfare against the Indians was carried on in pursuance of an offer by Massachusetts of a bounty of one hundred pounds (sterling money) each for the scalps of the Indians. The scalps were brought in and the bounty paid. Aside from the barbarism of this warfare on the part of the whites, which the petitioners shared with the people of Massachusetts, the character of the original proprietors, as thus indicated, is of interest when considered in connection with events which took place at the time of the Revolutionary War. Their martial service was the occasion of a designation of the town, which sometimes appears in the early records as Volunteer's Town, or, by abbreviation, Voluntown. The name borne by established usage from the date of settlement to that of incorporation, 1854, was Nichewaug. This name

is still preserved as the post-office designation of a village in the southern part of the town.

The proprietors held their first meeting in Lancaster, May 10, 1733; the second in Groton during the autumn of the same year. At this meeting, in Groton, it was voted that a meeting-house be built. It will be noted that Groton is central between Lancaster, Dunstable and the neighboring towns, from which the recruits for the companies of Captains White and Lovell were enlisted.

SETTLERS.—More of interest attaches to the names of the early settlers than to those of the proprietors as such, many of whom never located in the town, but disposed of their rights to others. In pursuance of action by the General Court, Thomas Adams, proprietors' clerk, prepared, December 14, 1750, a report of the names of forty-seven settlers, with the proprietor's right on which they were located. This affords a means of distinguishing this number of settlers by the names which follow: John Stowill, Jacob Wheeler, Jonas Farnsworth, Sam^{ll} Willson, Nath^{l} Sanderson, Nathan Goddard, Isaac Ward, Christ^{fr} Page, Isaac Hilldrake, Nath^{l} Stevens, Salvenas How, Joseph Marble, David Stone, Simeon Houghton, David Page, John Wilder, Junr., Dan^{l} Mills, George Dobbins, Sam^{l} Willard, Jun., Esq^{r}., Aaron Allen, Ephraim Rice, Joseph Willson, Sam^{ll} Whittemore, William Negus, Sam^{ll} Marble, James Clemence, Ebenezer Davis, Thos. Robbins, Dan^{ll} Owen, Benj^{a} Chandler, Nath^{ll} Wilder, Zedekiah Stone, Ebenez^{r} Hill, David Lawson, Thomas Rogers, Daniel Fisk, Edmund Bingham, Edward Allen, Jon^{n} Marble, David Lawson, Jun^{r}., Sam^{ll} Gats, David Sanderson, Dan^{ll} Dunkin, Charles Wilder, Aaron Wilder, Dan^{ll} Spooner, Eleazer Sanger.

The report closes with this statement:

"There are Divers others settled on Devisions belonging to the same Rights that are here settled, but the time being so short since I saw the act in the Prints that I am not able at present to give an exact account what particular Rights they are settled on and convey the same to the General assembly by the time appointed; but the number of families in said Township are Sixty-one."

This report dates from four years previous to the incorporation of the town, 1754. The first census, taken in 1765, showed a population of seven hundred and seven.

Tradition reports that the first two houses in the settlement were built by Joseph Willson and Simeon Houghton, the question of precedence not being determined.

RELATIONS WITH THE INDIANS.—The proprietors of the town of Petersham acquired by purchase, in addition to the grant of the General Court, an Indian claim upon the land. Probably this contributed to the peaceable relations of the settlers with the claimants, no death by savage violence having ever been reported as occurring within the town. We have a glimpse of the early time in the following description, by Captain Park Holland, whose father came to the town from Shrewsbury in 1752, of an alarm at the time of the French and Indian War, 1756: "I recollect as distinctly as if but yesterday when the inhabitants were called upon to be ready to defend themselves. We were at church when news came that the enemy was near. The services were immediately ended, and each man seized his gun, which he had left at the door, hastened home to be ready to march in the morning. I well remember one of our neighbors coming to borrow a darning-needle of my mother to mend her husband's stockings, which I very much wondered at, it being Sunday, not exactly seeing how the expected approach of the French and Indians could lessen the sin of working on that holy day. I was then probably four or five years old." As this was an alarm it appears that their habit was to take their guns to church, which at a later date has not been thought to be in good form. Horr quotes Whitney to the same effect in the following passage: "Although the prospects from the soil were very promising, and settlers moved in fast, yet they laboured under many and exceeding great disadvantages, being then so remote from any white people, from whom they could procure the necessaries of life, or derive any aid or support. While in its infancy and struggling for life, a French war broke out, and the Indians, being always in the interest of the French, became hostile, and began to commit depredations in various parts of the land, which occasioned the few inhabitants great fear and danger, obliging them to build forts in different parts of the town, round certain houses, into each of which a number of families moved for safety and defence, and soldiers were stationed there as a guard to the inhabitants, and to reconnoitre the country. The people used to labor on their lands in small parties, changing work with one another, having their guns by them, and these, also, they were for a long time obliged to carry with them whenever they went to the House of God for religious worship, and also to place sentinels at the doors."

CHAPTER LXXI.

PETERSHAM.—(*Continued.*)

INCIDENTS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Employment of a Teacher—Dedication of a Liberty Tree—Breaking Open a School-house—A Suit for Damages—A Brilliant Attorney—A Representative Instructed—Warlike Resolutions—Greeting to Boston—That "Town" Invited to Petersham—The Doings of Several Parties—Royalists Disarmed—A Town-meeting in 1776—The Muster-roll—Clearing a Parade Ground—Captain Holland Dines with Washington—Inoculated with Small pox—Financial Honor of the Town.

THE town history presents a most interesting series of incidents connected with the Revolution. One of

the first grew out of the employment of a teacher. Rev. Aaron Whitney, pastor of the church and member of the School Board, was a royalist. (More than a hundred years removed from the passions of that time, we may well avoid the current epithets and show the literary courtesy of styling the two parties to the revolutionary struggle royalists and revolutionists, words exactly expressing the political position of the opponents.) Ensign Man, an applicant for the position of teacher, was in sentiment a revolutionist; in view of which Mr. Whitney refused to take part in his examination, but was present. The teacher was employed notwithstanding the opposition of Mr. Whitney, and became a party to several events connected with the war.

In 1768 the Massachusetts House of Representatives had forwarded an address to the King, relative to grievances, which was deemed by the crown offensive in its terms, and the House was ordered to rescind its action. The vote upon this question was seventeen in favor of to ninety-two against rescinding the petition. The "Sons of Liberty," at Petersham, celebrated, in characteristic fashion, this refusal to withdraw a petition for redress of grievances. They selected a thrifty young elm tree, and cut away seventeen branches, leaving, as tradition declares, ninety-two remaining. With songs, toasts and patriotic ceremony the dismembered branches were consigned to the flames, and the living tree dedicated to the Goddess of Liberty. That Ensign Man, teacher of the children of the place, should take part, as he did, in such ceremonies, would naturally arouse the indignation of the royalist citizens of the town. A certain school-house stood upon ground which was claimed by Captain Thomas Beaman, as was the school-house itself, to be his property. For the purpose of keeping the offending schoolmaster from using this school-house, Captain Beaman closed the door with a padlock. Mr. Sylvanus How, who had formerly owned the land, claimed that the school-house stood in the highway, and, going with Mr. Man, they broke open the door. A suit for damages arose, the decision of which awarded the plaintiff, Captain Beaman six shillings. The defendants appealed and obtained, a reduction of this small award, but were compelled to pay the costs, which were a considerable sum. Utterly trivial, petty and insignificant as this is, it led, such being the complications of human events, to that which rises to the dignity of historic consequence. Sylvanus How had employed no less a personage than the brilliant and distinguished Josiah Quincy, Jr., to defend him from being, as he thought, unrighteously mulcted in the sum of six shillings for opening a school-house. This able lawyer was unsuccessful so far as the main question was concerned. A petty reduction of the petty fine was all he accomplished, leaving the right of the cause, as awarded, to the plaintiff Beaman. But Mr. Quincy was able to render Mr. How other and very much more important services, which may now be narrated.

The Boston Committee of Correspondence had sent out its Circular Letter to the towns. Mr. How was chairman of the town committee to draft a reply to that circular. He sought unofficial assistance from his attorney, Mr. Quincy, who used the opportunity with good effect. Mr. How's associates upon the committee were Colonel Ephraim Doolittle, Jonathan Grout, Samuel Dennis, Daniel Miles, Captain Elisha Ward, John Stowell, Theophilus Chandler and Deacon William Willard. This committee, with the friendly assistance of Mr. Quincy, prepared a reply to the circular from Boston, a series of resolutions relative to the condition of the colonies, and a series of instructions to their representative to the General Court. Colonel Ephraim Doolittle represented the town and was also moderator of the town-meeting, held January 4, 1773, which acted upon the report. An excerpt from the instructions to their representative is of special interest as showing the temper of the report:

It is our earnest desire, and we here direct you to use your utmost influence (as one of the legislative body) to convince the nation of Great Britain that the measures they have meted out to us will have a direct tendency to destroy both them and us; and petition the King and Parliament of Great Britain, in the most pathetic and striking manner, to relieve us from our aggravated grievances. But if this should fail, we recommend it to your consideration and direct you to move it to the consideration of the honorable Court, whether it would it not be best to call in the aid of some Protestant Power or Powers, requesting that they would use their kind and Christian influence with our mother country, that so we may be relieved, and that brotherly love and harmony may again take place, and that natural alliance again be restored between us and Great Britain, which may continue until time shall be no more.

An excerpt from the resolutions, known to have originated in the mind of Mr. Quincy, presents the alternative of the town in case of the failure of the peaceful methods of petition and arbitration:

Resolved, That it is the first and highest social duty of this people to consider of, and seek ways and means for a speedy redress of these mighty grievances and intolerable wrongs; and that for the obtainment of this end, this people are warranted by the laws of God and nature in the use of every rightful art, and energy of policy, stratagem and force.

This historic deliberative action of the town recommended a petition, "in the most pathetic and striking manner," for redress of grievances, arbitration as the alternative; but failing in these, the town declared resistance warranted by use of every rightful art, energy of policy, strategem and force. Can it be truly said that this deliberative conclusion of the town in parliament, January 4, 1773, was in any respect less significant, though less famous than the actual use of force which began at Concord two years later?

The letter of reply to the circular sent from Boston contains such a portraiture of the times that it may well be given entire.

To the Committee of Correspondence for the town of Boston:

GENTLEMEN: The town of Petersham having received the circular letter from the town of Boston, with the state[ment] of rights and grievances as published by them, most sensibly congratulate you on reflecting on that principle of virtue which must have induced your town, at so critical a day, to take the lead in so good a cause; and our admiration is heightened when we consider your being exposed to the

first efforts of the iron jaws of power. The time may come when, if you continue your integrity, that you may be driven from your goodly heritages; and if that should be the case (which God of his infinite mercy prevent), we invite you to share with us in our small supplies of the necessarys of life. And should the voracious jaws of tyranny still haunt us, and we should not be able to withstand them, we are determined to retire and seek refuge among the inland aboriginal natives of this country, with whom we doubt not but to find more humanity and brotherly love than we have lately received from our mother country.

We are sensible that there is a number amongst us who are wicked enough to make use of their whole influence to divide and render the efforts making for a union abortive; and that they are induced to conduct in this manner from the low motives of expecting to be sharers in the arbitrary power which they are so active in endeavoring should take place, and of sharing in the unrighteous plunder of their fellowmen. But may God graciously disappoint their measures and turn their hearts! We herewith send an attested copy of the doings of our town. If the nature of causes ever again bespeaks any more from us, we then again shall offer what then may appear right, for we read that those that were faithful spake often one to the other; and may God of his infinite mercy, in his own time deliver us!

SILVANUS HOW, *per order*.
DAVID SANDERSON, *Town Clerk*.

Specially noticable is the invitation given to the "town of Boston," in view of the then possible future event of being overcome by "iron jaws of power," to take refuge in Petersham and share with them in their "small supplies of the necessarys of life." Fortunately, the British lion was not able to drive the "town of Boston" to an acceptance of this hospitable invitation; but it is a curious fact that a century later many of the people of Boston, overcome by a lion, did, and still do, take refuge in Petersham, to there share with the good people the ample supplies of the "necessaries of life." Not the lion of the English flag, but the astronomical lion, whose fury brings July and August temperatures, constrains at least some of the people of Boston to favorable consideration of the historic invitation to Petersham.

Of several parties to these incidents it may be said that Ensign Man became captivated by the charms of Miss Alice Whitney, the minister's daughter, whom he married, renouncing his former political views. Colonel Doolittle, although not personally present, was the first officer of a Worcester County regiment which took part at the battle of Bunker Hill. Daniel Miles and Sylvanus How became soldiers in the Revolutionary army. Captain Beaman, who locked the school-house door, won execrable distinction by piloting the British troops from Boston to Concord. Josiah Quincy rendered his country memorable service by his eloquence and patriotism.

ROYALISTS DISARMED.—The town was not without a local exhibition of force, which, however, did not lead to bloodshed. Dr. Ball, of Templeton, which then included Phillipston, on a visit to Petersham, fell into a disputation with one or two young men who were of the revolutionary party. Separating with ill-feeling, the men waylaid the Templeton royalist on his way homeward, and pelted him with stones, one of which took serious, one tradition says subsequently fatal, effect. The outrage naturally aroused the royalists of Templeton, and friends of Dr. Ball, who came over in force and were joined by friends of their cause in Petersham. A like assembly of the friends of the colonial cause took place under the leadership of Captain Holman, also of Templeton, the result being that the royalist party took refuge in a house then owned by David Stone, now in possession of Mr. George West, and barricaded their place of refuge. The opposing revolutionists besieged the house and guarded it during the following stormy night, after which the royalists were induced to surrender. They came out and were escorted to the hotel kept by Mr. Winslow, and an investigation took place with this result: the royalists were required to give up their arms and agree not to act against the revolutionary movement in future. The injury to Dr. Ball had given them just cause of complaint, but the cause of independence was in their estimation superior to any question of personal assault and battery, and these Petersham patriots took occasion, in January or February, 1775, to thus disarm their opponents, and parole them substantially as prisoners of war. Tradition declares that on that night of siege two wives, whose husbands were in the opposing ranks, met in the fields between their respective dwellings, and exchanged personal sympathies as neighbors and friends.

A town-meeting was held May 27, 1776, "to see if the inhabitants will instruct their representative to inform the Great and General Court of this Province that they stand ready, and are fully determined to support the Continental Congress with their lives and fortunes, on condition they should declare the American colonies independent of corrupt and arbitrary Great Britain." Affirmative action was taken, with but one negative vote.

ENROLLMENT OF SOLDIERS.—The virtue of a promise is in the performance thereof. How well the town kept its promise in behalf of the cause of independence may be seen from its roll of revolutionary soldiers.

Col. Ephraim Doolittle commanded a Worcester County regiment. Capt. John Wheeler led a Petersham company in the same regiment. The names of the men of this company, some of whom may have enlisted from other towns, are given, with various marks of interrogation, by Rev. Edmund Willson. Edw. Barker (or Bowker), Lieutenant; John Bowker, Lieutenant; Thos. Davenport, John Holland, John Rogers, Joel Doolittle, Sergeants; Thad. Houghton, Corporal; Thomas Wheeler, Drummer; Caleb Bryant, Fifer; Israel Houghton, Caleb Perry, David Perry, Aaron Allen, Bezile Amsdel (Bezaleel Amsden?), Sam. Bryant, Thomas Bowker, Ezekiel Bouker, Nat. Bozworth, David Clarke, Reuben Cummings, Ephraim Clafflin, David (Daniel?) Claflin, John Finney ("Fiendly" or Findlay?) Benjamin Ganson, Joanna (?) Gallen, Peter Gore, Luther Holland, Phazez (?) Houghton, Silvanus How, John How, Jacob Houghton, Henry W. Hunt, James Hawkes,

Thos. Jackson, Benj. Knapp, Dan'l Miles, Joab Miles, William Peckham, Eph. Bill, Amos Bill, John Bill, Luke Bill, Abel Rogers, Jabez Spear, Dav. Sanderson, Eph. Sterns, John Stores (Stowell?), Ruggles Spooner, Eliak (im) Spooner, Wing Spooner, John Warden, John Wilder, Cornelius Wilder, Joseph Wilson.

The following additional names are given as Petersham men who belonged to the company of Capt. Fletcher, of Templeton: Jotham Houghton, Ebenezer Ingersoll, William Clements, Daniel Duncan, David Fling, Silas Harris, Stephen Hall, Robert Hill, Joseph Negus, Abel Wheeler.

In the company of Captain Jonathan Holman, also of Templeton, were found Martin Rice, fifer, David Bruce, Thomas Groce, Daniel Hastings, Isaac Palmer, Amos Rice, Ebenezer Wilson. Seventy-two names are thus given as either belonging to the Petersham company or enlisted from the town in the companies of Captain Holman and Fletcher, of Templeton.

In addition to these names given by Willson, we mention those of two brothers, Captain Ivory Holland and Captain Park Holland. For a sketch of the life of the latter, see biographical notes. One incident of his service may be here given in his own words:

A Dinner by Washington.

In the spring of 1781, I think it was, our troops marched down to White Plains and formed an encampment, and while there we were amused by an order that was said to have come from Gen. Heath, but, as we all knew Washington's abhorrence of the sin of profanity, we knew well where it originated. Our parade-ground was cleared with much difficulty. The order was that the first one who was heard to utter an oath should dig up by the roots one of the pitch-pine stumps, which was no very easy matter. Not long after a soldier was seen sweating and toiling away at one, declaring that it was paying too dear, and it should be the last he would dig. Speaking of Washington's dislike of profane habits reminds me of a scene at his own table, where twenty or more of the officers were invited to dine with him. His habit was usually to take a single glass of wine after dinner, and retire, leaving us to ourselves, as he, at this time of care and anxiety, rarely made any conversation except on business. We had finished our dinner, and Washington had taken his wine in his hand, when a young officer from New Hampshire at the end of the table, who had long been in the habit of using profane language, being so much engaged, forgot where he was, and swore an oath, when he heard a rap on the table by Washington, who set down his untasted wine, arose and said, "Gentlemen, when I invited you here it was my intention to have invited gentlemen only. I am sorry to add I have been mistaken," and left the room. A dead silence reigned for some time, which was broken by the offender himself calling us all to witness that the oath he had uttered should be his last; adding he should rather have been shot through the heart than have deserved the reproof from Washington. Such was our love and reverence for this great and good man that the most profane left off the habit, and it was done away with among us before the close of the war.

The regiment in which Captain Holland served, as a matter of preparation for service, went into barracks at Bunker Hill and, this being before the discovery of vaccination, were inoculated with smallpox. He passed through this experience and tells us that "about nine hundred entered the hospital, eight hundred of whom recovered." Such was the cost of independence.

The record of the annual town-meeting held March 6, 1780, contains an entry which is very creditable to the financial honor with which the soldiers were treated. It appears that the town "Chose a committee for hiring soldiers: Joseph Gleason, Robert Peckham, John Bouker,—voted that the committee, if they have to hire money or soldiers, that they engage on the Town's credit to keep the money of Equal value." It will be borne in mind that the United States did not undertake to act upon this principle in payment of the soldiers of the Rebellion.

During the Revolution the town well and patriotically sustained the military character of its population at the time of settlement, which gave it for a time the occasional name Volunteer's Town.

CHAPTER LXXII.

PETERSHAM—(*Continued.*)

SHAYS' REBELLION.

Causes—The Insurgents at Pelham—Government Troops at Hadley—The Night March and Dispersion—Report of Gen. Lincoln—Narrative by Capt. Holland—Rev. Dr. Samuel Willard an Eye-Witness—"Infantry in Arms"—Considerate Judgment.

THE insurrection commonly known as Shays' Rebellion grew out of the disorganization of society during the Revolution, the impoverishment of the people by the war (making payment of debts difficult) and the weakness of the civil administration under the Articles of Confederation. It strikingly called attention to the need of a stronger government and thus incidentally contributed toward the movement for "a more perfect union," by the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, the imperfection of the previous union being illustrated in this and other resistance to constituted authority.

On Saturday morning, February 2, 1787, Captain Daniel Shays, after various efforts to interrupt the proceedings of the court, for the purpose of preventing the collection of debts, was found at Pelham with about two thousand men. General Lincoln was at Hadley with an armed force of government troops. The situation and subsequent events are best described in the report of Gen. Lincoln to Governor Bowdoin and in historical letters by Capt. Park Holland and Rev. Samuel Willard, D.D.

Gen. Lincoln's report is as follows:

Petersham, February 4, 1787.

Dear Sir,—I have been honored with the receipt of your Excellency's favors of the 25th ult. and the 1st inst. with the warrants.

In my last I mentioned to you that I had various applications from the neighboring towns, and what answers I had given. These, I think, had a happy effect, and the towns have felt themselves much interested in recalling their men, and putting an end to the progress of the insurgents.

I remained a number of days at Hadley, refreshing our men, who had experienced severe fatigue; this gave time for the Insurgents to reflect

upon the offers which had been made to them, and for the selectmen to interpose their authority.

Friday we reconnoitered their post with an intention to approach them the next day. This movement gave them an alarm, and at 3 o'clock Saturday morning I received a flag from Wheeler, requesting that he might have a conference with Gen. Putnam. It was granted and they met Saturday forenoon. To provide for his personal safety seemed to be the principal object he had in view—no encouragement on this head being given, he retired; and Saturday evening I was informed that Shays had left Pelham, and had pointed his forces towards this place, where, it was said, he expected to be joined by many others, and where he could make a stand, as many towns in this vicinity were in his interest. At 8 o'clock our troops were in motion; the first part of the night was light, and the weather clement; but between 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning, the wind shifting to the westward, it became cold and squally, with considerable snow. The wind arose very high, and with light snow that fell the day before and was falling, the paths were soon filled up, the men became fatigued, and they were in a part of the country where they could not be covered in the distance of eight miles, and the cold was so increased that they could not halt in the road to refresh themselves. Under these circumstances they were obliged to continue their march. We arrived here about 9 o'clock, exceedingly fatigued by a march of 30 miles, part of it in a deep snow, and in a most violent storm. When this abated the cold increased and a great part of our men are frozen in some part or other—I hope none of them are dangerously so, and that most of them will be able again to march in a short time. We approached this town nearly in the centre, where Shays had covered his men; and had we not been prevented by the steepness of the hill and the depth of the snow from throwing our men rapidly into it, we should have arrested very probably one-half of his force: for they were so nearly surprised, as it was, that they had not time to call in their out-parties, or even their guards. About 150 fell into our hands, and none escaped but by the most precepitate flight in different directions; but most of their men fled for Athol. It is said they intended to reach Northfield. This brings him near the line of another State, where he may vainly hope to find an asylum. Thus, Sir, that body of men, who were, a few days since, offering the grossest insults to the best citizens of the Commonwealth, and were menacing even Government itself, is fast dissipating, and it will not long, I think, have the least existence. It must be pleasing to your Excellency to know that this has been effected, and bloodshed avoided, but in an instant or two, where the Insurgents have rushed on to their own destruction, after every effort had been made by the officers of Government to prevent it. That so little has been spilt is owing, in a measure, to the patience and obedience, the zeal and fortitude discovered in our troops, to whom too much thanks cannot be given. A different line of conduct which Shays flattered his troops would be manifested and would have given them support, and led them to acts of violence, while it must have buoyed up the hopes of their abettors and stimulated them to greater exertions.

As soon as the troops are able to move I shall follow Shays, and throw part of our force into Berkshire. Before I leave this place I shall make a disposition of the troops, and discharge such whole services as are no longer necessary.

Notwithstanding the present state of things, much is necessary for the General Court to do; and decided measures on their part will give support to our friends and dismay to others,

I have the honor to be with highest respect, your obedient servant,

B. Lincoln.

Mr. Cabot will honor this by being the bearer of it. His great attention to duty and his knowledge therein entitle him to thanks. He will give your Excellency a more minute account of matters than I have been able to write.

His Excellency Governor Bowdoin.

An extract only can be given from the singularly interesting narrative of Capt. Park Holland, which will amply explain itself and throw fresh light upon the report of Gen. Lincoln:

Some time in December I was appointed to take the company raised in the towns of Petersham, Athol and Rutland, which was immediately filled by voluntary enlistment. I had enlisted as private soldiers thirteen old commissioned officers, among whom was Gen. Rufus Putnam, in whose regiment I had served during the War of the Revolution. During these transactions Capt. Daniel Shays, commander-in-chief of the opposite party was not idle. He had collected, it was said, eight or ten thousand men, a part of whom, under the command of Luke Day, were somewhere in the vicinity of West Springfield. Another large force commanded by Adam Wheeler collected first at Princeton, from thence marched to New Braintree, while Shays with the main body was in or near the town of Pelham. While Gen. Lincoln and his troops lay at Worcester, news arrived that Shays with his division was on the march to Springfield to take possession of the Continental stores, arms, ammunition, etc., which were deposited there. Gen. Lincoln marched immediately to Brookfield, where he halted for the night. The next day we continued our march for Springfield, and while on the way sometime before noon we heard that Shays had reached there already and had had an encounter with Gen. Shepherd, who was there guarding the United States property with a detachment of government troops. We soon met stragglers from Shays' retreating troops, among others a sleigh with two or three dead men, who, as a soldier remarked,—"poor fellows, had had their grievances redressed forever," the "redress of grievances" being a term much in use among them. It was with no small grief that I now recognized in one of the dead my old friend Spicer. . . . I had known him as a faithful soldier through the war and as one who at various times had manifested much affection for me. On our arrival at Springfield we found that Shays had made a rapid retreat towards Pelham, and Gen. Shepherd gave us the following account of the battle, if it could be termed such: 'Shays and his men were found to be rapidly marching to Springfield, where the Continental stores were deposited and guarded by Gen. Shepherd, who immediately sent out his aids with a flag to inform Shays that if he advanced any further he should fire upon him. He returned no answer, but continued marching more rapidly towards Shepherd, who then ordered his field-pieces loaded, some with balls and some with grape shot, and when within reach of the guns he ordered one of the field-pieces to be fired over the heads of the insurgents, which was quickly done, but they only quickened their march instead of halting, as he had hoped they would do. Another piece was now ordered with as good aim as possible at the main body. This had the desired effect, a rapid and disorderly retreat, leaving their dead and one mortally wounded on the field. Gen. Shepherd remarked to me that at no time in his life was he called upon to perform so painful a duty as when he ordered good aim to be taken at Shays and his men, many of whom had fought at his side and stood firm through the most trying scenes of the late war. I had served under Shays and knew him to be a brave and good soldier or officer, and I can truly say that it was with no regret on my part that I had not reached here in season to see him and his mistaken followers fired upon as enemies.

While Shays was advancing upon Springfield Capt. Day had collected a considerable force on the opposite side of the river at West Springfield to re enforce Shays if necessary. Therefore, soon as Lincoln's men had taken some refreshments we crossed the river to call Capt. Day to account for his acts and deeds, but on our arrival we found that he, in his wisdom, had thought best to disband his troops, and that neither he nor his kinsmen were to be found. We next marched to old Hadley, thinking it possible that Day might collect his men and attempt to join Shays at Pelham. Here we remained two or three days to refresh and wait for our artillery and stores to overtake us. About the third day of our tarry in Hadley, at sunset we received orders to march immediately as we supposed to Pelham, but the fact was that Gen. Lincoln had received information that Shays had left Pelham and was on his way to Petersham. We left immediately, late as it was. The weather was comfortably warm, but about ten or twelve o'clock in the night the wind changed to the northwest, blew furiously, accompanied by a violent snow-squall, and became intolerably cold. The snow was deep, though a fine sleigh path would have made it good travelling had it not been that our artillery was in front with wheels so much wider than the path that the road was filled with loose snow, which rendered the travelling as uncomfortable as can well be imagined. We reached Petersham about sunrise next morning, tired, hungry and frozen, having travelled in the course of the night thirty miles, the hardest march I ever endured. I found myself badly frost-bitten, and found but two of my whole company who were not more or less frozen. Shays being informed that Gen. Lincoln was close in his rear thought it best to leave town, and so rapid were his movements that many left their provisions, and some on the fire preparing for breakfast. Our quartermaster had gone in front of us to look out for houses to lodge in, so when we reached the main street we had only to take possession of such as were pointed out to us, some of which were still occupied by Shays' men, who soon left and gave us a peaceable entrance. Never were a good fire and breakfast enjoyed more highly by any set of men. The main body of Shays' troops marched

through the town to the northern bounds, which pass through a valley, and were in a measure out of the cold wind. There they made a halt, probably to consider what was best to be done; either to make a firm stand and give Gen. Lincoln battle or to make a final retreat. It appears that they chose the latter, as many returned to their homes.

Their place of halting, as mentioned above, was directly in front of my home, where my family then were, and it may be supposed felt themselves in a very unpleasant situation, as it was well-known that I was out in Lincoln's Army, and of course unfriendly to Shays. Of course they had reason to expect some abuse from them. My wife was at this time confined by illness to her chamber, but with her usual presence of mind she told the young man living with her to make a good fire in each room in the house as soon as she saw their intention of halting, and to bring from her cellar and pantry everything she had to offer for breakfast. The house was soon filled to overflowing with men half starved and half frozen, among whom was Mr. Converse, now quartermaster, an acquaintance of ours. My wife sent for him and told him she had done all in her power for their relief and comfort, and hoped he would see that they did no damage to the house. He assured her that he was very grateful, and that as far as possible he would comply with her request; which he strictly did, and after eating and warming themselves to their satisfaction they departed, having done no damage save clearing the house of every eatable thing.

An appendix to the address of Rev. Edmund Willson preserves to us a graphic description of the rout of Shays' men by an eye-witness, Rev. Dr. Samuel Willard. The house of his father was one of several that were occupied by troops, they supposing that their own march of the day previous had put a long distance between them and the forces of Lincoln.

"I well remember," writes the Rev. Dr. Willard, of Deerfield, "the entrance of the insurgents into Petersham, and the alarm it excited among those who were known to be on the side of the Government. Several of the insurgents had been arrested and condemned to death for having been found in arms the second time, in violation of the oath of allegiance which had been imposed after their first capture; and their party had threatened to take prisoners who should be held as hostages for the life and safety of those who were under condemnation. On this account my father and some others secreted themselves when the insurgents approached their houses. The sudden and unexpected arrival of Lincoln the next morning, and the precipitate retreat of Shays and his army dispersed all fear, but not all trouble. The army of the Government was quartered upon us from Sunday morning till Wednesday, and left our houses in such a state as to inspire dread of armies in every bosom.

"The insurgents were little prepared to act with efficiency. To say nothing of their want of personal qualifications, they were deficient in arms. Some of the *staff* officers were appropriately armed; for, in his flight, one of them left at our house the only weapon which I think he had,—a *cane*, which was nothing else than a stick stripped of its bark, with a pewter head, of which my boyhood took possession.

"One or two anecdotes will show the panic, and the want of military tactics which were apparent in the retreat:

"I was out at the door on the approach of Lincoln's army; and an officer of the insurgents came riding up at full speed, and gave me, a boy of ten years—the oral commission, 'Run into the house, and tell them to parade in a minute, for the enemy are upon us!' I went in, but found them in as much confusion as a hive of bees swarming. After they were gone, it appeared that one of them had forgotten to take his gun, and a brother of mine took possession of it, and it was never called for.

"It was in the midst of a violent snow-storm, or, rather, the snow was flying, and it was very cold. Some poor wight had his hat taken from his head, and, I suppose, went without a hat against that furious north wind to Athol, where they halted. I, myself, found the hat the following spring in one of our lots, and, as my head was large for a boy of my age, it suited me very well, and I finished the wear of it."

The writer has often conversed with another eye-witness to the scenes, a younger brother of the author of these reminiscences, the late Deacon Cephas Willard, well known in Worcester County. But he, with a humorous twinkle of his eye, excused himself for not remembering details by saying, "I then belonged to the *infantry in arms*, and not *under arms*."

Other houses in the town are said to have been occupied in similar manner, including the village tavern and that of the minister, Rev. Solomon Reed. He was a large, portly man, who stood guard in his halls for the night, as tradition affirms, with drawn sword, in order to prevent trespass on the part of the insurgents.

The plea of Captain Holland for a kindly and considerate judgment of Shays' men ought not to be overlooked. He says,—

I observe here there are many things to be considered before we condemn the misled followers of Daniel Shays. Their leaders were ignorant, and many of them deceived. Our government was a new and untried ship, with many joints that needed oiling, to say the least; with no chart of experience to guide us, nor map of the past by which to lay our course. He who stood by the side of these men in many hard-fought battles with a powerful enemy, and witnessed their hardships and sufferings, borne without complaint, would much rather remember the good service they rendered their country than dwell upon what historians have set down as a blot upon their country's pages.

CHAPTER LXXIII.

PETERSHAM—(*Continued.*)

THE CHURCHES.

A Meeting in Groton—Aaron Whitney ordained as First pastor—Opposed to the Revolution—Action by the Town—A Guard at the Church-door—Solomon Reed Ordained—Indian Corn Offered as Salary—A Mutual Council to Settle "Jarrs and Quarrels"—Festus Foster Ordained—The Covenant Changed—Rev. Luther Willson Installed—Disestablishment of the Churches—Property Transferred—The Ministerial Land Sold for Corn—Sundry Bequests—Rev. George R. Noyes, D.D., Settled—Biblical Scholarship—Rev. Nathaniel Gage Settled—House of Worship Built—Clock and Bell—Several Pastors—Congregational Church—Baptist Church—The Universalists—Methodists.

THE long and generally peaceful prosperity which followed the adoption of the Constitution of the United States gave opportunity for the growth of the churches, schools and industries of the county and of this town. The local growth may be here narrated from the beginning. The proprietors of the town voted, at their second meeting, held at Groton, in the autumn of 1733, to build a meeting-house.

This action, taken in a town forty miles distant, recalls still earlier events. In the settlement of the colonies the civil and ecclesiastieal organization was sometimes effected on shipboard, or in England before the colonists embarked. The town and church of Dorchester were organized at Plymouth, England. Afterward the community removed from Dorchester to Winsor, where it united with other towns in the formation of the State of Connecticut. So the erection of a church at Petersham was ordered by a vote taken in Groton. Five years passed before the settlement of a pastor, preaching being maintained during a portion of the time.

In 1738 a young graduate from Harvard was dismissed from the church at Littleton and came to Nichewaug to be the minister of the town and church which was yet to be organized within it. A church covenant was adopted and Aaron Whitney was ordained and settled as minister. A proprietor's lot was assigned to him, with two hundred pounds in money as a settlement and one hundred and fifty pounds as an annual salary. He was ordained in December of the same year. Isaac Ward and Thomas Adams were chosen deacons. Probably the dedication of the house of worship also took place.

The covenant adopted was Trinitarian in form. It was in use until the year 1802, or sixty-four years, when a statement of faith Unitarian in its terms was substituted. The pastorate of Mr. Whitney appears to have been peaceful and prosperous until the time of the Revolution. He was royalist in sentiment, and this led to a vote of the town that they "will not bargain with, hire nor employ the Rev. Mr. Whitney to preach for them any longer." He was treated as "an enemy of his country," though his character was blameless and his fidelity unimpeachable. Mr. Whitney regarded the action of the town as wholly illegal and would have continued to preach in disregard of the vote of the town. To prevent this a committee was chosen "to see that the publick worship be not disturbed by any person or persons going into the desk but such persons as shall be put in by the Town's Committee." In pursuance of this vote, the committee on the following Sunday stationed Peter Gore, a half-blood Indian, armed, tradition says, with a gun, at the door of the church, and when Mr. Whitney arrived he was not allowed to enter. A clear spring upon the Phillipston road, called "Gore spring," preserves the memory of Peter Gore, who owned the pasture in which it is found. Mr. Whitney continued to preach at his own house and still claimed to be the minister of the town. The pastorate was practically closed in 1777. Four of his sons were educated at Harvard College.

On the 15th of June, 1780, the town voted unanimously to call "Mr. Solomon Reed to settle with them in the work of the Gospel," and further "voted that the Town give him a Settlement of one hundred pounds Stated on Indian corn at three shillings pr bushel, to be paid in 30 days after his ordination." A yearly salary of one hundred pounds "on Indian corn" at the same rate was offered. At the suggestion of Mr. Reed these proposals were so modified that the payment was to be made in lawful money, it being agreed that "each and every hundred pounds when paid shall be with a sum of money sufficient to purchase six hundred and sixty-six bushels and tow-thirds of a bushel of Indian corn." The agreement further recited that, "Whereas, through the wiles of the adversary or through the weakness and Infirmities of human nature, dissention, difficulties, Jarrs and Quarrels may subsist between the said Mr. Solomon Reed and the Congregation in this Town, whether the Difficulty arises on the part of the Town church or on the part of s^{d} Mr. Solomon Reed," and provided that a mutual council should be called to compose and arrange all differences.

These conditions having been agreed to, Mr. Reed was settled and his pastorate continued until the year 1800, or about twenty years. This long service is sufficient evidence that Mr. Reed was beloved and respected by his people, although the truth of history compels one to say that he was not free from temptation to excesses in the use of intoxicating drinks. Furthermore, the people were not without fault in this respect, the selectmen having approved a bill of more than five thousand pounds for liquors and other articles for the ordaining council by which Mr. Reed was settled. This statement is made from memory of the language of the bill which the writer has seen. The explanation of the astonishing sum is found in the date, 1780, when currency was so inflated that the amount in specie was probably less than two hundred dollars.

In the year 1801 the church and town invited Mr. Festus Foster to become their minister. He consented, and was ordained January 13, 1802. Three months after his ordination the church substituted a "Christian Profession," Unitarian in sentiment, for the "Covenant" in previous use. The profession thus adopted has been continued by the First Parish, with slight changes, to the present time. The pastorate of Festus Foster closed 1817, when he was dismissed with honorable recognition of his faithful services.

Rev. Luther Willson, a native of New Braintree, born 1783, a graduate of Williams College, 1807, for some years preceptor of Leicester Academy, pastor of the First Church, Brooklyn, Conn., from 1813 to 1817, was installed at Petersham, June 23, 1819. The pastorate contained until October 18, 1834, or more than fifteen years, which, although his relations with his people were harmonious, he characterized as "times of excitement and division." After resignation, he lived in Petersham, preaching at various places from time to time, and died November 20, 1864, his grave being found in the cemetery east of the common. Luther Willson and Sally Bigelow were united in marriage November 30, 1806. Miss Bigelow was born July 6, 1783, and died January 29, 1826. Luther Willson and Fidelia Wells, of Deerfield, his second wife, were married December 5, 1827. She was born in Deerfield, August 6, 1797, and died in Bellows Falls, Vt., January 8, 1884.

During the pastorate of Rev. Luther Willson a State law was passed disestablishing the churches of Massachusetts. A Trinitarian Congregational Church was organized, which included those who did not accept the "Christian Profession," which had been substituted for the earlier "Covenant." The affairs of the Church were to be no longer connected with

the town. The property and records passed to the First Congregational Parish, which received from the town $3975.43 in money, that being the amount of a fund which had resulted from the sale of the "ministerial lands." These lands were one proprietor's lot set off for the maintenance of the ministry. They had been used by Rev. Aaron Whitney previously to the year 1775. Two entries in the records of a meeting held May 24th of that year will serve to indicate the cause of transfer of the lands to the care of the town:

"Voted unanimously, that the town will not hire the Rev'd Mr. Whitney to preach with them any longer, and that he is Dismissed from any further services as a Gospel Minister in this Town. . . . Voted, that the Selectmen take possession of and lease out the ministerial lands for the most they will fetch." Three years later, or in 1778, it was voted to sell the ministerial lands. From such sale the ministerial fund was established.

The report of the committee which sold the lands, accepted by a town-meeting, 1780, shows that four hundred and twenty-eight acres and one hundred and four rods were sold in lots to ten different persons, corn being the standard of value. The sales amounted to 6779 bushels and 22 quarts, as the value of the lands. The annual interest to be paid, as reckoned by the committee, was 405 bushels and 15 quarts. The rate appears to have been six per cent. The slight discrepancy in reckoning from these figures is doubtless explainable by the fact that the committee reckoned from a number of smaller quantities.

Upon the separation of the affairs of the church and town, Aaron Brooks, Esq., Jared Weed, Esq., and Jonas Carruth were the committee which made the inventory of church property to be transferred. The parish also received subsequently the sum of one thousand dollars, which was given by Nathaniel McCarty, his will having provided that the interest "shall be applied to the support of Unitarian preaching in said Town," and five hundred dollars, which were devised by an item of the will as follows: "I give and bequeath to the Town of Petersham five hundred dollars, the interest to be appropriated to support the singing on Sundays in their meeting-house. Provided the inhabitants of that town see that part of public worship decently and properly performed; the principal to be perpetually kept good by a safe investment on land security."

The will contained this explanation: "My inducement to these bequests is . . . a desire to testify the interest which I continue to feel in the place where I long resided and where, with the blessing of heaven, I acquired much of my property." These bequests came to the church as the successor of the town in respect to ecclesiastical interests.

The first Sunday-school in Petersham was established by Rev. Luther Willson, who was its first superintendent. Rev. George R. Noyes, D.D., succeeded Rev. Luther Willson. His translation of a large portion of the Bible has given him a reputation wider than any one denomination. His works, which are still in print, are a Translation of the Hebrew Prophets, Translation of the Book of Psalms, Translation of Job, and the New Testament Translated from the Greek text of Tischendorf. He made also a collection of Theological Essays by various authors, for which he wrote an introduction. The translation of the Scriptures anticipated many of the changes of the Revised Version.

Dr. Noyes was a native of Newburyport; a graduate of Harvard College, 1818; received the degree of Doctor of Divinity, 1839; settled in Brookfield, 1827; installed in Petersham, October, 1834; elected to a professorship in the Theological School of Harvard University in 1840.

Rev. Nathaniel Gage was born at North Andover, Mass., 1800; graduated at Harward, 1822; at the Divinity School, 1826; was settled in the ministry at Nashua, N. H., and Haverhill, Mass., seven years each; installed at Petersham, October 6, 1841; dismissed, 1845; afterward of Lancaster and Westboro', which was his last settlement. He subsequently resided at Cambridge, preaching at Ashby and other places, and died in 1861.

During the ministry of Mr. Gage at Petersham the house of worship, which is still occupied by the First Parish, was erected. It was built by a stock subscription of fifty-five shares of one hundred dollars each, which were subsequently presented by the shareholders to the parish. The first church edifice, which was regularly occupied from the year 1738, after several years of progress toward completion, was used until about the year 1780, or sixty-two years. Then the building of a new church was agitated, but it was probably 1788 when it was ready for occupation. Eleazer Bradshaw, Esq., of Brookfield, gave a bell which came from the works of Paul Revere. A clock was given later, 1828, by Cyrus Wadsworth. Upon the erection of the present church, 1842, the bell and clock were removed from the old church. That building, which had been used for worship from 1788 to 1842, or fifty-four years, was removed to the east side of the Common and devoted to secular uses until destroyed by fire, 1845. The previous removal of the bell and clock, and consequent preservation of those relics of the early time, is an occasion of special satisfaction. The bell bears the inscription:

"The living to the Church I call,
And to the grave I summon all."

Brief mention only can be made of those who have since served as pastors of the church. Rev. Ephraim Nute, Jr., was ordained October 15, 1845; dismissed, 1848. He has since been settled in Scituate and Chicopee, and has lived in Kansas, to which State he went in connection with a movement to settle that territory with emigrants opposed to slavery and in favor of the organization of a free State.

Rev. Martin W. Willis, ordained at Walpole, N. H., 1843, was installed at Petersham, 1848. The pastorate continued until 1851, since which time he has been settled at Bath, Me., and at Nashua, N. H., subsequently residing in St. Louis.

John J. Putnam, previously settled in Bolton, was installed 1852. During his ministry the organ was purchased, which displaced the violin, violoncello and bass viol, which had been in previous use as an aid to church music.

Rev. Seth Saltmarsh served eight years as pastor of the church.

Rev. Daniel Francis Goddard was born at Plymouth, Mass., November 29, 1827. He studied two years at Amherst College, afterward preparing for the ministry with Rev. Russell Tomlinson, a Universalist. He was ordained and settled over a Universalist Church, Boston, afterward being engaged in the ministry at Weymouth and Chelsea, before coming to Petersham. His subsequent employment was at Revere, Harvard and Chelmsford. He died July 13, 1883.

Rev. Thomas D. Howard, who served as pastor about four years, was born at Springfield, Mass., December 26, 1826, being the son of Charles and Elizabeth (Dwight) Howard. He graduated at Harvard College, 1848, Divinity School, 1851, and has since been settled in order at Berry, Me., Sheboygan, Wis., Petersham, Charlestown, N. H. He united in marriage, 1854, with Sarah A. Eaton, of Berry, Me. During the War of the Rebellion Mr. Howard served as chaplain, and upon resigning at Petersham, served as secretary of the Commissioners of Prisons for Massachusetts.

Lyman Clark was born at what is now Sago, W. Va., 1838, being the son of Cornelius and Abigail (Wright) Clark, natives respectively of Bridgewater and Westford, Mass. The family having removed to Illinois, Lyman Clark served in the War of the Rebellion, 1861–65. Upon leaving the army he entered the Meadville Theological School, remaining four years; was graduated 1869 and ordained at a meeting of the Western Conference at Quincy, Ill., October of the same year. He was located for several months at Jacksonville, Ill.; has been settled at Lancaster, N. H., 1870–74; Petersham, 1874–82; Ayer, 1882; to the present time. He was a member of the House of Representatives 1879, representing the towns of Templeton, Phillipston, Hubbardston and Petersham; was united in marriage, 1872, with Isabel Clough, daughter of Eben and Susan Clough, Bethel, Me.

Rev. Isaac Francis Porter was born at Wenham, Essex County, Mass., June 29, 1839. He served as a soldier in the War of the Rebellion, attended Madison University, New York, afterward the Meadville (Pa.) Theological School. He has been settled in the ministry at Princeton, Ill., Peterboro', N. H., Chicopee, Petersham, (1883–87), Bolton and Berlin, Mass.

Henry Harrison Brown, the present pastor, was born at Uxbridge, 1840, the son of Pemberton Brown, and Paulina (Whitmore) Brown, of Sutton. He studied at Nichols Academy, Dudley, at Meadville and served in the War of the Rebellion from 1862–65; was ordained at Petersham, 1888.

CONGREGATIONAL.—An Orthodox Congregational Church was organized and established by council held January 25, 1823. Its house of worship was built several years later, or about the year 1829. Its pastors have been Rev. Mr. Wolcott, 1830–33; Rev. Caleb B. Tracy, installed June 25, 1834; Rev. Columbus Shumway, installed October 4, 1837; Rev. Solomon Clark, installed April 13, 1841; Rev. A. B. Foster, installed May 12, 1853; Rev. Lucien H. Adams, installed October 28, 1862, dismissed January 2, 1865, to become a missionary to Turkey of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. The church has since been served in pastoral relations by Rev. Charles Kendall, Rev. Mr. Root, Rev. Wm. Miller, Rev. Abijah Stowell, Rev. Benjamin Ober, Rev. Charles W. Fifield, installed October 14, 1874; Rev. Elbridge W. Merrit, acting pastor, and Rev. David Shurtleff, installed May 8, 1884.

A second church of the Orthodox Congregational denomination was organized in the southwest part of the town, on the borders of Dana and Hardwick, in the year 1836 or 1837, and a meeting-house was built. Probably the nearness of the locality to Dana Centre led to its discontinuance.

BAPTIST CHURCH.—At the time of the Revolution, and for some years afterward, a Baptist Society was maintained in the southwesterly part of the town, its church being located near the Factory Village, so-called, otherwise Nichewaug. Rev. Samuel Dennis and Rev. Mr. Sellon were pastors. The meeting-house was subsequently moved to Dana, where it was for some time occupied by the same society and afterward by Universalists, finally being used for secular purposes.

A branch society of the Baptist Church in Athol was organized in Petersham, November, 1824. Rev. Thomas Marshall held services for several years, he residing in the westerly party of the town. In May, 1849, this branch church assumed an independent organization, and Rev. John Shepardson became their first pastor. He was succeeded by Rev. E. C. Anderson, D.D., and Rev. T. T. Merriman and Rev. Kilburn Holt, pastor from 1882–87. Rev. Arvin Augustus Smith, the present pastor, was settled 1888. Of these several pastors a few facts may be given. Rev. Samuel Dennis was an ardent revolutionist and probably the author, in part, of the reply of the town to the Committee of Correspondence of the town of Boston, the resolutions sent to the General Court, and the instructions to their representative. His name appears as representative to the General Court, 1777.

Rev. John Shepardson was active in the organiza-

tion and conduct of the Highland Institute, a school which was for some years maintained in what is now known as the Nichewaug, and of which Rev. E. C. Anderson, D.D., was for some time principal.

Rev. T. M. Merriam, A.M., was the author of two works entitled "The Trail of History; or, History of Religion and Empire," and "William, Prince of Orange."

Rev. Kilburn Holt had served in the ministry at Lancaster, N. H., and Colebrook, Mass., having removed to Amherst upon leaving Petersham.

Rev. Arvin A. Smith was a graduate of Brown University and studied theology at Newton.

The house of worship occupied by the Baptists was purchased of the Universalists about the year 1849.

A UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY was organized in the year 1836 or 1837. It built the house of worship now occupied by the Baptists. The society was continued probably until the year 1849. Rev. Mr. Willis and Rev. Mr. Coolidge served as pastors.

THE METHODIST CHURCH.—Preaching was maintained by the Methodists, and a society formed, which continued from 1843 to 1848 or '49. A small chapel was built, the use of which, for church purposes, was afterward discontinued. Their pastors were Rev. Messrs. Dutton, Clarke and Goodwin.

CHAPTER LXXIV.

PETERSHAM—(*Continued.*)

Schools—Industries—Wealth—Population—College Graduates—Congressmen—State Senators—Representatives—Town Officers—Selectmen—Town Clerks—Town Treasurers—School Committee—Officers 1888.

FROM a letter of Captain Park Holland we have this account of the educational facilities of the town during his boyhood, or about the year 1760:

"Our opportunity for obtaining an education was very limited indeed. The Psalter and a few old books were all that were used in the few months' school we attended. . . . Our books of amusement were likewise very few. Æsop's Fables and occasionally some ballads brought us by a strolling pedlar, were the principal, and they were read with great pleasure; and not read merely, but often committed to memory." From such, not by any means worthless, beginnings has grown the present modern school.

SCHOOLS.—The town being large in respect to territory, it has been necessary to maintain schools in the several neighborhoods. Nine school-houses are still found out of the village, and formerly there were ten, one having been burned. Schools have been temporarily suspended at different times in several of the school-houses for want of pupils in the neighborhood, other schools being well filled. In the village a brick school-house is found, in which are three rooms, one of which has recently been occupied by the library, one by a primary and ungraded school, one by a high school. Although the population is below the standard which requires a high school to be maintained, the town has been accustomed to vote an appropriation for the high school from year to year. This voluntary action indicates the earnest interest of the people in the education of children. The town appropriates a high percentage of its valuation for school purposes. The number of children of school age, or from five to fifteen years, was one hundred and fifty-nine for the year 1888. A boarding-school, under the name of the Highland Institute, was maintained for several years.

INDUSTRIES.—The most common employment of the people from the beginning has been that of farming. The necessary grist-mill, saw-mill and blacksmith and wheelwright shops have done their work from an early date. No manufacturing corporation is at present located in Petersham. In 1847 a fire which swept the westerly side of the Common, destroying property estimated at fifty thousand dollars, burned a building which was fitted with engine and machinery for the manufacture of lasting buttons. Fourteen buildings were burned, including two hotels, barns and out-buildings, one dwelling-house, one large store, one building occupied by shops, offices, etc. This fire inflicted permanent injury to the business interests of the place.

The braiding of palm-leaf hats was introduced by Mr. Samson Wetherell, October, 1827. He procured material and employed a Miss Gilbert to teach braiding, furnishing her a room in his own house for the purpose. The apprentices became teachers of others throughout the town. The first expense was borne wholly by Wetherell & Brown, merchants. Afterward one dollar was paid by learners to the teacher. The leaf was first split with a pen-knife, the hats being whitened in a barrel with brimstone, pressed with a flat-iron and barreled up to send to market. In ten years from the introduction the gross business amounted to twenty-five thousand four hundred and ninety-five dollars, the value of one hundred and thirty thousand five hundred and twenty-five hats, the product of one year. This continued for a long time to be an important industry in many households, and is still practiced to some extent.

The seating of chairs is also practiced somewhat, the chair frames being distributed from the factories in Gardner.

Pearlash was at an early day produced to a considerable extent. To meet the necessities of the Revolution, saltpetre was made to be used in manufacture of gunpowder. More patriotism than profit is said to have been connected with this enterprise.

To meet a want caused by interrupted commerce, salt was made at Rochester Shore and brought to the town for the use of the people. The enterprise was not successful, for which reason it was abandoned.

Paul Peckham formerly manufactured ladders, and at the proper season sent them around through the country for sale. In this business he used a machine, invented by himself, for dressing tapering conical surfaces.

A cheese-factory was erected three-quarters of a mile south of the village, and the business carried on for some time. It was finally discontinued, and the building moved to the rear of the Unitarian Church, where it was converted first into a skating rink, and afterward into a tenement-house.

Mr. Hiram Gibbs for some years carried on the making of staves for pail manufacture.

German Lagara has manufactured articles of fancy wood-work, plates, bowls, nut-dishes, etc., which are sold to summer boarders and others who visit the town.

Mr. Elisha Webb has, for many years, manufactured powder kegs at the south part of the town, employing a small corps of workmen. This has for years been the largest manufacturing interest of the town.

Formerly Petersham was a thoroughfare and stopping-place for teams passing with merchandise or stage-coach passengers from Boston through Sudbury, Shrewsbury, Holden, Rutland and Barre, to Athol, Orange, Greenfield, Northfield, Warwick and the southeastern part of Vermont. For the accommodation of this travel there were four taverns—one in the eastern part of the town, two near the centre and one on the road to Athol at the north end. One of these, as Rev. Dr. Samuel Willard tells us, maintained a sign which "was somewhat emblematic of what a tavern should be, viz.. a tea-kettle hung from the arm of the post."

John Chandler, Esq., who lived a century ago, kept a large deer park of seventy acres, surrounded by a very high Virginia fence, sufficient, as was supposed, to keep the deer safely enclosed. But tradition tells of an exceedingly deep snow, which, drifting against the rails, compacted into a bridge, which gave his deer their natural liberty.

WEALTH.—By the census of 1885 the population of the town was 1032, of whom 972 were native, 60 of foreign birth. The dwelling-houses numbered 278. The products of the town were valued at $167,583, including, with other classifications not here given, animal products valued at $9252; dairy products, $40,459; cereals, $10,297; wood products, $9299; hay, straw and fodder, $56,628.

The property of the town, other than that classified as products, was valued at $706,765, and included land, valued at $355,132; buildings, $199,274; machines and implements, $36,968; domestic animals, etc., $70,609; fruit-trees and vines, $44,782. The total value of products and property was $874,348.

Rev. Peter Whitney, who published his "History of Worcester County" in 1793, states the relative position of the town in respect to wealth thus: "There are but seven towns who pay more to a State tax." From this it appears that Petersham was then eighth in the State in respect to wealth.

POPULATION.—The population of the town has declined somewhat during the present in comparison with the previous century. In the early settlement of the State, villages were often located at the summit of hills, presumably on account of the more defensible position. The possibility of a stealthy attack from a savage foe made it necessary to select the village site with a military eye. But the advent of the ponderous locomotive, with the necessity for a graded road-bed, determined the location of villages in the valleys rather than upon the hills. The building-up of the railway centres has made steady drain upon the population of farming communities, whether upon the hills or in the valleys. During at least a large portion of the present century the young people have constantly gone from Petersham to make homes in other towns and cities. The movement of population is indicated by some figures collected by Mr. Willson for his historical address, with the addition of the results of the later census returns.

The town was incorporated 1754, the first census afterward being in the year 1765, the population 707. The subsequent numbers appear in the following order: 1776, 1235; 1790, 1560; 1800, 1794; 1810, 1490; 1820, 1623; 1830, 1696; 1840, 1775; 1850, 1527; 1855, 1553; 1860, 1465; 1865, 1428; 1870, 1335; 1875, 1203; 1880, 1109; 1885, 1032. From this it appears that the largest population was in the year 1800, the number next in order being for the year 1840. The number of inhabitants by the last census is the smallest since 1765.

The depopulation of Petersham has built up other places, its former residents being found in Boston, Worcester, Fitchburg, Athol, Greenfield, New York, Chicago and many other places. It remains for a future writer to narrate the exodus of this town, and tell of the doings of its children in their new homes.

COLLEGE GRADUATES.—The graduates of several colleges who were native inhabitants of Petersham, include the following names:

Harvard University:—Peter Whitney, A.M., class of 1762; Paul Whitney, A.M., 1772; Abel Whitney, 1773; William Amherst Barron, A.M., 1787; John Chandler, A.M., 1787; Richard Whitney, A.M., 1787; Nathaniel Chandler, 1792; Thomas Barron, 1796; Samuel Willard, S.T.D., 1803; Samuel Ward Chandler, 1822; Francis Augustus Brooks, 1842; John Brooks, 1856.

Dartmouth College:—Jonathan Grout, A.M., class of 1787; John Jackson, 1792; William Ward, 1792; Paul Grout, 1793; George Grout, 1795; Elisha Hammond, 1802; Abiathar Hopkins, 1806; Hutchins Hapgood, 1813; Cyrus Pitt Grosvenor, 1818; Moses Gill Grosvenor, 1822.

Williams College:—Daniel Bigelow, class of 1803;

Lewis Bigelow, 1803; Charles Goddard, 1815; Joel S. Sanderson, 1850.

Amherst College:—John B. Kendall, class of 1827; Charles Grosvenor Goddard, 1841; Andrew Jackson Wheeler, 1846; George Sumner Grosvenor, 1858; Abiathar Blanchard, 1875.

Brown University:—Aaron Brooks, 1817; James Willson Brooks, 1855; Charles Hutchins Hapgood, 1857.

Middletown College:—Fisher Ames Foster, John Wells Foster.

Union College:—George Grout Hapgood, 1830.

Yale College:—Daniel Bigelow Parkhurst, 1836.

CONGRESSMEN.—Jonathan Grout, who came from Lunenburg, having served seven years as Representative in the General Court and one year in the Senate, was chosen a member of the first Congress under the Constitution.

Lewis Bigelow, born 1785, a graduate of Williams College 1803, studied law and was chosen a member of the Seventeenth Congress. He was the author of a Digest of the Cases determined in the Supreme Judicial Court from 1804 to 1815, a work published in 1818, yet still found in law offices. A comparison of these dates shows that this standard work of legal analysis was produced before the author was thirty-three years of age.

GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS.—*Senators*—Jonathan Grout, John G. Mudge.

Representatives—Joshua Willard, 1761, 1763; John Chandler, 1768; Theophilus Chandler, 1769; Ephraim Doolittle, 1772, 1773, 1774; Jonathan Grout, 1775, 1777, 1779, 1784, 1786, 1787; Captain Elisha Ward, 1777; Samuel Dennis, 1777; Samuel Peckham, 1787; Park Holland, 1788, 1789; Ruggles Spooner, 1770, 1790; Daniel Bigelow, 1791, 1792; Asa Pond, 1818; Joel Bryant, 1822; Hutchins Hapgood, 1823; Israel Houghton, 1824; Cyrus Wadsworth, 1827; Joseph Gallond, 1829, 1830, 1832; Micajah Reed, 1829, 1832, 1833; Josiah Wheeler, 1830, 1849; Aaron Brooks, 1834, 1835; Nahum Gale, 1836, 1837; Cephas Willard, 1835, 1838; Seth Hapgood, 1837, 1840, 1849; Joseph Brown, 1839; Artemas Bryant, 1839, 1840; Asa Clark, 1841; Jonas Howe, 1845; Elbridge G. Miles, 1846; Lyman Robinson, 1848; George White, 1851, 1853; Lewis Whitney, 1852; John G. Mudge, 1856, 1858, 1865; Josiah White, 1861; Hudson Tolman, 1862; Stephen D. Goddard, 1869, 1873; Lyman Clark, 1879; Elisha Webb, 1883.

The foregoing list is incomplete.

TOWN OFFICERS.—The records for the first three years after the incorporation of the town are deficient. The first list of officers preserved to us is that chosen March 6, 1758, the town having been incorporated in 1754. The list includes several offices now obsolete, as tithingmen, clerk of ye market, leather sealer, deer-reeves, hog-reeves, in the town records sometimes called hog-constables. The list of officers for that year was as follows: Joshua Willard, Town Clerk; Joshua Wilder, Daniel Miles, Joshua Willard, David Sanderson, James Clemence, Selectmen and Assessors; Nathaniel Sanderson, Treasurer; Jerameel Wilder, Benjamin Chandler, Constables; Samuel Chamberlain, Samuel Briant, Andrew Dalrymple, Ebenezer Hill, Surveyors of Highways and Collectors; David Stone, Joel Matthews, Tithingmen; Sylvanus How, Seth Hapgood, Fence-viewers; Daniel Spooner, Clerk of ye Market; David Sanderson, Leather Sealer; Kenelm Winslow, Sealer of Weights and Measures; Nathan Goddard, David Curtice, Field-drivers; William Walker, Joseph Marble, Aaron Chandler, Hog-reeves; Daniel Dunkin, William Daget, Deer-reeve; Kenelm Winslow, Pound-keeper. The record shows that all were sworn except the town clerk, deer-reeves and pound-keeper. The office of deer-reeve is suggestive of the fact that deer were to some extent domesticated. This first Board of Selectmen of which we have record was notable by reason of the name of Daniel Miles, two sons of whom, Daniel and Joab, served in the revolutionary army. The descendants of Joab Miles are now represented by Major-General Nelson A. Miles, of the United States Army.

SELECTMEN.—No complete account of the Board of Selectmen or other official boards can here be given. In addition to the previous names we find that among those who served in the years from 1757–1792 were Joseph Wilson, Daniel Spooner, Daniel Duncan, Capt. Zedk. Stone, Thomas Rogers, Seth Hapgood, John Chandler, Theophilus Chandler, Elisha Ward, Samuel Gates, Sylvanus How, Jonathan Grout, Simon Houghton, Asa How, William Willard, Ephraim Doolittle, David Stone, Samuel Dennis, Timothy Whitney, David Curtis, Edward Powers, Daniel Hastings, Samuel Briant, Ruggles Spooner, David McClellan, Jonathan Sanderson, Capt. Wing Spooner, Ebenezer Winslow, Joel Doolittle, John Hildreth, Robert Peckham, Thomas Carter, Isaac Packard, Edward Baker, Daniel Hawks, Samuel Peckham, Samuel Stone, Maj. Ephraim Stearns, Joseph Gleason, Capt. John Permenter, Joseph Brown, Lieut. Luke Rice, Daniel Bigelow, Park Holland, William Macarty, Seth Williams, John Demick, Joseph Negus, Joel Brooks, Ebenezer Hammond, Jotham Bowker.

The following is a partial list of names of persons who have served on the Board of Selectmen since 1852 as found in town reports: Asa Johnson, P. W. Barr, Joab Young, S. D. Goddard, Hudson Tolman, J. W. Upton, Oren Tower, George Ayres, J. H. Clapp, Hubbard Peckham, H. S. Miner, Alfred Peckham, David C. Paige, Merrick Blanchard, Josiah White, Elijah Hildreth, Elisha Webb, Sewell C. Goddard, L. P. Cutler, C. K. Wilder, F. L. Sanderson, Geo. Bancroft, Charles F. Paige, Merrick E. Hildreth, Sanford B. Cook.

TOWN CLERKS.—Joshua Willard, David Sanderson, John Chandler, Jonathan Grout, William

Willard, William McCarty, Samuel Peckham, Jared Weed, Seth Hapgood, John L. Gallond, Lyman E. Sibley, Chas. B. Mosely, J. G. Mudge, Lewis E. Whitney, H. N. Tower, Sanford B. Cook. Of these the veteran town clerk of the early time was David Sanderson, who appears to have served eighteen years. Jared Weed, Esq., served twenty-six years, from 1817 to 1842, inclusive; and Lewis Whitney, twenty-six years, from 1849 to 1874, inclusive.

TOWN TREASURERS.—The names of some of those who have served the town as treasurers are as follows:—Nathaniel Sanderson, 1758–72. The uprightness with which Mr. Sanderson discharged his duty is made a matter of public record. The committee chosen to audit his account for a period of five years find, in closing their report,

That what he has paid out and is yet in the Constable's hands, Amounts to Six Hundred and Forty-Two Pounds Nineteen shillings and one penny; that the Treasurer has paid out Four Pounds Seventeen Shillings & four pence one farthing More than he hath Received In. He says that there is Now in the Treasury Five Pounds Six Shillings and Eleven pence two farthings, which, being added to the above Ballance, Makes Ten Pounds Four Shillings three pence and three farthings, which sum he says he's confident Belongs to the Town.

WILLIAM WILLARD, JONATHAN GROUT, } *Committee.*

Those curious in such matters may exercise their minds upon the question whether or not upon this statement Mr. Sanderson was more solicitous to do justice to the town, than accurate in determining what was due himself.

Theophilus Chandler was chosen town treasurer, 1772–76; David Sanderson, 1776–80; Capt. Ephraim Stearns, 1781–92. Of those who have served at later dates, the names of Jonas Howe, Joseph G. Parmenter, Collins Andrews and John G. Mudge are reported, the latter having served continuously since 1869 to date, 1888, inclusive, or eighteen years.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.—The following are some of the names of persons who have served on the School Committee since 1852, the list being incomplete:—John J. Putnam, John Shepherdson, Luther Willson, Charles Kendall, L. Sanderson, John A. Wilder, Lyman W. Hapgood, Frank A. Wood, S. S. Tower, William Miller, John M. Holman, S. P. Goddard, D. F. Goddard, E. Jackson, Sanford B. Cook, Lewis W. Loring, A. Stowell, T. T. Merriman, George White, E. C. Anderson,* Mrs. Maria N. Ayers, Benjamin Ober, C. W. Fifield, Lyman Clark, L. O. Martin, Elisha Webb, Luther Stone, F. L. Sanderson, M. H. Leamy, I. F. Porter, David Shurtleff, Mrs. M. R. Stone.

The more prominent town officers for the year 1888 are Sanford B. Cook, town clerk; John G. Mudge, treasurer; Merrick E. Hildreth, George Bancroft, Sanford B. Cook, selectmen and overseers of the poor; Frederick Bryant, Henry L. King, Thomas S. Howe, assessors; Rev. David Shurtleff, Luther O. Martin, M.D., Mrs. Maria N. Ayers, school committee; Daniel F. Bigelow, constable and collector of taxes.

CHAPTER LXXV.

PETERSHAM—(*Continued.*)

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES.

Park Holland—Samuel Willard, D.D., the Blind Minister—Solomon Willard, Builder of Bunker Hill Monument—Deacon Cephas Willard—Austin Flint, the Beloved Physician—William Brown Spooner, the Philanthropist—Timothy W. Hammond—Rev. E. B. Willson—Inventors—Women—Longevity.

WHILE no citizens of Petersham appear to have risen to the highest rank in connection with the civil and military history of the country, yet the *personnel* of the town is singularly interesting in respect to character and attainments. It is possible here only to add some facts to the information previously published of the dwellers in or natives of the town. If somewhat extended narratives are given concerning a few, it is because the facts are at hand and with the hope that a more full history may be prepared by other hands at some future date, in which more ample justice can be done to the many whose names are worthy to be enshrined in the memory of those who come after, and whose lives offer examples worthy of imitation.

CAPTAIN PARK HOLLAND.—An historical letter written to Major Jonas Holland, of Schenectady, N. Y., by Captain Park Holland, informs us that their ancestors were from London. Upon coming to this country, they settled at Watertown, afterward removing to Shrewsbury, where Park Holland was born, and later located in Petersham. In 1776 Park Holland, having been previously enrolled as a minute-man, enlisted, with thirty neighbors and friends, for service in a brigade of Massachusetts troops, which were sent to New York. He served under Washington at White Plains and in New Jersey. He, upon expiration of his first enlistment, re-enlisted for service during the war, with twenty-four or five others of Petersham. His brother, Ivory Holland, received a lieutenant's commission, and Park Holland was made a sergeant-major, from which rank he rose to that of captain, and was paymaster and agent to settle the accounts of the regiment. He served in the campaign which led to Burgoyne's surrender; afterward at West Point and at White Plains. At the close of the war he, by public advertisement, visited Petersham, Northampton, Worcester, Harvard, Danvers, Boston and Wrentham to pay the soldiers of the regiment.

Captain Holland once attended a dinner given by Washington to some of his officers, and a characteristic incident is narrated, showing the general's abhorrence of profanity.

The payment of the Revolutionary soldiers being completed, Park Holland and General Rufus Putnam went in partnership to survey "the Schoodiac and Passamaquody country, the harbors, islands, &c.," of Eastern Massachusetts (now Maine). An interesting

narrative of this and several other surveying tours in what is now Maine and Vermont is given in his letters. On one of these tours he undertook to survey a tract of land extending north to the height of land dividing the waters of the St. John from the St. Lawrence, an unknown distance, supposed to be fifty or sixty miles into the wilderness, but which proved to be a hundred and sixty miles from the northern limit of previous surveys. The hardship of this tour was such that Captain Holland weighed eighty-three pounds less upon his return than when he set out, much of the time having been spent without any proper supply of food. At the time of Shays' Rebellion (so called), a company was raised by Captain Holland in Petersham, Athol and Rutland for service of the government. No stronger testimony to his worth could well be given than the fact that he was able to enlist as privates thirteen commissioned officers of the Revolutionary army, including General Rufus Putnam, under whom Captain Holland had served, as he had under Captain Shays himself. His company marched with General Lincoln from Hadley to Petersham, all but two of them being more or less frost-bitten on arrival. He had a wife and family at the north part of the town. Shays' men, on their retreat to Athol, halted before the house. Mrs. Holland, being herself ill, ordered fires built and food offered to the insurgents, and by her discreet civility the household was saved from further injury than being stripped of food supplies.

Captain Holland was chosen selectman, town clerk, and for several years represented the towns of Petersham and, after removal to that place 1790, Belchertown in the General Court. He, in company with another person, purchased of the Penobscot Indians one hundred and ninety-two square miles of land lying on either side of the Penobscot River, but the title does not appear to have been made good. He removed, however, to Eddington, Maine, where his last days appear to have been spent attended by a faithful daughter, who discarded all offers of marriage in devotion to her honored father's happiness. The story of his life was largely written out in letters dictated to her after Capt. Holland ceased to himself use the pen, with which he had in early years shown much skill. He was accustomed to say that if "variety is the spice of life," his had been well seasoned. Dr. J. G. Holland, the author, born in Belchertown 1819, was a grandson of Luther Holland who was a brother of Capt. Park Holland.

SAMUEL WILLARD.—From a work entitled "Singers and Songs of the Liberal Faith," by Rev. A. P. Putnam, D.D., the following sketch of the life of one of the sons of the town is taken:

"Rev. Samuel Willard, D.D., born in Petersham, Mass., April 18, 1776, was a son of William and Catherine (Wilde) Willard, and grandson of Rev. Samuel Willard, of Biddeford, Maine. Samuel Willard, the grandfather of the Biddeford minister, was acting-president of Harvard College, 1701–07, and was the son of Major Simon Willard, who came from Kent, England, and bought land of the Indians in Concord, Mass., before the year 1635. Joseph Willard, another president of Harvard, 1781–1804, was uncle to Samuel, the subject of this sketch. The latter spent his early years on his father's farm. He began to prepare himself for college at the age of twenty-one, and was fitted mainly under the instruction of Rev. Nathaniel Thayer, D.D., of Lancaster, Mass. Having graduated at Harvard, 1803, he was subsequently, for more than a year, Dr. Abbott's assistant in the Exeter Academy, and was afterwards for some months tutor at Bowdoin College, prosecuting at both of these last-named institutions his studies in the classics, and devoting himself also to the study of theology, under the direction of Drs. Appleton, Buckminster and McKean. In September, 1805, he removed to Cambridge, where he continued his preparations for the ministry, and soon obtained a license to preach. Economical considerations induced him to reside for a time at Andover, and it was while he was there that he was invited to preach at Deerfield, Mass. He gave his first sermon in that place, March 15, 1807, and received, the next June, a call to settle. August 12th was fixed upon for the ordination. The council called, in accordance with the custom of the churches, sat for two days, and after a rigid examination of the candidate refused to ordain him, regarding his views as too liberal for the orthodox standard. Here was one of the first indications of the split that was destined ere long to divide the Congregational body of New England. Another council was called with more success, and he was duly ordained September 23d, of the same year. From that time Mr. Willard was a recognized pioneer of the liberal movement in Western Massachusetts; bravely contending with voice and pen for larger freedom, and willingly suffering not a little odium and persecution for the sake of what he believed to be the truth. On the 30th of May, 1808, he was married to Susan, only daughter of Dr. Joshua Barker, of Hingham, by whom he had three children—Susan, Mary and Samuel, the last a graduate of Harvard, 1835. About the year 1818 his eyes suddenly failed him, in consequence of too much study by a dim light. For thirteen years after this sad occurrence he was able to see large objects only very indistinctly, and for the remaining twenty-seven years of his life he was totally blind. The amount and variety of intellectual and other labor which, with the faithful aid of his family, he accomplished during these forty years of his calamity, seem almost incredible. He continued his usual pastoral duties until September, 1829, when he resigned his charge; then removed to Hingham, where for some years he assisted his son-in-law in teaching a school, and finally, after a brief residence in Concord, returned to Deerfield, where he spent the rest of his days, preaching occa-

sionally for his people, even to the very close of his long career."

It is said that Dr. Willard, who was the author of four hundred and sixty-seven hymns, could repeat from memory any of them, also whole books of the Bible. He wrote several books, and numerous articles for religious newspapers and magazines. Samuel Willard died at Deerfield October 8, 1859.

SOLOMON WILLARD.—The public services of Solomon Willard, brother of the foregoing, were such as to justify extended notice of his life. He was born in 1783. The first twenty-one years of his life were spent in his native town, at the end of which time he went to Boston. He had only common advantages in regard to education, but made the best use of those he had. His first work in Boston was fitting piles for wharf construction, at fifty cents per day. In this connection he said that his employer taught him to keep his broad-axe sharp. We soon hear of his having attended lessons in drawing. He connected himself with the Athenæum, attended lectures upon anatomy, studied geology and chemistry. Meantime his labors have advanced to architecture and designing. He built an extensive winding stairway, since destroyed by fire. Going south, he made a model of the Capitol building at Washington. He became a teacher of architectural drawing and designing, and invented the principle of the hot-air furnace, taking out no patent for the invention, but leaving profits to be reaped by others.

But the great work of Mr. Willard's life was as architect of Bunker Hill Monument. The building of the monument was initiated to commemorate the fiftieth year of independence, but the corner-stone was laid June 17, 1825, the anniversary of the battle, rather than on Independence Day. Full information of Mr. Willard's connection with the monument is given in "The Memoir of Solomon Willard," by W. W. Wheildon, prepared by direction of the Bunker Hill Monument Association. In this work the question of who was the architect is fully and carefully considered. Several persons had prepared designs for an obelisk, from which circumstance arose a controversy as to who was the architect. This claim has been made in behalf of Alexander Paris, Horatio Greenough and Robert Mills, but a careful examination of the evidence, made by direction of the association having the monument in charge, makes it conclusively established that Solomon Willard was the true and only architect, as he unquestionably was the superintendent of practical construction from the beginning to the completion of the work.

For his services he accepted no compensation, only allowing a commutation of his expenses, which were very small. His desire was to do the work as a labor of patriotism, having ample support from other work. Under his direction a quarry was purchased at Quincy. For the transportation of the stone to the seashore the first railway of the country was laid, it being operated by horse-power. The monument cost about $100,000, which was estimated by Mr. Willard as about half the cost at current rates of the time for similar work. The saving grew largely out of improved methods devised by him for quarrying and transportation, by reason of which granite was made much more available as a building material, the architecture of Boston being somewhat modified by the fact.

Solomon Willard died of apoplexy February 16, 1861. Circumstances of peculiar sadness attended his departure. On the morning of his death he arose at the usual hour and, while waiting breakfast, talked with a friend of the state of the country. Six States had passed ordinances of secession. Forts, arsenals, mints and navy yards had been seized, and the Confederate Convention was engaged in preparing a Constitution in the interests of slavery. Mr. Willard gave way to fears and wept at the prospect of the country going to destruction. Being called to breakfast, he arose to answer the call, but instead of taking his seat at the table he fell upon the floor and never spoke again. The thought of national dissolution appears to have literally burst the blood-vessels of the brain which had devised and constructed Bunker Hill Monument, and to have broken the heart of one who loved his country faithfully.

CEPHAS WILLARD, a brother of Rev. Dr. Willard and of Solomon Willard, the architect, was born November 29, 1786, and died November 25, 1879. His long life was spent as a son of the soil. Among the various offices held by him were those of assessor, coroner, deputy-sheriff and member of the House of Representatives. He was deacon of the Unitarian Church fifty-six years, and treasurer for more than thirty years in succession. The family to which he belonged had held the office of deacon for more than a hundred years, with the exception of a short interim, caused by the fact that at a certain time a brother deacon was found walking disorderly, in respect to temperance, and all members of the diaconate resigned as a courteous way of conducting the brother out of office. This duty done, the church promptly re-elected those whose conduct had been worthy.

As deputy-sheriff Deacon Willard was once found unwilling to perform a task to which he was invited, that of assisting in the execution of the death penalty by sentence of a court. He offered to resign his office if the duty were required of him, but that sacrifice of position he was not allowed to make. He was more successful in executing the law relative to imprisonment for debt. In such a case he set a man at work on his farm until his wages were sufficient to discharge at once the debt and the prisoner. When ninety years of age Deacon Willard attended the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia alone, and, the same year, presided over the Centennial Celebration in his native town, his lifetime having covered

nine-tenths of the life of the nation. A memorial discourse by Lyman Clark, delivered at the occasion of his funeral services, was published. It will be noticed that the family from which these three brothers were descended had given two presidents to Harvard College.

AUSTIN FLINT, M.D., LL.D., born in Petersham, 1812, graduated as M.D. at Harvard, 1833, was one of the founders of the Buffalo Medical College, 1847. He was, in 1861, appointed professor of the principles and practice of medicine in Bellevue College Hospital, New York, and of pathology and practical medicine in Long Island College Hospital. With other medical works he has published a "Practical Treatise on the Pathology, Diagnosis and Treatment of Diseases of the Heart" and a standard work on the "Practice of Medicine." A pamphlet memoir, by A. Jacobi, M.D., president of the New York Academy of Medicine, has been reprinted from the *Medical Record* of April 24, 1886. From it we learn that Dr. Austin Flint was descended from Thomas Flint, who emigrated from Derbyshire, England, and came to Concord, Mass., in the year 1638.

He was of Puritan stock, and his father, grandfather and great-grandfather were physicians. His was apparently a case of inherited fitness for his work. Having received a liberal education at Amherst and Harvard, he practiced three years at Northampton and Boston, after which he moved to Buffalo, N. Y., in 1836. There he resided sixteen years, with a brief absence, during which he taught clinical medicine in Rush Medical College, Chicago, in 1847.

He left Buffalo in 1852 to take charge of the chair of clinical medicine in the University of Louisville. Thence he returned to Buffalo in 1856. The winters from 1858 to '61 were spent in New Orleans, teaching medicine and attending Charity Hospital. In the year 1859 he settled in New York. He resigned his position as teacher of the Long Island Medical Hospital in 1868, but retained his chair in the Bellevue Hospital Medical College to his death.

The Buffalo *Medical Journal* was founded by him in 1846, and edited by him for a period of ten years.

The memoir of Dr. Jacobi closes with this tribute,—

> Austin Flint had great advantages, and developed and utilized them for the benefit of the many. Born with an enviable inheritance, he enjoyed a thorough general and special education. He had great physical endurance and uniform health, an imposing presence, pleasant manners, and an equable temperament. With physical and intellectual powers he combined indefatigable love of work, which he performed systematically and energetically. He was a thoroughly modest man, who knew how difficult it is to master the depths of knowledge; thus he had an unusual degree of common sense, which limits aspirations and aims. Thus he became thorough in what he undertook to practice and teach. He was successful in practice, and enjoyed the confidence of both the profession and the public. As a teacher he is remembered by thousands; his pupils loved him and his colleagues honored him. His writings obtained for him a national and international reputation. There was no place of honor in possession of the profession of the city, State or country, which he has not filled. The profession of Europe was anxious to show its respect for him. Thus he lived and worked to an advanced age, disturbed by but few symptoms of evanescing powers, and when the time came he ceased to labor and live on the very same day.

A letter from a relative tells us that "his manner to all was unusually courteous and kindly, and his disposition one of rare sweetness. His sympathies were far-reaching, and he was so tender-hearted that he was unable to take up surgery as a specialty, although his father, who was a physician, thought he showed great skill in that direction."

He died March, 1886. The story of the medical profession in and from the town, led by the name of Flint, remains to be written in future.

WILLIAM BROWN SPOONER will be long remembered as an upright merchant, business man, banker and philanthropist. He was born in Petersham, April 20, 1806. At an early age he went to Vermont to live with an uncle. There he acquired a knowledge of the tannery, but aspired to an education and the legal profession. He became a merchant's clerk and taught school. At twenty years of age he went to Boston, and there finally decided in favor of mercantile life, entering the firm of Simpkins & Spooner, afterward forming that of William B. Spooner & Co. He was the first president of the New England Shoe and Leather Association, and for thirty-eight years a director of the Shoe and Leather National Bank. An ardent advocate of the anti-slavery cause and the cause of temperance, he was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, 1857–58. He led in the organization of the Massachusetts Total Abstinence Society, was its first president, which position he held until his death. The executive ability of Mr. Spooner led to his being appointed in behalf of the State of Masschusetts as one of the Board of Management of the Centennial Exhibition at Philadelphia, 1876, to which duty he gave much time and attention. William B. Spooner died at Boston, October 28, 1880. His will contained various public bequests. A memorial has been published by the Massachusetts Total Abstinence Society.

TIMOTHY WHITNEY HAMMOND, of Worcester, son of Enoch and Lucy (Bowker) Hammond, was born at Petersham, January 26, 1814. He received such advantages from the local schools as might be gained before thirteen years of age, after which he engaged in other employments. In 1835 he was united in marriage with Mary A. Houghton, daughter of Captain Levi and Hannah Houghton. They removed to Worcester, 1844, where Mr. Hammond served two years as a clerk in the office of the Worcester and Nashua Railway. In 1849 he was made treasurer, which position he has held to the present time, or nearly forty years. He has been a member of the Worcester Mechanics' Savings Bank since 1851, of which he was president, 1877; has served as director of the State Mutual Life Assurance Company; performed five years of duty as a member of the City Council, and held the position of treasurer of the Proprietors of the Bay State-House. Mrs. Hammond died October 13, 1887.

REV. EDMUND B. WILLSON, son of Rev. Luther

and Sally (Bigelow) Willson, was born at Petersham, August 15, 1820. He studied at different preparatory schools, and entered Yale College, 1834, leaving, 1835, on account of ill health ; completed a course at the Cambridge Divinity School, and was graduated 1843. The settlements of Mr. Willson have been at Grafton, Mass., from 1844 to 1852; Roxbury, Mass., First Congregational Society, 1852 to 1859, when he was called to the pastorate of the North Society in Salem, of which he is still in charge. Mr. Willson, as previously stated, delivered the address at the centennial of the incorporation of the town. He served in the House of Representatives for the years 1883 and 1884. While there he introduced a measure which became a law, authorizing instruction in the use of hand-tools in the public schools.

Several mechanical inventions have originated with residents of the town. Solomon Willard invented the hot-air furnace, taking out no patent for his invention.

Asa Hapgood, who was a native of Barre, lived for a time in Petersham, where he worked as a wheelwright with his brother, Chauncy Hapgood; afterward being employed as a railway conductor between Boston and New York, he gave his attention to providing for the comfort of his passengers at night, and invented the sleeping-car, by which he acquired a large fortune.

Paul Peckham invented a machine for dressing tapering conical surfaces, which was used by him in the manufacture of ladders.

Charles Frederick Bosworth invented a machine for sewing hat-braid, the patent-right of which was sold for a large sum, also a machine for lining hats and one for sewing heavy leather.

Women.—The public records give us much less information concerning the women who have lived in Petersham than they do of the lives of those who have been charged with responsibility for political affairs. Yet the town records occasionally present a glimpse of the life in the home and those who there presided. An entry in the records of May 19, 1762, is as follows:

"Voted the number of young women the hindseat on the women's side gallery in order to build a pew on their own cost, viz.: Sarah Rice, Eunice Wilder, Parsis Bowker, Esther Holland, Mehitabell Page, Hannah Walker, Ruth Page, Sarah Curtis, Molly Curtis, Susanna Miles, Jerusha Hudson, Sarah Sanderson, Martha Negus, Hadassa Houghton, Ann Wheeler." Of these, Susanna Miles was a member of the family of Daniel Miles, who came from Pomfret, Conn., and from whom Major-General Nelson A. Miles is descended. Esther Holland was presumably a sister of Captains Ira and Park Holland, of the Revolutionary army.

Mrs. Houghton, wife of Simeon Houghton, is said to have claimed to have been once recognized as the handsomest woman in the town, her claim being based on the fact that she, being without classical features, was the first white woman, and, for a time, the only woman who lived in Petersham.

Mrs. Mary Greene (Chandler) Ware was the author of three books entitled: "Elements of Character," "Thoughts in my Garden," and "Death and Life." She was born in Petersham May 22, 1818, being the daughter of Nathaniel Chandler and Dolly (Greene) Chandler. The father, born 1773, was the son of John Chandler, who built what is known as the Chandler house about 1766. Dolly Greene was born in Stafford, Conn, 1783. Mary Greene Chandler and Dr. John Ware, of Boston, were married February 25, 1862. She having survived her husband, now resides in Lancaster, to which her father's family moved, 1828.

Mrs. Caroline Hildreth, wife of Richard Hildreth, the historian, excelled as an artist, her first successes being in crayon portraits. After she had studied in Europe she manifested talent in oil-painting.

Mrs. Elizabeth Barry, daughter of Dea. Cephas Willard, wife of Rev. William Barry, of Chicago, was vice-president, for Illinois, of the Mount Vernon Association.

Miss Lucretia Pond left public bequests in behalf of the Unitarian Church, and for the care of the cemetery in which she was buried. Mrs. Ann Ingersoll bequeathed her homestead to the Unitarian Church for a parsonage, and made a small bequest for the support of the public library.

Longevity.—A considerable number of instances of remarkable longevity are found in the history of the town. Three instances of an age of one hundred years or more are presented. In the year 1796, Dea. Daniel Spooner died, aged one hundred and three; Mary Farrar, died 1855, aged one hundred years; Lucy Robinson, who died in 1863, was also a century old. The names, years of death and ages of twenty-four persons who have lived from ninety to one hundred years are as follows: Mrs. Sarah Stowell, 1830, ninety-nine; Jonathan Sanderson, 1832, ninety-two; Eunice Spooner, 1836, ninety-two; Esther Gale, 1849, ninety-two; Mary Curtis, 1853, ninety; Joel Brooks, 1856, ninety-six; David Wheeler, 1857, ninety; Mary Dunn, 1857, ninety-four; Bertha Covill, 1857, ninety-two; Josiah Newton, 1858, ninety; Caleb Chamberlain, 1862, ninety-one; Lydia Holman, 1862, ninety; Elijah Pike, 1864, ninety-one; Robert Goddard, 1868, ninety; Betsey Upton, 1869, ninety-one; Jonathan Simmons, 1869, ninety-nine; Lucinda Chamberlain, 1869, ninety; Joseph Farrar, 1870, ninety; Artemas Wilder, 1871, ninety-one; Hannah Loring, 1871, ninety-two; Caleb Bancroft, 1871, ninety-two; Elizabeth Tolman, 1875, ninety-two; Cephas Willard, 1879, ninety-two; Celia Morse Whipple, 1880, ninety-two.

CHAPTER LXXVI.

PETERSHAM—(*Continued.*)

THE REBELLION—PUBLIC SPIRIT.

Action, May, 1861—The Financial Burden—The Muster Roll, 53d Regiment, 21st Regiment, 31st Regiment—In Other Commands—The Navy—The Rebellion Record—Local Improvement—The Library Established—Memorial and Library Building Proposed—The Future Outlook.

THE REBELLION.—At the annual meeting of the town, held May 1, 1861, action was taken in view of the state of the country, it being "*Resolved*, That the Town Treasurer be authorized to borrow a sum of money not exceeding ($3000) three thousand dollars, to be expended, in whole or in part, under the direction of the selectmen, for the purpose of providing uniforms for a military company, and supporting the families of those volunteers who may be called into the service of the State or the United States, and that the selectmen be authorized to pay one dollar per day to volunteers after they are enrolled, organized and accepted by the State, for their services drilling."

It will be noticed that this action comprehensively assumed the entire responsibility of providing uniforms, payment of the soldiers at a rate higher than that allowed in the United States army, and supporting the families of the soldiers. This appropriation was the beginning of the financial responsibility of the town on account of the Civil War. Additional appropriations were made from time to time, until the town had paid $13,999.76. The sum of $3195.64 was voluntarily subscribed by individuals, and $1800 paid as commutation by drafted men, making a total amount paid from all sources of $18,995.40. Of this amount only $3663.56 were refunded, leaving the net cost of the war to the town as such at the sum of $15,631.84. This represents the excess paid by the town in addition to its equal share paid by State and national methods of taxation.

Remarkable as the exhibit is for a country town, the assessed wealth of which was less than a million of dollars, the exhibit in respect to enlistments is still more notable. It appears from the town records that there were in the town at the beginning of the war, 1861, one hundred and eighty-eight men liable to enrollment. As appears from the Rebellion record, published by the selectmen at the close of the war, there had been one hundred and seventy-seven enlistments in behalf of the town. Some of these were re-enlistments, some were secured by bounty offered by the town; but the fact that the enlistments so nearly equaled the total number liable to enrollment is certainly very creditable to the patriotism of the town.

One hundred and forty-seven men appear to have honorably served in behalf of the town, a number of these having re-enlisted, the total number liable to enrollment in 1861 being, as before stated, one hundred and eighty-eight. Hon. John G. Mudge has furnished the names, given below, of those who served, with the remarks relative to death which follow in case of all, so far as known, who are not now living. This roll does not include several from out of the town who enlisted and subsequently deserted.

FIFTY-THIRD REGIMENT (MASSACHUSETTS VOLUNTEERS).—Captain, John G. Mudge; Sergeant, Joseph W. Upton; Corporals, J. Benjamin Howe; Joseph M. Jackson, killed at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863, Benjamin W. Spooner. Privates: Jonas Brown, died January 29, 1879; Luther S. Benjamin; Charles E. Ball, died June 27, 1863; Samuel A. Chamberlain; Sanford E. Chamberlain; John F. Clark, died 1863; Charles E. Cook; Horace Drury; Geo. H. Edwards; Wm. P. Fairbanks; Augustus S. Gates; George W. Gates; Sextus P. Goddard, died November 1, 1885; Charles F. Hapgood, died August 8, 1863; John F. Jennerson, died June 26, 1863; Dwight Lippitt, died June 6, 1863; Henry H. Lippitt; William Henry Mann, died April 23, 1863; Spencer T. Nye; Austin C. Parmenter, died February, 1864; George H. Parmenter, died June 26, 1888; Lyman Peters; Lewis D. Robinson; George A. Rogers; Valentine O. Rathburn; Alonzo Rathburn; John B. Stevens, died September 4, 1863; Frederick L. Sanderson, died May 10, 1888; James H. Stowell; Alex. E. Smith; Charles B. Smith, died March 23, 1877; Quincy A. Shepardson, died July 27, 1863; John E. Townsend; Lauriston A. Simonds, died November 28, 1869; Augustus Wheeler; John A. Wilder, died November 19, 1872; Charles H. Williams; Henry Rathburn, died September 2, 1863.

TWENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—D. Marshall Mitchell, died August 23, 1882; German Lagara; Calvin C. Aldrich; Daniel Noonan, died November, 1882; Samuel F. Young; Geo. W. Young; Dwight Ripley, killed at Knoxville, Tenn., November 25, 1863; John W. Clark, killed at Petersburg, Va., June 1, 1864; Calvin C. Barnes, died February 9, 1866; Geo. H. Holman; Job Lippitt; Geo. D. Whitcomb; Lyman D. Edwards; Abner C. Gates, died February 20, 1865; Asa F. Ellis, died at Boston; David R. Brown, died at Athol; Wm. H. Allen; Benjamin W. Crickett; Geo. O. Cook; Henry Woods; Sergeant Frank N. Peckham; Hiram Newman; Hoyt Hale, died August 7, 1862; Chas. S. Brigham, died from wounds received at Antietam, September 17, 1862; Edward A. Jackson, died at Gardner; Edward O. Murphy.

THIRTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—Ellis P. Amsden, died September 25, 1863; Jacob E. Amsden, died June 3, 1864; Zibina Cutler, died August 9, 1862; James Fobes, killed at Port Hudson, June 14, 1863; Leonard Stowe; George F. Newton; William Ryan; Albert W. Stevens, died April 8, 1863; Charles A. Stone, died August 4, 1863; Horace W. Pike, died June 13, 1863; John Young, died 1883.

In various other regiments of infantry, cavalry and artillery the persons whose names follow were

enrolled:—Joseph Roe, killed at Atlanta, Ga., July 3, 1864; Calvin Carter, died; George A. Davis, killed at Ball's Bluff, October 21, 1861; Jacob Nosedale; D. M. McChester; George W. Jillson, died July 25, 1875; Albert Haskins; U. P. Phinney; George D. Mason, died August 10, 1878; Hiram Rathburn; Charles A. Pelkey; Eben A. Conant; D. E. Collins; T. E. Rossiter; Thomas Riley; Lieut. Elisha Eldridge; Henry B. Aldrich; Thomas E. Field; James Wilson; William M. Peckham; Sergt. George H. Holman, died November 17, 1864; Edward A. Arnold, died 1872; Albert Hemmenway; Almond Williams, died June 5, 1874; Josiah C. Whitney; Dennis Brown, died February 20, 1868; David Ahern; Isaac Williams; George D. Whitcomb, died; Samuel F. Young; Winsor Gleason; Silas Richardson, died at Andersonville, Ga., Oct. 26, 1864; James Hyde; Erastus Weeks; Seneca D. Weeks, died 1883; Frank Ramsdell; Henry H. Williams, died September 30, 1876; James Kelley; Edward Whiting, died July 8, 1865; James W. Browning; Daniel Blackmer; David E. Howard; Charles Lamphire; James Frazer; Martin Heald; Patrick Dunn; Lyman D. Edwards; Charles R. Englehart.

In the navy were found Leonard Brock, James W. Browning, James Mulligan, James Reed, John Norris.

The town was also credited by the State, in addition to these names, with eight three years' men and four colored recrui s for three years' service.

In the month of April, 1866, the selectmen published the Rebellion record of the town, thus summing up the results: "Civil war in our land has ceased. The Rebellion, the greatest the world has ever witnessed, has been crushed, and our government, by the aid of loyal hands, stands stronger than ever in the hearts of the people. Our heroic army has fulfilled its mission; the living have returned to their homes, its dead are the nation's richest legacy. Petersham has responded promptly to all calls upon her loyalty and patriotism. The close of the war finds a small surplus of men placed to her credit. . . . The services of her soldiers were a priceless heritage; their honor our honor; which we should ever cherish with reverence and gratitude."

These facts are sufficient to show that the early reputation of the place, which gave it for a time the name Volunteers' Town, was well-sustained during the most critical period of our country's history since the Revolution.

Local Improvement.—A stately row of elms near the place formerly occupied by Dea. Cephas Willard, a mile north of the village, bears witness to a spirit of improvement among the people more than a century ago. The orderly condition of the large majority of the farms, the erection of a commodious town hall and school-houses in different parts of the town, the building at large expense of a shed for the protection of horses, adjoining the Unitarian Church, are more recent marks of the favorable disposition of the people towards town improvement. In the year 1878 the "Petersham Village Improvement Society" was organized, as stated in the constitution, "for the purpose of improving the good order and social condition of the town, adorning and beautifying the place of our home, promoting the public convenience and health, and elevating the standard of taste" of the people. The method of securing these objects was designed to be "by the transplanting of trees and the promotion of the growth of grass on the public grounds of the town, the establishment of sidewalks and improvement of the highways, encouraging the establishment of a public library, attention to general cleanliness with especial reference to the public health and by occasional meetings for the discussion of these objects and methods."

With purposes so largely stated, the society began a short existence of four years, after which it became inactive. Yet those few years of work were sufficient to make a permanent impression upon the future of the town. Many trees were transplanted which still live, walks were graded, and the movement which finally resulted in the organization of the Petersham Free Library was initiated. Francis A. Brooks, Esq., of Boston, a native of the town, made the first contribution, $500, toward this object. Other sums having been secured from individuals, the town finally made an appropriation sufficient to increase the library fund to more than $1000, with which the library was begun in the year 1879. Since that time it has received the benefit of frequent donations, with appropriations made by the town from time to time. Mrs. Ann Ingersoll left a small bequest in its favor. Some historical lectures were delivered by John Fiske, the proceeds to be applied to library purposes.

In the month of September, 1886, from fairs and other entertainments, several hundred dollars were raised in the hope that this would prove the nucleus of a library and memorial building. Various sums were afterwards added in the same manner, and the town, at the spring meeting, 1887, appropriated $300 with a view to adding similar sums annually.

In the autumn of the same year, Mr. Francis H. Lee, of Salem, became actively interested in raising the sum necessary to complete the work, in which task he had co-operation of Hon. John G. Mudge, James W. Brooks, Misses Elizabeth H. and Charlotte L. Flint and others. By their efforts the sum previously assured was increased to about $5000. At the annual town-meeting, 1888, the sum of $2000 was appropriated and J. G. Mudge, J. W. Upton, George Ayers were appointed a building committee on the part of the town; Misses E. H. and C. L. Flint, Francis H. Lee, James W. Brooks and William Sims acting in behalf of the contributors. Edmund Willson, of the firm of Stone, Carpenter & Willson, gave his services as architect. The plan adopted was a building of field-stone, the rooms of the first floor to be a pub-

lic hall, with stage, a memorial hall, a library and reading-room. The building fund has been increased to about $11,000, and the erection of the library and memorial hall may be expected during the year 1889.

The work of local improvement has been privately prosecuted by James W. Brooks who made large improvements upon "The Nichewaug," formerly called "The Highland Institute," converting what was before a boarding and high school building into an admirably appointed summer boarding-house.

Many summer residents of the town have shared in the spirit of improvement and have built new or remodeled old houses. Several artesian wells have been bored for the purpose of supplying the dwellings with water. As a result, the future of the town is likely to combine, as its present condition now does, the attractions of a popular summer resort with those of a venerable farming community.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

FRANCIS AUGUSTUS BROOKS.

The Brooks family have long been prominently identified with the history of Petersham. Major Aaron, who was the first of the name to settle here, came from Grafton to Petersham at an early day, and was a leading spirit in the affairs of the town. Aaron, his son, and father of Francis A., was born in Petersham. He was graduated at Brown University in 1817, and was subsequently a tutor in that institution. He studied law with Levi Lincoln and also with Hon. Lewis Bigelow. He settled in Petersham, and had an extensive practice in Worcester and Franklin Counties.

Francis Augustus Brooks was born in Petersham, May 23, 1824. He was prepared for college mostly at Leicester Academy, and was graduated at Harvard University in the class of 1842. He studied law and was admitted to the Worcester County bar in 1845. He removed to Boston early in 1848, and has there pursued the practice of his profession for a period of more than thirty years. In 1873 he became engaged in the prosecution of litigation for the enforcement of claims of creditors against railroads in Vermont, which occupied his attention largely for a period of ten years. Since 1883 his professional work has been devoted chiefly to the administration of business and corporate trusts.

In the general undertakings of his professional and business life, Mr. Brooks has met with a large measure of success.

In politics he has been a Democrat (as were many of his ancestors), but he has not held public office.

September 14, 1847, he united in marriage with Frances, daughter of Hon. Caleb Butler, of Groton, Mass., who is still spared to bless his home and life. Of their six children, three sons survive—Frederick, a civil engineer in Boston; Charles B., a stock broker in that city; and Morgan, a mechanical engineer, residing in St. Paul, Minn., and treasurer of the gas-light company of that city.

CHAPTER LXXVII.

STERLING.

BY SAMUEL OSGOOD.

THE history of Sterling previous to the year 1781 is inwoven with the history of Lancaster, of which it formed a part known at first by its Indian name, Chocksett, and secondly and until the above date, as the "West Precinct of Lancaster," and lastly by its incorporated name—Sterling.

The territory, it appears, was derived from three original grants. First, the mile, so called, being a strip of land about a mile in width, bordering on Lancaster and included in the first original grant of Nashua township made in 1643, and purchased of Sholan, the Sachem of the Nashuaggs, whose royal residence was between the Washacum Ponds, on the high ground overlooking both those beautiful sheets of water, probably not many rods distant from the ice-houses east of Mr. John Gates' residence.

The character of Sholan, the Sachem at Washacum, is ever spoken of with favor. He not only invited the English to this place and sold them an extensive tract of territory, but his deportment towards the settlers was always peaceable, and he was held in high esteem by his white neighbors.

In view of the above facts in reference to the pacific character of this prince of the red men, would it not be a merited tribute to his memory to change the name of that beautiful and, indeed, only island in the West Washacum from "Wood Island" to Sholan?

The second grant, containing the principal part of the town, was purchased of George Tahanto, a nephew of Sholan, in 1701.

The deed of this grant, "for and in consideration of" certain sums of money, paid at different times and to divers persons, was made to "John Moore, John Houghton and Nathaniel Wilder, their heirs and assigns, to have and to hold forever."

This deed was signed by George Tahanto (his 0 mark and Mary Aunsocamug her) mark.

Signed and sealed in presence of John Wansquon his (mark, John Aquitticus his 1 mark, Peter Puckataugh his p mark,) Jonathan Wilder and John Guild.

The third grant was the Shrewbury Leg. This was another strip of land, of somewhat irregular shape, set off from Shrewsbury to Lancaster by an act of the

Francis A. Brooks

Legislature in 1768. It was something more than a mile wide, forming what is now the northern part of Boylston and West Boylston and extending along the north bank of the Quinnepoxit River to Holden, its western boundary, thence northerly on Princeton line to the Stillwater River, its eastern boundary in the West Precinct.

Subsequently, in 1808, about one-third of this tract was set off from Sterling to West Boylston.

It will readily be seen that the town is bounded on the north by Leominster, on the east by Lancaster, on the south by Boylston and West Boylston, and on the west by Holden and Princeton.

The surface of the town is agreeably diversified by hills, plains and valleys—woodland and nicely cultivated farms—ponds and water-courses, set off with the neatly-painted and comfortable farm buildings of its rural population.

The soil of the hill farms is slightly argillaceous, retentive of moisture and naturally fertile. The water is pure, the air is bracing and healthful; and the scenery, especially in summer, is delightful.

There are five principal noted hills in the town. These are: Justice Hill, sometimes called Gerry's Hill, situated in the extreme northwest; Rowley Hill, about two miles west of the centre, and so-called because its first settlers came from Rowley, in Essex County; Fitch's Hill, which needs not to be described to travelers passing from Lancaster to Princeton; Redstone Hill, about a mile east of the centre, and so called from the color of its stones; and Kendall Hill to the southeast, about the same distance from the centre as the last named, and so called from the name of its first inhabitants, who came from Woburn.

There is also North Wiccapicca Hill, a remarkably well-rounded, steep, sharp-pointed eminence, on the north line of the town, owned principally by Mr. William C. Divol. It is cleared land, except a single clump of trees near the summit, which serves as a landmark for miles around. Rocky Hill, mostly in Leominster, projects into Sterling, on its northern border. South Wiccapicca is a precipitous ridge, running northerly from near the village to Pratt's Junction.

These hills, except the two last mentioned, are not craggy, unsightly protuberances, but grand swells of arable land, finely adapted to the production of grass and grain. The highest point of land in the town is believed to be on the farm of Michael Coyne, on Rowley Hill.

The territory is also embellished by four natural ponds, containing, respectively, two hundred, one hundred and seventy, thirteen and ten acres each. These, in summer, contrasting with the deep foliage around them, are of great beauty and loveliness, set like immense diamonds sparkling in the sun in a rich bordering of emerald green.

Stillwater River is a small stream running through the west part of the town, having its source a few miles above, in a gore of land known formerly—very properly—by the name of Notown. It flows through quite an extensive tract of meadow, once rich in the production of Foul meadow-grass (*Poa Serotina*), and blue-joint (*Calamagrostis Canadensis*), two varieties of forage plants, held in high estimation and much depended on for hay by the farmers of Sterling three-quarters of a century ago.

These meadows now are of little value (except it may be for cranberries), having, long since, become "run out." This quiet little stream, after it enters West Boylston, and receives the Quinnepoxit from Holden, assumes the more dignified name of the South Branch of the Nashua.

Various brooks wind among the hills, all finally emptying their tribute of waters into the Nashua. These now nearly useless small streams, two or three generations ago, when chair manufacturing was carried on quite extensively, were utilized in turning the wheels of many a "Turning Lathe" for the production of "Chair Stock."

A survey of the town was made in 1830 and a plan drawn by the late Capt. Moses Sawyer, a prominent leading citizen, and for many years the only practicing civil engineer of the town. Capt. Sawyer possessed in large measure the confidence of his fellow-citizens, and was noted for his probity, intelligence and practical good judgment.

The plan drawn by him was lithographed by Pendleton, of Boston, and contains much valuable information in regard to the topography of the town, from which the writer has obtained the following particulars:

The area of the town was found to be 19,265 acres, equal to nearly 32 square miles; 500 acres are covered with water. The population at that time was 1789. There were 256 dwelling-houses, 1 meeting-house, 1 town house, 3 grist-mills, 7 saw-mills, 2 shingle-mills, 1 bark-mill, 1 tannery, 10 chair manufactories, 3 taverns and 5 stores. Distance from Sterling to Boston, 39 miles and 23 rods; distance from Sterling to Worcester, 12½ miles. There were 71 miles of roads; and ten acres were used by the town. A few miles only of new road have been added since to shorten distances and avoid steep hills. This survey is worthy to be preserved in the archives of the town.

A former survey of the town was made by William Moris, Esq, in 1798, but it is believed no copies of that survey are extant.

Still another map of the town was made and published by Richard Clark, of Philadelphia, in 1855. This map, though more showy and pretentious in its style, is inferior to that of Capt. Sawyer's in point of valuable information. The noticeable features of Clark's map are that the eleven school districts are given in colors, and the three churches, town hall and several of the residences of the citizens are represented on the margin.

It does not appear that any settlements were made

within the present limits of the town until 1720. In that year five families came up from Lancaster and set themselves down on the rising lands west of the village, in the direction of Princeton.

The names of these pioneer settlers were Jonathan and David Osgood, Gamalial Beaman, Benjamin Houghton and Samuel Sawyer.

Jonathan Osgood located not far from the geographical centre of the town, on the place now owned and occupied by Mr. George F. Davidson. He was the first deacon in the town, and public worship was at first frequently held at his house. The writer recollects clearly the large, commodious old dwelling. It had an antiquated appearance, and was demolished near the close of the second decade of the present century, and the plain beautiful residence of Mr. Davidson was erected upon its site by the then enterprising proprietor, the late Mr. Gilson Brown.

David Osgood went a little farther westward and pitched his tent on the farm of the late Edward Raymond Fitch, now owned and occupied by his youngest son, Charles B. Fitch. The old red house yet remains, presenting a very neat and attractive appearance, it having been, to some extent, remodeled and kept in excellent repair. It is one of the oldest houses in the town.

Gamalial Beaman went a half-mile still farther west and established his home on the farm now owned by Mr. Wm. S. Walker. The farm remained in the possession and occupancy of his lineal descendants until 1834.

Benjamin Houghton sat himself down about seventy rods due north of the last-mentioned place—on the farm now owned by Mr. Asa Spencer. The old house remained until 1821, when it was destroyed by fire. It was occupied at that time by two families—Mr. William Reed and Simeon Toney. Traditional circumstances and anecdotes lead us to suppose that Benjamin Houghton was, in his day, a stirring business man. He kept a tavern, and hence was known everywhere as "Landlord Ben." He was also a very large landholder, as the Proprietor's Records and the Registry of Deeds will amply show. An anecdote in reference to this used frequently to be told of him. Two persons were discussing the physical characteristics of the moon. "They tell me," says one, "that there is land in the moon." "No," says the other, "I do not believe it, for if it were so Landlord Ben would have a farm there." But his large estate passed out of the possession of his descendants shortly after the death of his son Joel, who died in 1816.

Samuel Sawyer took up land and built a house a short distance north of Landlord Ben, on the farm now owned by Mr. Charles H. Newton. The old house remained until 1816—standing exactly in what is now the roadway—when it was taken down, and the present more modern dwelling-house was erected some fifty feet in the rear of the old one, by his grandson by the same name.

The descendants of these several persons above named have been very numerous, and very many of them have been leading citizens, holding honorable positions not only in Sterling, but in other places wherever, in the course of more than a century and a half, some of them may have migrated.

The meagre records of these early times furnish but little clue to the rapidity of the settlements, or to the increase of the population that followed. It is evident, however, that large portions of the best land were soon taken up and brought under cultivation by others, also, from Lancaster, and from other towns as well. Tradition has it that many families came from Rowley, in Essex County, and settled in the more northwest part of the town, hence called Rowley Hill. And indeed, in confirmation of this, we find, in the Registry of Deeds at Worcester, conveyances of land from Benjamin Houghton to several parties from that town as early as 1733.

Another exotic implanted in the virgin soil of the town, from which sprang a numerous and influential portion of its population, was that of the Kendalls from Woburn. Josiah Kendall came to this town in 1736, and settled upon the farm now owned and occupied by Daniel and James F. Kendall, father and son, direct descendants of the said Josiah. For a further account of this family the reader is referred to the "Kendall Memorial," a family history of much merit, by Oliver Kendall, of Providence, R. I.

And so rapid indeed had been the progress in population and general advancement, that in thirteen years from the first settlement the inhabitants petitioned the Legislature to be set off as a separate township. This petition, having in view a large excision of territory from the old town, met with determined opposition and was rejected. A long and a rather unpleasant controversy followed. But whatever of acrimony may have been engendered by the contest, the asperity of feeling was softened and the inhabitants of the west part of the town were in a measure pacified by being made a corporation by the name of the Second or West Parish in Lancaster.

The Rev. Mr. Marvin, in his "History of Lancaster," —page 198—has given the names of those who signed this first petition "to be set up as a new township." They are quoted here to show who were the leading men of the town at that time. They are as follows: Gamalial Beaman (on another page called "the irrepressible"), Ebenezer Prescott, Benjamin Houghton, Samuel Sawyer, Jonathan Osgood, Fairbank More, Jonathan Bealey, Thomas Ross, Joseph More, Shubael Bealey and John Snow.

But this proposition for a new township was among the inevitable events of the future, and was a bone of contention between the old town and the West Parish for more than forty years, when, finally, on the 25th of April, 1781, the Legislature settled the matter by granting an act of incorporation of the new town by the name of Sterling.

In 1741 or 1742 the first meeting-house was built, principally by the voluntary labor of the inhabitants, the town granting them but a small sum from its treasury for the purpose. The spot whereon it was set is the same that is now occupied by the Unitarian Church. The site is included in a lot of three acres, made over to the First Parish by deed of gift from Elias Sawyer, for the purpose of setting a meeting-house and for conveniency of stables and other uses. This deed is recorded in the Registry of Deeds, book 18, page 129. To accommodate the increasing population, an addition was made to this old church in 1766. Mr. Goodwin says of it now, that "it must have presented a singular appearance with three gable ends." The pews were not sold, as in later days, but every year a committee was appointed to "seat the meeting-house," by which process those paying the highest taxes were accorded the most desirable sittings, and so on in regular gradation.

It was not until after the adoption of the Constitution of the United States that regular enumerations of the inhabitants began to be made decennially by law. But somewhere in the old church records it is stated that in 1764 the town contained 156 dwelling-houses and 856 inhabitants. And at the time of the first national census in 1790, there were 209 dwelling-houses and 1,428 inhabitants. Thus it is seen that the town made commendable and steady progress in the first seventy years of its existence. To the traveler or the casual visitor the place must have presented an appearance of substantial prosperity and comfortable living. Large, commodious dwelling-houses had been built of similar style and construction throughout. They all fronted to the south; were two-storied in front, with a long roof running down to one low story on the north side. Two large square rooms occupied the ground floor on either side of the front door, usually distinguished—as the house stood square to the four points of the compass—as the "east" and "west" room, with corresponding chambers above. Immediately back of these two front rooms was the long kitchen, with its wide-mouthed fire-place and capacious oven.

A score or more of these plain, ancient dwellings still remain, though all have undergone more or less alteration. The habits and mode of life of the people was as plain and substantial as their dwellings. They were industrious and frugal, and their way of subsistence, down even to the time within the memory of persons now living, was simple and inexpensive.

The walls of their houses were unadorned with fresco or elegant, costly paper-hangings, and the floors were innocent of carpets. Neatness of person, however, and in household arrangements was a characteristic of the time. In summer, in the absence of carpets, it was the custom to sprinkle clean white sand on the floors, and fill the wide chimney-mouth with evergreen bushes, relieved here and there by daisies and sprigs of golden-rod. This was the old English fashion, as we infer from some lines of Goldsmith, in his "Deserted Village," where he says:

> Imagination fondly stoops to trace
> The parlor splendors of that festive place:
> The white-washed wall, the nicely sanded floor
> * * * * * *
> The hearth, except when winter chill'd the day,
> With aspen boughs, and flowers, and fennel gay.

Among the few that remain of these ancient dwellings, that now owned and occupied by Mr. Dugan, on the Amory Farm, best represents, in its external appearance, the houses referred to above.

This farm was owned many years ago by Rufus G. Amory, Esq., of Boston. Originally it was owned by Colonel Asa Whitcomb. Colonel Whitcomb possessed a large estate, and was a noted man in his day. He was chosen deacon of the church in 1760, Representative to the General Court in 1766, '68, '69, '70, '71, '72, '73 and '74. He was a delegate to the Provincial Congress at Cambridge February 1, 1775, and was appointed justice of the peace in 1780. Liberty is here taken to transcribe the account Mr. Goodwin has given of this eminent citizen in the *Worcester Magazine* in 1826:

> At the commencement of the war he was one of our wealthiest citizens. He was for many years entrusted with the most important and responsible offices,—was Deacon of the Church, Representative from Lancaster before the division, and Justice of the Peace, besides his various military stations. Such was his zeal in the cause of liberty, and so great his confidence in the patriotism and integrity of his country-men that he pledged his whole fortune upon the faith of the paper currency, and consequently became bankrupt He removed to Princeton, where he died at an advanced age in a state of abject poverty; sustained by a conscious integrity, that never departed from him, and an exalted piety that elevated him above the ills of life.

The farm on which he died is in the easterly part of Princeton, owned by Mr. Estee, formerly known as the Temple place.

Another of these antiquated houses is that on the Kilburn Farm on Rowley Hill. This house was probably built by Deacon Joseph Kilburn. He was chosen deacon in 1767, and died in 1789. This farm has ever been held in the Kilburn name, and is now owned by Mr. Levi Kilburn, a grandson of Deacon Joseph. The present owner is now in the eighty-fourth year of his age. It is not improbable that this farm may be retained in the Kilburn line for at least another generation.

The oldest house in the village is a part of what is now the Central Hotel, kept by our popular landlord, Mr. J. N. Brooks. This house is said to have been built in the year 1759, by Mr. Jabez Brooks, and, for much the largest part of the time since, has been occupied as a tavern. At the time it was built there were but two houses within the distance of half a mile,—Deacon Jonathan Osgood's at the west and that of Mr. Roger Robbins at the east, where Mrs. C. A. Riley now lives. Another ancient dwelling is that on the north end of the Common, owned by Mrs. C. A. Goodnow. It is claimed by some that a

part of this house was the first house built in the village. It was, in very early times, owned and occupied by a Mr. Harris, grandfather of the late Mr. Clarendon Harris, of Worcester.

The public records of the town were destroyed in September, 1794, by the burning of Mr. Moses Smith's store. Mr. Smith was town clerk at the time, and kept his public office in the store. The destruction was complete—leaving a blank in the town's history, from that date back to the time of its incorporation as a precinct—a period of more than fifty years. Subsequent records, however, show that the town did not suffer in comparison with other towns around in the public spirit of its citizens or in the liberality of its appropriations for roads and other improvements, and for the maintenance of church and schools. An inquiry has recently been raised, whether the town had ever adopted by-laws, regulating the transaction of public business; and in the belief that it never had done so, a committee was appointed at a late town-meeting to prepare suitable rules to be presented at a future meeting for the town's consideration and action. By a reference to the record of a town-meeting, held on the 3d day of November, 1794, it will be found that a code of by-laws for the regulation of town-meetings was adopted, which runneth as follows:

Art. 1. To take a seat and sit.

Art. 2. To proceed to business at the hour appointed in the Warrant.

Art. 3. To rise and address the Moderator with hats off when we wish to speak and sit down when done speaking.

Art. 4. That we will not presume to speak when one is orderly speaking before us.

Art. 5. That we will not interrupt by attempting to converse, or transact private business when assembled for public.

Art. 6. That the law respecting the Moderator's duty shall be read at the opening of every town-meeting, if requested.

Art. 7. That the Moderator shall exercise the powers vested in him by law, and that we will strictly obey.

Art 8. That the above articles shall be copied in a large, legible hand and brought in by the Clerk at the opening of every town-meeting and hung up in open view of the town.

In 1799 the second meeting-house was built, and located on the site of the old one at a cost of $8500. Mr. Timothy Hildreth was the builder. He was, at the time, tavern-keeper as well as carpenter.

In the following year the town-house and school-house combined was erected on the spot occupied by the present one, which was formerly the site of Mr. Samuel Brown's blacksmith shop. (See deed of Samuel Brown to Ebenezer Pope, book 146, page 60; also deed of Ebenezer Pope to town of Sterling, book 168, page 66, Registry of Deeds.) It was a very plain building—thirty-eight by twenty-eight feet—innocent of paint, and cost about $700.

Previous to 1822 the method of supporting the poor was by boarding them out among such families as were disposed, for the sake of the income, to take them. The manner of disposing of them was sometimes by auction. But, in time, a more philanthropic sentiment began to prevail, and this mode of providing for the unfortunate poor was regarded as inhuman. In consequence, in the year above-named, a committee of intelligent citizens was appointed at the town-meeting, in March, to take into consideration the manner of supporting the poor, and report whether a change for the better might not be made. In due time the committee presented to the town an able report, setting forth the disadvantages and the inhumanity of the present system, and recommending the purchase of a farm as a better and more economical way of discharging the town's obligation to this unfortunate class of her population. The report was accepted and the committee was instructed to purchase a farm at a cost not exceeding the sum of three thousand dollars. Thereupon the farm, now owned and occupied as the Pauper Establishment, was purchased. The former owner was William Morris, Esq. The farm contained sixty acres, and was purchased for the sum of $1900. Seventy-five acres have been added since the original purchase, making a total of one hundred and thirty-five acres; valued in the overseer's estimate for 1888 at $3400. A large and commodious Almshouse was built in 1877, containing twenty-six rooms. Careful provision is made for the comfort of the inmates and the care of the insane. Eight rooms are suitably fitted up for the latter class and five rooms are devoted to the common poor. The estimated value of the house is $3000. The other farm-buildings have been recently thoroughly repaired, and, to some extent, remodeled, and are valued at $1000.

In 1825 a fund of one thousand dollars was established, the income of which to be used in furnishing females of limited means with fuel during the winter months. The fund was derived from the sale of a farm given to the town for that purpose by Jacob Conant, Esq.

The fund is under the control of five trustees, who are to be chosen annually, and who are to render account to the town and submit their books and papers to its inspection, and also to that of the donor and his heirs, whenever requested so to do. By the report of the trustees, at the annual town-meeting in March, 1888, the principal of the fund invested was shown to be two thousand and twenty-four dollars, showing that the fund has been carefully and judiciously managed, while at the same time, from year to year it has fulfilled the purpose of the benevolent donor. The "Conant Fund" has relieved anxiety and carried cheerfulness to many a poor widow's heart as the cold winds of December have whistled dismally about her dwelling.

The late Mrs. Emily Wilder made a bequest in her will of fifteen hundred dollars for a similar purpose, which the selectmen, as trustees, received from the executor of her estate in 1887, and which they have duly invested.

The old town-house, built in 1800, having fallen into somewhat premature decay, partly in consequence of having been used as a school-house as well as a town-house, was sold in 1835 to Mr. John B. Pratt,

who removed it to a location a little south of the village on the Worcester road, known ever since by the euphonious name of "Tuggsville," and our present chaste and well-proportioned town-hall was erected in its place. It was built by Mr. John Springer, for many years a respected resident of the town. It was completed in November, 1835, and was immediately dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. Edwin Conant, Esq., delivered the dedicatory address, a large assemblage being present. In the evening following the services of dedication, a very pleasant musical entertainment was given, in which some noted singers, former residents of the town, took part, among whom were Colonel Daniel Newhall, of Boston; Bartholomew Brown, Esq., of Bridgewater; Mr. John Brown, of Boston; Mr. Nathaniel Sawyer, of New York, and Mr. Cephas Newhall, of Sterling, all of whom were "singing masters," or, as in modern parlance, "professors of vocal music."

CEMETERIES.—There are four public burial-grounds within the limits of the town. One is situated in the southwest part of the town in the Leg District (so called); one near Sterling Junction; the old village churchyard, where repose the remains of the first settlers of the town and many of their descendants; and the new "Oak Hill Cemetery," half a mile distant from the village on the Lancaster road. The latter contains about eight acres and was purchased of Mr. Joel Houghton in 1858. Much attention and labor of late years has been bestowed upon all these hallowed depositories of the dead, in repairing and new-setting the fences, furnishing suitable gates and entrances, and in removing weeds and bushes, and all unsightly objects which offend the moral sentiment, if they do not tend to nourish the "horrors of the tomb." And it is pleasant to observe that all these sacred enclosures are being cared for and ornamented, both by public and private munificence, by chaste monuments of marble or granite, by graded avenues or shaded paths, and by the planting of flowering shrubs and plants around and within the curbed family lots in a manner calculated to render them pleasant resorts, suited to calm contemplation, or to secret, holy communings of the soul with that of the loved but silent tenant of the grave.

The old burial-ground was enlarged in 1837 by the purchase of about two acres adjoining on the south side, including an avenue to the Kendall Hill road, where there is an entrance with stone posts and an iron gate. It was purchased of Mr. Augustine Holcombe. It was laid off into family lots, which have been mostly taken up, and now thickly abounds with becoming monuments, mostly of marble, of various styles.

The "Oak Hill Cemetery" was laid out into burial lots, avenues and paths under the direction of a committee, consisting of Daniel Hosmer, Eli Kilburn, Captain Moses Sawyer, Luther W. Rugg and Ezra Kendall, appointed at the annual meeting in March, 1859, with power to employ a civil engineer; and at a subsequent meeting the same committee were authorized to enclose the land by a suitable picket-fence, and to grade the avenues and paths, and to prepare a code of by-laws for the regulation of the affairs of the cemetery.

The committee caused a plan of the whole ground to be made out, by which it was shown that it contained three hundred and fifteen lots, but only one hundred and fifty-one lots were staked out. An additional number has been staked out since, and there are still others to be prepared for use as necessity may require. A cemetery committee is chosen each year, who have entire control of all burying-grounds, and all funds given or appropriated for the purpose of improving or beautifying them.

An exceptionally interesting event occurred in this town in September, 1824. It was a no less occasion than the "reception" given to the Marquis De Lafayette as he passed through the town on his return to New York by way of Worcester and Hartford.

From the moment Lafayette landed at New York on the 15th of August, after an absence of nearly fifty years, the whole country was aroused to the greatest enthusiasm to do all honor to the great and good man who had rendered such distinguished service in the hour of the country's greatest need. The circumstances attending his visit to Sterling were briefly these. Soon after his arrival at New York he set out on a journey north as far as Portsmouth, N. H. His route lay through New Haven, New London, Providence and Boston. Returning from Portsmouth, he left Boston, passing through Lexington, Concord, Bolton, Lancaster and Sterling on his way back to New York, by way of Worcester and Hartford. He spent the night at Bolton at the hospitable mansion of Hon. S. V. S. Wilder. At all places he received the most patriotic and flattering demonstrations of respect—the whole country ringing with salutes and applause. The citizens of Sterling were not behind in patriotic emotion or in enthusiasm to pay due homage to the distinguished guest of the nation. Suitable preparations were made. A triumphal arch was raised in front of Mr. Bartlett's store, bearing the words—"The Nation's Guest." "Welcome Lafayette." A broad platform, about four feet high, was erected nearly in front of the Congregational Church, neatly covered by a carpet and reached by a flight of stairs. There were then no trees or other obstructions upon the Common to obstruct the view. There was a military display consisting of the "Sterling Light Infantry," a fine volunteer company, recently organized, with new and beautiful uniforms, under command of Captain Phineas B. Dana; the "Princeton Light Infantry," another equally splendid volunteer company, commanded by Captain Amos Merriam; the old militia company, and the artillery company, belonging partly in Sterling and partly in Lancaster, and commanded by Captain Daniel F. Maynard, of Sterling. Promptly in the morning, men,

women and children came flocking to the village, eager to feast their eyes upon the venerable hero, who had early espoused the cause of American freedom, and had hazarded his life and shed his blood for its consummation. At about eleven o'clock A.M. the general and his suite arrived, preceded by a body of cavalry and followed by a long line of carriages from the towns below. Alighting from his carriage and ascending to the platform, he was received by the Board of Selectmen, who, through the chairman, Isaac Goodwin, Esq., made a felicitious address, to which Lafayette happily and appropriately responded. After a little time spent in hand-shaking with the ladies, the general again entered his carriage and proceeded on his journey amid the waving of handkerchiefs, the huzzas of the multitude and the salutes of the artillery.

ECCLESIASTICAL.—The first church in Sterling was organized December 19, 1744, and on the same day the Rev. John Mellen was ordained pastor. The pastorate of Mr. Mellen extended over a period of thirty-four years. From all the accounts we can gather of him it would seem that he possessed in an eminent degree the essential qualities necessary to a successful minister of the Gospel. In average ability he was at least the equal of his professional brethren in the towns around him. Mr. Goodwin says of him that he "probably stood at the head of the clergy in the county."

Under his ministrations the affairs of the church and town appear to have advanced prosperously for many years. But those that are at all familiar with the history of these early times are not surprised that a day of fiery trial was near at hand for both minister and people alike. Questions of greater freedom in affairs of church and state were everywhere agitating the public mind. People had become extremely jealous of their rights and every attempt at encroachment upon them was met with bold and determined resistance. On the part of Mr. Mellen and his people it was a question of high church and prerogative on the one side and larger liberty on the other.

We of the present generation can have but a faint idea of the bitterness of the controversy that prevailed in New England for a score of years following 1760. Mr. Mellen was formally dismissed November 14, 1774, but continued to hold meetings and administer the ordinances with his faithful adherents at his own house and at the school-house for a number of years afterwards. But through all the unfortunate disagreement the moral and Christian character of the minister was but slightly assailed. And it is pleasant to remember that after his removal from town and resettlement over another society, he occasionally returned and occupied the old pulpit from which he had been, some years before, forcibly excluded, and where, by the impressiveness of his discourses, he won the favor of those who had once been his malignaut foes.

After these few troublous years the churches had rest. A season of quiet having now been restored and all asperity of former feeling having subsided, the people united in calling to the ministry, as the successor of Mr. Mellen, the Rev. Reuben Holcomb. He was ordained June 2, 1779. Rev. Mr. Holcomb's pastorate continued thirty-five years, and was noted for its reign of peace and prosperity throughout.

During all these years no dissatisfaction appears to have been expressed with regard to the minister or any loud, vociferous complaints uttered against him. But, all on a sudden, at the commencement of the year 1814, a petition was drawn up and signed by a hundred or more of the citizens, asking the selectmen to insert in the warrant for March meeting an article "to see if the town will choose a committee to converse with the Rev. Reuben Holcomb to see on what terms, if any, he will relinquish his pastoral office in this town." To the pastor and to those not in the secret this movement was a complete surprise.

The vote upon the article passed in the affirmative and a committee of seven of the leading citizens was appointed accordingly. The following are the names of the gentleman composing the committee: Luther Allen, Joseph Kendall, John Porter, Moses Thomas, Thomas H. Blood, Samuel Sawyer and Aaron Kimball.

Immediately after the official interview of the committee with the pastor, Mr. Holcomb addressed a lengthy communication to the church and town, in which he reviewed the events of his ministry, and declared that, in view of the hitherto harmonious relations between himself and his people, the above proceeding on the part of the town "*was a sudden and unexpected event.*" But he at once preferred a request for dismission on the ground of "*want of health, want of affection among you towards me, and as a result of all, the want of a prospect of usefulness and comfort.*" A mutual council was called and the request for dismissal was granted. It does not appear that any serious alienation of feeling was caused by the separation on the part of Mr. Holcomb and his friends and the society. Mr. Holcomb continued to reside on his beautiful hillside farm, regularly attending church services in the place of his former labors until his death, which occurred, October 18, 1826, at the advanced age of seventy-five years.

The successor of Mr. Holcomb was the Rev. Lemuel Capen, who was ordained March 22, 1815. Mr. Capen was much beloved by the people of the town, and his ministry, though short, was in all respects a happy one, abounding in great good to the community among whom he was called to labor. The annual salary of Mr. Capen was six hundred dollars. But this sum being inadequate to meet the expenses of his family, and desiring not to seem burdensome by asking additional compensation, "and thus (to use his own words) endangering that unusual degree of harmony and unanimity which now so happily subsists among you as a religious society and as a

town," he felt it his duty on the 4th of January, 1819, to ask a dismission. An ecclesiastical council was called, and a separation took place. On the 21st of January a town-meeting was held, and the following vote was unanimously passed: voted, "that after mature deliberation on the communication of the Rev. Lemuel Capen of the 4th instant, and the consequent result on that communication, we cannot with honor to ourselves and justice to him, but declare, that we received his communication with extreme regret and concern; that the manner in which his request was disposed of was not the result of dissatisfaction as to his acquirements as a scholar, his deportment as a man, or his attainments as a Christian; but the conviction that an addition to his salary at this early period might materially endanger the universal harmony which now so happily prevails among us." And after some further expressions of "confidence in his character for purity of heart and rectitude of life," the vote concludes: "It now only remains for us to wish him all the joys and hopes of the good man, the polished scholar, the sincere friend and the real Christian."

The next minister in regular succession in the ancient church was the Rev. Peter Osgood, of Andover. He was ordained June 30, 1819. Mr. Osgood was never blessed with a strong physical constitution and his labors were frequently interrupted by ill-health. Previous to his settlement and for some years afterwards there was no other religious society in the town, and the number of inhabitants was larger by some hundreds than at the present time. Custom, moreover, required two elaborate sermons every Sunday. Consequently the duties of a minister, in those days, were far more laborious than now; and besides, by virtue of his office, he was expected to be in a measure the guardian of all the children of the town and the chief supervisor of its schools. Mr. Osgood was heartily interested in the education of the young. He labored faithfully and earnestly to promote the highest welfare of the schools. He exercised a watchful care over them and his frequent visits to them were gladly welcomed by both teachers and pupils. In this regard especially he is now held in grateful remembrance by many of the elderly people of the town.

But his strength was not equal to his day. Under his pastoral and ministerial labors he felt that his health was gradually, but surely, giving way and that his "only hope of enjoying comfortable health" was in relief from the cares of a parish and the labor of study. In the spring of 1839 he felt himself compelled to ask a dismission; but so strong was the attachment of his people to their minister that they were unwilling that a separation should take place until some effort for his restoration should be made by means of entire rest and freedom from care. Accordingly, at the parish-meeting which followed, a committee was appointed to converse with the Rev. Mr. Osgood respecting his request for a dismission from his ministerial office. It was also voted unanimously "that the Committee be instructed to offer to the Rev. Mr. Osgood a suspension of his ministerial duties to the Parish for one year, then to resume them, in case his health should warrant it."

With this proposal Mr. Osgood complied; but at the year's end it was found that his health had not sufficiently improved to render it prudent for him to resume his labors, and a release from further connection with the society was granted, according to his renewed request, March 9, 1840. The vote of the parish granting a dismissal concludes as follows: "And having enjoyed the benefit of his faithful ministry and witnessed his exemplary deportment for twenty years, do most cordially declare our fullest confidence in his character for purity of heart and rectitude of life."

Shortly after Mr. Osgood removed to North Andover, his native town, and spent the remainder of his life in the quiet pursuits of agriculture on his ancestral farm. But infirmities at length grew upon him and disease so impaired his mental faculties that he became insensible to all about him, even to the presence of friends. He died August 27, 1865, in the seventy-fourth year of his age.

Since the termination of Rev. Mr. Osgood's pastorate, the ministerial and pastoral office in the First Congregational Society has been held successively by the following clergymen, to wit: Rev. David Fosdick, Jr., ordained March 3, 1841,—dismissed December 8, 1845; Rev. T. Prentiss Allen, ordained November 18, 1846,—dismissed September 19, 1853; Rev. William H. Knapp, installed February 14, 1856,—dismissed May 5, 1858; Rev. Edward B. Fairchild, ordained January 19, 1860,—dismissed September 22, 1863; Rev. Alpheus S. Nickerson, installed July 27, 1864,—dismissed February 2, 1869; Rev. Harvey C. Bates, ordained June 30, 1869,—dismissed March 11, 1873; Rev. Henry P. Cutting, installed September 1, 1873,—dismissed April 5, 1881.

Rev. J. H. Whitmore took charge of the parish December 1, 1884, and continued his services to the church and society until July 1, 1886.

On July 1, 1888, Rev. William S. Heywood, by the unanimous desire of the society, assumed charge of the pastoral and ministerial affairs of the parish, and on the 1st of September moved into town with his family, and took possession of the parsonage bequeathed to the society by the late Mrs. Emily Wilder.

The present house of worship was built in 1842, immediately after the destruction, by an incendiary fire, on the night of the 14th of March of the same year, of its predecessor, built in 1799, and dedicated on the first Sunday of January in 1800. The present house is on the same site of the two former ones. In 1886, under the direction of a committee appointed by the society, it was remodeled, improved and beautified, Mrs. C. A. Freeman generously pay-

ing nearly the whole of the expense, amounting to some two thousand dollars, in memorial of her deceased sister, who was a constant and devoted attendant upon the religious services of the church. The church organ was procured in 1853. It was built by Stevens, of Cambridge, and was paid for, partly, by a legacy bequeathed to the society by the late Jacob Conant, Esq., and partly by voluntary subscriptions of the members. Its total cost was $916.38.

A ministerial library was purchased in 1846, for the use of the minister of the First Congregational Society, at a cost of one hundred and fifty or two hundred dollars. This library contains, among other standard works, the American Encyclopædia, and, as far as it goes, is a valuable collection. Owing to the organization of other religious societies, the decease of many of its prominent members and other causes not easily explained, this ancient society has become, like many another, reduced in numbers and power of its influence. It still exists, however, in a tolerably strong and healthy condition, doing its share in sustaining and promoting the intellectual, moral and religious culture of the community. Down to a period as late as 1830 this was the only religious society in the town, and it is a singular fact that nearly every family was regular and more or less constant in their attendance upon church services on Sunday. The long processions of wagons, square-topped chaises, and persons on horseback and on foot at the conclusion of the afternoon service, wending their way homeward on all the roads diverging from the meeting-house, is well remembered by many of the elderly people. It must not be supposed, however, that the people were entirely united in religious sentiment or were satisfied with the state of things in regard to religious worship. There were those who conscientiously held to the doctrine of Universal Salvation, first proclaimed in this country by Rev. John Murray, and which had begun to be preached by many clergymen of ability in New England; and there were those of Baptist proclivities, and those also who entertained more distinctively the sentiments of John Calvin.

At the date mentioned above, or immediately subsequent thereto, the Universalists began to hold occasional meetings in the old town-house.

The preachers on these occasions were the Rev. Hosea Ballou, Rev. Thomas Whittemore, Rev. Thomas Greenwood, Rev. Charles Streeter, Rev. Mr. Harriman (since Governor of New Hampshire) and others. These meetings were quite numerously attended, and such an interest was awakened that a society was soon formed, under the name of the "First Universalist Society in Sterling."

The precise date of the formation of the society, as well as the settlement of its first pastor, the Rev. Rufus S. Pope, is not known, as the early records appear to have been lost. Under the pastoral charge of Rev. Mr. Pope a church was organized, and certain articles of faith, as given below, were formulated and adopted, with the preamble as follows:

Preamble (in part.) As Christians we acknowledge the sacred Scriptures to be the only infallible rule of faith and practice, regarding them as given by inspiration of God, and profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness—and discarding all human authorities and creeds, we select the following, as expressing the general outlines of our belief, and of the Christian religion:

Article first. We believe there is one God and one Mediator between God and man; the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time.

Article second. We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Article third. We believe the Father sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world.

Article fourth. We believe that, by the grace of God he tasted death for every man.

Article fifth. We believe that God will render to every man according to his deeds.

Article sixth. We believe that we ought to adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things. For the grace of God, that bringeth salvation to all men, hath appeared. Teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly and righteously and godly in this present world.

The church was publicly recognized July 13, 1836, the Rev. Thomas Greenwood, of Marlborough, delivering an appropriate discourse on the occasion.

It is to be regretted that the records of the society were not more carefully preserved. It appears, however, that under the charge of its first pastor, the Rev. Mr. Pope, which continued somewhere from five to eight years, the society increased in numbers, and in its influence for good in the community. Its meetings for religious services were held in the town-hall until 1838. In that year the society built itself a neat and commodious house of worship—the same now owned and occupied by the Orthodox Society. Rev. Mr. Pope removed in 1840 or '41 to Hyannis, on Cape Cod, and became pastor of the Universalist Society in that town, and there spent the remainder of his life.

The successors of Mr. Pope were as follows: Rev. George Proctor, from 1841 to 1847; Rev. Quincy Whitney, from 1847 to 1848; Rev. Samuel A. Davis, from 1848 to 1852.

The society continued to hold services by supplies for a time after Rev. Mr. Davis closed his labors. But owing, in part, to the death of some of the older and wealthy members and the removal from town of others, and, perhaps, not a little to indifference to the cause on the part of some, the society soon began to languish, and finally, in 1853, sold its house of worship to the "First Evangelical Congregational Society," which had been recently organized. Very soon after this the society disbanded and such of the members as chose went back and connected themselves with the Unitarian Society, from which many of them had gone out scarcely a score of years before. But it is just to say that the Universalist Society did some good work during the comparatively short period of its existence.

During the last fifty or sixty years there has been a great change in the religious elements of most churches and in the religious sentiments of a great

majority of the people. Much of the old theology is discarded. Creeds have been shortened and simplified. Men are judged less and less by the articles of their religious faith and more and more by the uniform tenor of their daily life. The Universalist ministers of forty years ago, among whom were many very able and talented men, did their full share in establishing more rational and liberal views.

For several years prior to 1837 there were in town several families of Baptists and others entertaining similar views, who occasionally held meetings at private houses and at the school-house in the Leg District. In the year above mentioned it was found that the number of these persons had so increased that "*it was felt that a church to conduct the affairs and bear the responsibilities of this gospel enterprise was a necessity.*" Accordingly, a church was thereupon organized, and the Rev. Cyrus P. Grovesner was called and became its first pastor. Mr. Moses A. Brown was chosen clerk, and Levi Stuart the first deacon of the church, Preaching services were held in the town-hall. Rev. Mr. Grovesner closed his pastorate at the end of the year and the Rev. George Waters was called to succeed him. Mr. Waters remained with the church three and a half years. The Rev. John Allen followed Rev. Mr. Waters in 1841, and continued his labors until the close of 1843.

Rev. Mr. Allen is remembered as a genial, large-hearted man, and was held in high esteem by his fellow-townsmen. Under his ministry the work of the church was effectively carried on, and the moral enterprises of the town received his constant support. A society was organized embracing a goodly number of the town's most esteemed and influential citizens, and the present house of worship, beautifully located under the shade of the majestic elms on the north end of the Common, was erected. The mode of procedure in the building of the church shows that the members had courage as well as faith. An instrument was drawn up and signed by twelve of the leading members, to wit:

"Know all men by these presents, that we, the subscribers hereby agree to associate together in equal shares, by deducting out so much as may be subscribed by other individuals, for the purpose of building a meeting-house for the First Baptist Society in Sterling.

"And we bind Ourselves, our Heirs, Executors, and Administrators to the performance of the above undertaking."

The object of the above Plan is to relieve and to promote the Interest of the said Society, and so dispose of the Pews as best to subserve their Interest and keep ourselves harmless for building said house of Worship.

Sterling, January 16, 1843.

(Signed) Benjamin Stuart, Jesse Curtis, Alden Bailey, Levi Stuart, Asa Hoppin, Amos Breck, James P. Patten, Elisha Smith, Abel F. Goodnow, John Allen, John B. Pratt, Jonathan Nichols.

The site of the meeting-house was purchased of the late Mr. Helon Brooks for the sum of one thousand dollars.

The whole expense of the building, including site, was $4727.93.

A fine-toned bell has recently been purchased, and other improvements made, which swells the expense to nearly seven thousand dollars, all of which the society has promptly met, in addition to the yearly cost of supporting the ministry nearly all the time since the first organization of the church.

The ministers who have had pastoral charge of the society since the Rev. John Allen are Rev. Orlando Cunningham, six and a half years; Rev. Ira F. Kenney, a little over one year; Rev. William M. Guilford, two and a half years; Rev. John H. Learnard, two years and eight months; Rev. Gilbert Robbins, two years; Rev. William Carpenter, three and a half years; S. H. Record, a Newton theological student, six months; Rev. John H. Learnard, again, two and a half years; Rev. Samuel Cheever, nine months; Rev. G. O. Atkinson, one year; Rev. C. H. Hickock, one year; Rev. S. B. Macomber, one year and four months; Rev. I. C. Carpenter, two years and nine months; Rev. A. H. Estee, nearly two years, residing in Westborough; Rev. D. B. Gun, nearly three years. The church was also supplied a short time by Deacon W. A. Holland and by Mr. W. B. Parshley, a student of Brown University. It has had other supplies from time to time, whose names do not appear on record. The present pastor is Rev. S. H. Whitney, who commenced his services 1888.

The clerk of the society is Mr. Thomas O. Patten, and the clerk of the church is Miss Elizabeth R. Bailey.

In 1851 it was deemed needful that another branch of the Christian Church should be built up in the town. There were several highly respectable families who could not find a congenial religious home with either the Unitarians, Universalists, or the Baptists, and who, by reason thereof, were in the habit of attending church in the neighboring towns of West Boylston, Boylston and Bolton. On the 23d of September, 1851, by request of Mark Bruce, Fordyce Wilder, Luther Stone, Rufus Holman, Jones Wilder, Silas M. Wilder, Charles H. Loring, Charles M. Bailey, Luther Peters and Daniel L. Emerson, a warrant was issued by William D. Peck, Esq., a justice of the peace, within and for the county of Worcester, to Silas M. Wilder, directing him to notify and warn the above described Inhabitants to meet at the Town Hall on the 9th day of October next, to act on the following articles, viz.:

1st. To choose a Clerk, Moderator and such other Officers as may be deemed proper and necessary.

2d. To determine the mode of calling future meetings.

3d. To adopt such By-Laws as may be deemed necessary.

At the meeting held pursuant to the warrant, Jones Wilder was chosen moderator, Silas M. Wilder clerk and Luther Peters, Charles H. Loring and John Smith, Jr., prudential committee.

Charles H. Loring and Dr. E. C. Knight were chosen a committee to draft by-laws. At an adjourned meeting the committee reported and their report was accepted.

BY-LAWS.

Art. 1. This Society shall be called The First Evangelical Congregational Society in Sterling.

Art. 2, declares what officers the society will annually elect.

Art. 3, defines the manner in which new members may be admitted.

Art. 4, fixes the time for the annual meeting.

Art. 5, prescribes the mode of calling future meetings.

Art. 6, establishes the rule in this society that no tax shall be levied "on its members until every reasonable means has been exhausted;" "but all funds shall be raised, and all expenses paid by voluntary subscription."

Art. 7, defines the number necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Art. 8, declares how the By-Laws may be altered or amended.

In 1853 the society purchased the meeting-house, built fifteen years before, and owned by the Universalists. In 1885 the interior of the church was much improved by the repainting of the woodwork in a pleasing color and by new frescoing of the walls. In 1887 the society purchased the house of Silas Stuart for a parsonage. It is a pleasant place just a little retired and admirably adapted to the purpose for which it was purchased. No religious society can feel itself suitably equipped to fulfill its mission until it has secured a permanent and pleasant home for its minister and his family. The society has maintained religious services during the entire period of its existence, paying its settled pastor from six hundred to eight hundred dollars annual salary. It has received aid from the Home Mission Society to the amount of about two hundred dollars annually, but it has paid back by frequent voluntary contributions to various religious enterprises a yearly sum, probably equal to the amount of aid it has received. This financial exhibit is highly creditable to the society and evinces an energy and a spiritual life worthy the cause it seeks to promote. Long may it continue to fulfill its high and sacred mission and do its full share of work in the enlightenment and regeneration of the world!

The church was organized June 22, 1852, with twenty-two members. The first pastor was the Rev. William B. Green. Mr. Green began his ministry April 1, 1852, and closed July 1, 1853.

Rev. Mr. Lothrop followed, but did not remain very long.

Rev. William Miller succeeded Mr. Lothrop in January; was installed May 9, 1855, and was dismissed October, 1858.

Rev. J. C. Labaree next took pastoral charge, October 1, 1861; was ordained February 4, 1863, and remained with the society four years. Rev. Mr. Labaree on leaving Sterling was called to the ministry in Randolph, where he has since remained. He is kindly remembered by the citizens of Sterling, without distinction of sect, who held him in high respect.

Rev. Elbridge Gerry next became acting pastor in 1866, serving two years and four months.

Rev. Evarts Kent came next, after Mr. Gerry, but remained only ten months.

Rev. L. D. Mears began his ministry November 13, 1870, and was dismissed by council September 9, 1873.

The next minister was Rev. George J. Pierce, from January 1, 1874, to January 1, 1875. And then followed Rev L. B. Marsh, from 1875 to 1876.

Rev. B. F. Perkins next assumed pastoral care of the society, April 1, 1877, and closed April 1, 1883. Rev. Mr. Perkins' services were very acceptable, and his pastorate was the longest of any since the formation of the society. Immediately on his separation from the church in Sterling, he was called to the church in Saundersville, where he still continues to dispense the Word. No person is more cordially welcomed by his former townsmen than he, whenever, on given occasions, he returns among them.

Rev. O. G. McIntire and Rev. S. H. Robinson followed Mr. Perkins, one year each. Both were very genial, pleasant gentlemen. The latter is now settled over the Congregational Church in Greenfield, Mass.

The present pastor is Rev. John E. Dodge. Mr. Dodge was installed June 2, 1887. Under his ministry, thus far, the society appears to be invigorated with new life, and we bespeak for Rev. Mr. Dodge a long and useful ministry.

The ecclesiastical record of Sterling would not be complete without the mention of another important branch of the Christian Church. Though there may not be an organized society, a considerable number of the population are of the Roman Catholic faith, and attend church at either Clinton or West Boylston. The number of families is thirty-one. At one time they held church services in the town-hall, and the proposition to build a house of worship was seriously entertained. The plan, however, was abandoned for reasons connected with the churches in the two towns above mentioned.

There are also a number of families of Spiritualists who hold meetings occasionally at private houses. These persons were formerly interested and active members of either one or the other of the three principal churches in the town, but have now, to a considerable extent, withdrawn their aid for their support.

EDUCATION.—Sterling has ever been mindful of her obligations in respect to the education of the young. Her district schools have been her pride and she has ever watched over them with paternal fondness.

The first school-house of which there is any record was built in 1743. This was in the centre, near the meeting-house. Other buildings for the same purpose were soon afterward erected in the remote parts of the town, as the increase of population and the public convenience required. One was located on Rowley Hill, on the site of the present school-house. There was another in the Chocksett District, at the corner of the roads, near Mr. John B. May's.

This location retained the name of the "Old Schoolhouse bank" long after the building was demolished. Another stood near the corner of Mr. Ephraim Chandler's land, opposite the present one in Redstone. This was the scene of the renowned nursery poem:

"Mary had a little lamb,
Its fleece was white as snow," etc.

Miss Rebecca Kimball was the teacher.

Doubtless there were others in other parts of the town. They were rude structures with cavernous fireplaces, but otherwise destitute of the comforts and conveniences of modern school buildings. In 1797 the town was re-districted—each new district containing, as nearly as might be, twenty families, except the Centre, which contained forty families, and has ever since been considered a double district and has drawn a double share of the public money. By a vote passed at the same town-meeting new school-houses were ordered to be built in all the newly-formed districts, involving an expense of some three thousand dollars. The centre school-house was not built until the following year. These new structures, except that in the centre, were all built upon the same general plan and were quite uniform in external appearance. These old red school-houses by the roadside—how vividly and sacredly, almost, are they held in remembrance by many of the older people of the town! But in the general progress of events all these plain, modest temples of learning have been in turn supplanted by others of more modern construction, more tasteful and elegant in appearance and more luxuriously furnished with conveniences and comforts for both teacher and pupil.

The appropriations of money for the support of schools has always been generous in comparison with the town's valuation of taxable property.

In 1800 the appropriation for "schooling" was five hundred dollars. From 1816 to 1835 it was eight hundred dollars. Since 1835 the yearly allowance has been on the increase, until it has reached, in this year of grace, 1888, the sum of four thousand dollars. In the intervening period since 1835 school libraries, books of reference, outline maps, eight-inch mounted globes, large surfaces of black-board and other needful supplies have been liberally and promptly furnished to facilitate the process of instruction.

Parents still continue to manifest interest in the progress of their children by occasional visits to the schools and by lending their influence in other practicable ways. But it is to be feared, however, that personal interest in the schools on the part of the community generally has abated to a considerable extent from what it was sixty or seventy years ago—or even fifty years ago—on account of the fact that the State has gradually assumed entire control and management of the public schools, to the exclusion of those most intimately concerned, from any voice, part or lot in the matter except to pay the annual tax assessed upon them. And, at least, whatever advance has been made in popular education in the last half-century, it cannot be denied that the old district system had many a redeeming feature. As the population of the town was larger than at present, so the attendance upon the school was also much greater.

It was the writer's experience to attend school in the Chocksett District when eighty scholars were daily convened within the walls of the old school building, whose outward dimensions were twenty-two by twenty-two feet. The terms of school were short, never exceeding ten weeks in winter and eight or nine in summer. The "examination" at the close of the term was an event of much importance to all the people of the district and was usually attended by them in numbers oftentimes fully equal to the capacity of the school-room. The teachers were faithful to the trusts committed to them, and a generation of men and women, fairly equipped, mentally and morally, for the duties and responsibilities of citizenship was the result of their labors. The annual "School Meeting," clothed with the authority, through its "Prudential Committee," of selecting and hiring the teacher, and of deciding on all other matters relating to the school, excepting the raising and appropriation of money, was a powerful means of awakening and keeping alive an intense interest in the school and a strong desire for its welfare. In about the year 1822 there was organized an association by the name of the "Sterling Mutual Improvement Society"—changed a few years afterward to "The Sterling Lyceum"—whose declared purpose was to aid the teachers and improve the district schools.

This society had an active existence of about forty years. It was a powerful auxiliary in the educational work of the town. It convened the teachers at stated times for the discussion of vital questions relating to their daily duties in the school-room; it called out, from time to time, during the winter terms, the higher classes in all the schools for public competitive exercises in reading, geography, grammar and arithmetic; it also had lectures from "home talent" and from distinguished speakers from the cities and various other places.

It was truly a popular institution, and its regular meetings drew together in the town hall crowded audiences of old people and young, and was a potent instrumentality for promoting the social, intellectual and moral well-being of the entire community.

Few towns of the same extent and rank have produced a greater number of native teachers than Sterling. A list, as far as can be remembered, is subjoined at the end of this sketch.

Since the organization of the Board of Education in 1837, and through the influence of Normal Schools, Teachers' Institutes and educational literature, improved methods of teaching and discipline have been adopted. Blackboard instruction in all branches is resorted to, oral teaching is more frequently practiced, and the old A B C method of teaching young children to read is fast passing away. And in modes of discipline the change is not less apparent. The ferule, "that scepter of despotic power," is practically banished from our school-rooms, and other ridiculous forms of physical torture, such as supporting a heavy

book with the arm extended in a right line from the body, of bending the body forward and holding down a nail, or of being hit on the head by a heavy ruler, thrown by the master as punishment for minor offences, is not tolerated by public sentiment and is now never practiced. The regular terms of school were oftentimes prolonged from one to four weeks by private subscription; and not unfrequently a private school was supported in the autumn by those who felt the need of larger opportunities for the education of their children, and who regarded it more economical to maintain a school of higher grade in town than to be at the expense of board and transportation to an academy at a distance from home. Notwithstanding, scarcely a year passed in which numbers of our young people of both sexes did not avail themselves of the privileges afforded at the high schools and academies of Lancaster, Worcester, Leicester, New Ipswich and other places to prepare themselves for teachers, or for entrance into some college or technical institution. This state of things, which, indeed, had been of long continuance, led to the feeling on the part of many that the establishment of a high school was a public necessity.

At the town-meeting in the month of April, 1883, the subject was brought before the town. A discussion followed. Rev. Mr. Perkins made a strong and convincing argument in its favor. The Irish adopted citizens generally were found to be favorable to the measure. By a yea and nay vote the question was decided affirmatively by a fair majority. In September following the school went in operation with Mr. Herbert B. Hayden, of Ashland, as its first principal. Mr. Hayden was a graduate of the Ashland Hight School and had spent one year at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn. Mr. Hayden had a good measure of success and gave general satisfaction. He remained with the school five years. He left town at the close of the spring term, 1888. Mr. Henry A. MacGowan, of Clinton, was appointed to the principalship of the school at the commencement of the fall term of the present year. Mr. MacGowan is a graduate of Amherst College, of the class of 1886. He entered the Divinity School at Andover, but his studies in preparation for the ministry were interrupted by ill health, and he was obliged to suspend his professional studies. Having regained his strength in a measure by rest, he was induced to accept the position offered him by the School Committee and entered at once upon its duties. Under his judicious and able management, as a thorough scholar himself, the school gives promise of an advanced position, and worthy to take an equal rank among the high schools of the State.

Since the establishment of the High School, and principally through its instrumentality, a course of lectures has been maintained during the winter. These lectures are numerously attended by our people and afford, not only pleasant entertainment, but valuable instruction. These literary entertainments are much enjoyed, and are looked forward to with interest and pleasant anticipation.

A fine High School building was erected in 1883 on a beautiful site, between the Emily Wilder parsonage and the old Dr. Kendall place. It was formerly owned by the late Jacob Conant, Esq., and was purchased by the town of a subsequent owner of the property. The edifice is two-storied, with a large play-room in the basement. It is a neat building, pleasantly located, and presents an attractive appearance.

In respect to the number of graduates from various colleges, Mr. Goodwin (to whom the writer of this sketch is indebted for most of his acquaintance with the early history of this town) says: "The number educated at the public colleges from this place is not great, but our scholars will not suffer by a comparison with those of many towns who present a larger catalogue." He then gives a list of nineteen graduates, with the dates of graduation, as follows:

1. John Mellen (Harvard University, 1770), for many years minister at Barnstable.
2. Joseph Kilburn (Harvard University, 1777), minister at Wendell, Mass.
3. Isaac Bailey (Harvard University, 1781), minister at Ward, Mass.
4. Prentiss Mellen, LL.D. (Harvard University, 1784), chief justice of the Supreme Court of Maine.
5. Henry Mellen (Harvard University, 1784), attorney-at-law at Dover, N. H.
6. Thomas Moore (Dartmouth College, 1787), settled in the ministry in Pennsylvania.
7. Pierson Thurston (Dartmouth College, 1787), minister at Somersworth, N. H.
8. James Kendall, D.D. (Harvard University, 1796), minister of the ancient church at Plymouth, Mass.
9. Bartholomew Brown (Harvard University, 1799), for some years counselor-at-law at Sterling, afterward at Bridgewater, Mass.
10. Hosea Hildreth (Harvard University, 1805), minister at Gloucester, Mass.
11. Amos W. Rugg (Harvard University, 1805), died soon after leaving college, greatly lamented.
12. Martin Moore (Brown University, 1811), minister at Natick, Mass.
13. Mark Moore (Brown University, 1814), counselor-at-law in Connecticut.
14. Nahum H. Groce (Harvard University, 1808), preceptor of an academy.
15. Pierson T. Kendall (Harvard University, 1812), for many years practicing physician at Sterling.
16. Ezekiel Hildreth (Harvard University, 1814), instructor of youth in the Southern States.
17. Abel T. Hildreth (Harvard University, 1818), instructor of youth in the Southern States.
18. Oliver H. Blood (Harvard University, 1821), practicing physician at Worcestor, Mass.
19. Moses G. Thomas (Brown University, 1825), many years minister at Concord, N. H.
20. George Putnam, D.D. (Harvard University, 1827), minister at Roxbury until his death, in 1872.
21. Edwin Conant (Harvard University, 1828), counselor-at-law at Sterling, removed to Worcester.
22. Josiah K. Waite (Harvard University, 1829), settled in the ministry first at Fitzwilliam, N. H.
23. Augustus K. Rugg (Union College, N. Y., 1836), counselor at Albany, Ga., where he died in 1843, much lamented.
24. Silas Bailey (Brown University, 1838), distinguished educator, died in Paris, France, 1874.
25. Mark Bailey (Brown University, 1842), professor in Oregon State University.
26. Ambrose P. S. Stuart (Brown University, 1847), after spending three years in the German Universities of Gottingen and Heidelberg, he

accepted professorships in various colleges, and is now engaged in financial affairs in Lincoln, Neb.

27. Addison Stuart entered Brown University and went through the regular collegiate course, all but the last year, when he commenced the study of law. Has a law-office at Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

28. William Richardson, Ph.D. (Dartmouth College, 1864), engaged in educational work in Ohio.

29. Frank W. Wilder (Tufts College, 1880), counsellor-at-law and real estate agent, Dakota Ty.

30. Edmund W. Powers (Tufts College, 1881), counselor-at-law, Boston, Mass.

31. Arthur P. Rugg (Amherst College, 1883), counselor-at-law, Worcester, Mass.

32. Fred. H. Wilder (Tufts College, 1886), counselor-at-law and real estate agent, Dakota Ty.

A goodly number of the sons and daughters of Sterling who had charge of our schools, as teachers, were graduates of the State Normal Schools. They are as follows:

Edwin May, graduated at Bridgewater.
Hannah Ross, graduated at Bridgewater.
Edward A. Lynds, graduated at Bridgewater.
Mary Rugg, graduated at Bridgewater.
Sarah H. Rugg, graduated at Bridgewater.
Luther Rugg, graduated at Bridgewater.
Mary S. Osgood, graduated at Bridgewater.
Carrie Rugg, graduated at Salem.
Delia S. Nourse, graduated at Salem.
Abbie Hastings, graduated at Bridgewater.
William Hastings, graduated at Bridgewater.
Fannie M. Houghton, graduated at Westfield.
Kittie Wilder, graduated at Worcester.
Mary Boland, graduated at Framingham.
R. L. Chandler, Worcester.
Florence Houghton, now a student at Framingham.

The following are graduates from the Technical Institute at Worcester:

Oliver W. Rugg, now practicing civil engineering at Worcester
Arthur Woods, now practicing civil engineering at Worcester.
William A. Nelson, mechanical engineer at Fitchburg.
J. Edward Synds, engaged in the lumber business near Duluth, Minn.

LIBRARIES.—The first public library was established in the latter part of the last century, known as the "First Social Library in Sterling." It was organized by voluntary subscription, and regulated by suitable by-laws, with proper officers for its management. The only record the writer has been able to find was that of the annual meeting of the proprietors in 1803, held for the choice of officers and the transaction of such other business as might properly come before it.

It was a valuable collection of several hundred volumes of standard works of history, biography, travels, fiction and other important subjects.

It was replenished from time to time by a small annual tax upon the members of the association. It did valuable service for many years, and its benefits were shared by a large number of the people of the town. But, like all sublunary things, it had its day of progress and decline, and in 1852 came to a final termination by a public sale of the books at auction.

In 1848 a small library of choice books was purchased by the town for each school district.

In 1857 a Farmer's Library was established, containing some one hundred and fifty or two hundred volumes by the ablest writers upon agriculture. These books were subsequently turned over to and became a part of the Town Library.

But the highest and grandest point in the work of founding a library was reached when the town, at its annual meeting in March, 1871, appropriated three hundred dollars for the purchase of books for the establishment of a Free Public Library. Liberal appropriations have been made each year since for the purchase of new books and for meeting incidental expenses. Generous donations for the support of the library have been made by the following persons, most of whom were former residents of the town: Mr. A. K. Loring, of Boston, contributed a valuable package of books. The late James T. Allen, of New York, gave his check for three hundred dollars. William Frederick Holcombe, M.D., of New York, generously gave one hundred dollars. Rev. Geo. Putnam, D.D., of Roxbury, Mass., in token of his friendly regard for his birthplace, also gave one hundred dollars; and his daughter, the late Miss Carrie Putnam, bequeathed the sum of two thousand dollars, the interest of which to be used in the purchase of books. Edwin Conant, Esq., of Worcester, gave five hundred dollars, to be called the "Elizabeth Anne Conant Fund," the interest to be used in the purchase of books. From all these sources of income the library at present contains more than six thousand volumes.

For the beautiful library building that now adorns the village, the town is indebted to the munificence of Edwin Conant, Esq., of Worcester, who furnished the means whereby it was erected. It was built in 1885, as a memorial tribute to his late lamented daughter, Miss Elizabeth Anne Conant.

Mr. Conant also furnished the very neat and substantial chairs and tables which the library hall and reading-room contain.

The librarian's desk was presented by the Richardson heirs, as a tribute to the memory of their father, —the late Deacon William B. Richardson. It is constructed of cherry, very neatly finished and is perfectly in keeping with the pleasant surroundings, and bears the following inscription:

In memory of
DEA. WILLIAM B. RICHARDSON,
By his Heirs,
1886.

The library building was formally dedicated October 13, 1885. The public exercises were held in the Congregational Church, a large congregation being present, including many from the neighboring towns, and were as follows:

1. Voluntary on the Organ.....Miss Annie M. Wilder, Organist.
2. Anthem.....By the Choir.
3. Dedicatory Prayer.....By Rev. J. H. Whitmore.
4. Anthem.....By the Choir.
5. Memorial Address.....By Rev. E. H. Hall, of Cambridge.
6. Hymn 840.....Hymn and Tune-Book, read by Rev. Mr. Whitmore.
7. Benediction .....By Rev. S. H. Robinson.

MILITARY.—The military record of Sterling has been an honorable one. In 1755, when the French and Indian War broke out, Sterling furnished her quota of men and supplies—precisely how many men is not known—but the names of more than twenty of her young men have been preserved whose lives were sacrificed in that war, in one or another of its campaigns. So also when the War of Independence came, the call for men was duly responded to. The name of Colonel Asa Whitcomb is rendered famous by his military service and ardent patriotism. Another honored soldier who gave eight years' service was Lieutenant Joel Pratt. Reuben Blood, Sr., and Nathaniel Houghton were veteran soldiers of the Revolution. There were others also, but history has failed to record their names, and tradition has but imperfectly transmitted an account of their service. The several wars in which the country was involved, and in which many of our citizens participated, served to keep alive the military spirit and encourage military organizations and exercises in times of peace. If now they were of no great practical benefit, they at least served a holiday purpose. Company trainings and regimental musters were great social events, and drew together multitudes of people. In the early part of the present century two military organizations existed in the town, known as the North and South Companies. The distinction was made by the road running easterly from Princeton to Lancaster, bisecting the territory of the town into two not very unequal parts; those whose residence was on the south side falling into the South Company and those on the north side into the North Company.

In 1822 a volunteer company was formed out of the two already existing, called "The Sterling Light Infantry." In its elegant uniforms of dark blue cloth, with gilt trimmings and tall black plumes tipped with red, it presented an appearance of which the great Napoleon himself would have been proud. The officers in command were: Phineas B. Dana, captain; Josiah Pope, lieutenant; Mark Kendall, ensign. Ensign Kendall died the following year, and was buried with martial honors.

Such was the popularity of military exhibitions at this time, that four years later, in 1826, another finely-uniformed and finely-equipped volunteer company was raised, called "The Sterling Guards." The uniforms of this company were blue coats with silver trimmings, white pantaloons, and tall white plumes tipped with black. The officers first chosen to command were: Captain, Cheney Kilburn; Lieutenant, the venerable Eli Kilburn, now in his ninety-third year; Ensign, Silas Buss. For a period of more than a quarter of a century these companies were the pride of the town, but with the general decline of the military spirit, and the increasing sentiment among the people that war was unchristian and unnecessary, they at length went down and were disbanded. From that time there was but slight manifestation of military fervor until the tocsin of war rang out over the country at the bombardment of Fort Sumter on the 12th of April, 1861. Sterling now shared the indignation felt by the whole body of the people of the Northern States at this audacious insult to the flag of our country. The patriotism of her citizens was aroused. Public meetings were held to encourage enlistments and to adopt measures necessary to assist as far as possible in crushing the Rebellion, formidable as it was, and in maintaining the government. Money was generously appropriated to meet necessary expenses in furtherance of the object. Young men came forward with alacrity and voluntarily offered themselves to the service of their country. But little difficulty, comparatively, was experienced by the authorities of the town in filling the quotas of men required by the government during the four years of terrible warfare. Company K of the Fifty-third Regiment was mainly recruited from Sterling and Princeton. The commissioned officers were: James A. Pratt, of Sterling, captain—promoted to major; Samuel B. Beaman, of Princeton, first lieutenant—promoted to captain; P. T. K. Burpee, of Sterling, second lieutenant—promoted to first lieutenant; Edward W. Toombs, of Sterling, second lieutenant. This regiment did service in Louisiana under General Banks. The whole number of soldiers engaged in suppressing the Rebellion, residents of Sterling or of Sterling birth, was, as near as can be ascertained, one hundred and sixty-two. The number whose lives were sacrificed in the war was twenty-one. The names of these heroic sons of Sterling are engraven upon the "Soldiers' Monument," where they may ever be read and known of all men "until brass and marble shall have crumbled into dust."

The ladies of Sterling were not idle, disinterested observers of the great civil conflict. The "Ladies' Relief Society" was an important factor in prosecuting the war. By its unceasing labor in preparing hospital stores and other articles of comfort it did much to alleviate the hardships and sufferings of our soldier boys both in camp, on the march and in the hospital.

The following condensed statement of the part Sterling bore in the struggle for national life is taken from the *Sterling Advertiser*, published by Post 59, G. A. R., Sterling, January, 1874:[1]

But what is old Sterling's individual record in this dread crisis? Listen to a condensed report thereof.

On Monday, April 22, 1861, one week after evacuation of Fort Sumter, her citizens held in the town hall their first general indignation meeting, though many a small one had been previously held in almost every house, store, workshop and field. On Tuesday, April 23d, the ladies from all parts of the town assembled to consult together and enter upon whatever duties might await them. Six ladies (two of whom, Miss Josephine Bartlett and Miss Esther K. Waite, have since passed over the dark river) gave their names as ready for hospital service, if required. A Relief Society was organized, which continued its meetings and labors for more than four years.

On Monday, April 29th, at their first legal town-meeting, the citizens

[1] Contributed by Miss H. M. Buss.

voted to appropriate a sum not exceeding three thousand dollars to equip and uniform such fellow-townsmen as might volunteer to serve in the military service of the United States and to assist their families during their absence. November 5, 1861, one hundred dollars was appropriated to aid the ladies in procuring articles for use in the army hospitals, the same to be paid by the selectmen to the Relief Society. As the months of 1861 glided by, many a man who had his birth in Sterling or whose boyhood was passed among the hills and valleys, became numbered in his country's army for three years or during the war, having enlisted wherever he might be, whether far removed or but slightly distant from the heart of the old Bay State. Most of these have left an interesting record, several met death on the battle-field, others were wounded, some maimed for life and yet others died from sickness and exposure.

July 21, 1862, the town authorized the Selectmen to pay a bounty of one hundred dollars to each citizen of Sterling who should enlist in the company then forming in the town for nine months' service.

July 4, 1865, the town voted to raise a sum equal to one hundred dollars per man of the quotas of this town, under the President's orders of October 7, 1863, and February 1, 1864. April 15th the town voted to raise seventeen hundred and fifty dollars to procure fourteen men to fill her quota under the President's late call.

Sterling continued to raise money, recruit volunteers and pay bounties till the end of the war. Her official record is that she furnished (including substitutes) one hundred and seventy-eight men for the war, eight of whom were commissioned officers—this being a surplus of thirteen over and above demands; and she appropriated and expended $20,472.69, this sum being 2 1-11 per cent on the valuation of the town, and about $10.67⅓ to each inhabitant in 1860. Her number of men were in proportion of one for every 10 4-5 of her population at that time.

From various sources of information we learn that the number of Sterling boys who had active part in the contest was at least one hundred and sixty two. Fifty-four of these belonged to Company K, Fifty-third Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers. To more than thirty of this entire number their enlistment and service meant death; some fell in the strife, some died in hospitals from wounds and sickness and others came home bearing in their systems the seeds of fatal diseases sown therein by hardships and exposures. One more point of review. Summing up the work of our Relief Society, we have a record of thirty-seven barrels, valued at sixty dollars each, and five boxes containing smaller quantities sent forth on their comforting missions; these were filled with such various articles as our hospitals required—ours were not less than forty-eight in kind—and they were the free will offerings of women anxious to bear their part of the heavy burdens imposed by the struggle for national life.

The Soldiers' Monument, commemorating the honored dead, was erected in 1866.

It was dedicated by appropriate ceremonies on the 17th of June. The services, on account of the rain, were held in the church near by, and were as follows: Organ voluntary and singing by the choir; prayer was offered by Rev. A. S. Nickerson; an eloquent and highly appropriate address was delivered by Rev. George Putnam, D.D., of Roxbury; a poem by Miss Esther K. Waite, and the following by Mrs. Mary S. Rugg, were each read on the occasion.

The assemblage of people was very large, filling the church to its utmost capacity.

IN MEMORIAM.

While the summer breeze is sighing
Through the groves in beauty lying,
And swift-winged birds dart through the trees,
Pouring forth their sweet melodies,
We have gathered, friends and neighbors,
We have left our cares and labors,
And, looking back o'er by-gone years,
Would pay our tribute mid our tears.

But what tribute shall we pay?
For when to speak our tongues essay,
The grand story of devotion
Fills our souls with strong emotion.
We heard the cry ring o'er our land,—
"Freedom must live! Lend every hand!"
And with rapt gaze we then did see
Self-sacrifice to our country.

In the work-shop, upon the farm,
Was heard the cry and the alarm;
And our young men rose in their might
And rushed unwavering to the fight.
They thought of Anderson's starving band,
With those supplies so near at hand;
And then the story of that ship
Sprang forth like fire, from lip to lip.

They needed not a second call—
They thought of Sumter's battered wall,—
How the loved ensign of the free
Was trailed in dust by treachery;
And this spirit, breathing higher,
Never once lost its patriot fire
Till our grand army, full, replete,
Bade treason lie down at its feet.

Thus they left us—left here and there—
Left in our homes a vacant chair;
And our hearts were so full of pain
We felt we should see them ne'er again.
Yet even then, when we could but cry,
We knew it was duty thus to fly;
And we raised to God the earnest prayer,
O, watch them, guard them, ever there.

And some came not; the tidings flew
From camp and field, the whole war through,—
Over our hills and valleys wide—
That some loved soldier there had died.
And we wept at others' sorrow,
Wept, and dreaded each to-morrow,
Lest its coming to us might bring
As deep and dark a sorrowing.

How well they fought, how nobly fell,
The records of the war shall tell;
One strain of truth is breathed about,
In duty's path their lamps went out.

Yet one[1] there was—we knew him well,—
No words there need from me to tell
How virtue and truth with courage vied,
And by his blood were sanctified.
Ah! three swift years to-day have fled,
Since he was counted with the dead.
The battle raged with terrific power,
Gloom hung o'er that awful hour;
Then to those men the dread word flew,
"The works must be stormed at once by you."

O, then was need of courage rare!
Forgetting every wound and scar,
His face all glowing with a light
Reflected from the dreadful sight,
He raised aloft his flashing blade,
"Come on, my boys, come on," he said—
God drew aside the sacred shield
That saved his life on many a field—
And, rushing up that parapet,
The sun of his life grandly set.

[1] Captain Charles Goss, son of William Goss, member of 21st Mass. Regiment, killed near Petersburg, Va., June 17, 1864. The adjutant-general's report says: "Brave officers went ahead, among whom was Captain Charles Goss, who, in that terrible moment of trial, brought out all the resources of his soul, proved and tempered in more than twenty battles of this war." "A noble courage filled him." "He seemed to forget the times when he had been wounded 'nigh unto death,' and when the line was well formed and advancing nobly, he fell never to rise again till a louder trumpet summon him than was sounded for that advance."

A moment more—can I forbear
To lay one flower on another's bier?—
One [1] whose life, for his comrade given,
Has a record, we know, in heaven.

A soldier's life was ebbing fast,
He felt each moment might be his last;
"Help!" he cried, "is there none to yield
One kind hand on this bloody field?"
Our brother heard that fainting cry;
The voice of pity sounded high.
Though lead around him fell like rain,
He would be true to manhood then;
He reached at length that soldier's side,
And brought him forth, then calm'y died;
The cannon's roar, the shell's shrill scream,
Was that brave brother's requiem.

We know the valiant Western man,[2]
Who fiercely fought in the battle's van;
South Mountain's war-worn, crimson side
Drank the blood when this soldier died.
He was rocked here by his mother,
And we knew him as our brother;
His tireless spirit, spurning rest,
Turned to the vigorous, thriving West;
He learned to love his country free
On prairies boundless as the sea;
And, drinking deep of inspiration,
He gave his life to save the nation.

And could I here in this poor rhyme
Recount the many deeds sublime,
Justice and honor still would say,
But mean and meagre is the lay.
Ah! fond memories, fraught with pain,
Come thronging o'er me once again,
And the red path that war has trod,
Like Jacob's ladder, reaches God.
Angels bright are now descending,
This, their song, in music blending,—

"Greater love can there never be
Than dying for humanity."
Do we weep that they are dead,
When g'ory circles o'er each head?
Death! death! What is it we call death?
It is but yielding up our breath;
Earth, reaching forth to take her own,
The life immortal just begun.

Where are these, our warrior brothers?
Ah! they sit here with the others;
Only could the veil be drawn,
We should see them every one.
We should see them in their places,
We should know their radiant faces,
All gleaming with celestial truth,
And their forms of immortal youth.

In their deep and heavenly eyes
Mingled wonder and gladness lies;
They see the wrong by which they died,
And now our country purified;
And as the freedman walks right on
Into his future, shot with sun,
Clasp we this truth close to our heart:
In freedom's war each bore his part.

As the lily, of purest white,
Spreads fair petals to the light,
Springing from the darkest water,—
Beauteous summer's fairest daughter,—

So aspiration, sad and lone,
Hoping, praying, all unknown,
In these lives so free laid down,
Passed triumphant to her crown.

While the silent earth is keeping
All that's mortal of the sleeping,
Resting still in her close embrace,
Here and there, in many a place,
We have thought to raise some token
To these lives abruptly broken,
That shall speak till stone shall crumble,
Of those lives so grandly humble.
Enduring granite we have brought,
Hewn and fashioned as we ought;
And, rising now mid summer's beauty,
Our monument to love and duty.

Rest, then, embalmed and sainted dead!
Where valor lifts her radiant head,
And reaching to God's white throne,
Clasps hands with faith, and they are one.
Hark! triumphant bells are ringing!
Celestial choirs, too, are singing,
While these blest words our spirits greet,—
"Behold the sacrifice complete."

[1] Lyman Broad, son of Erastus Broad, member of 57th Mass. Regiment, killed while bringing off on his shoulder a wounded, bleeding comrade, whose life he saved while he lost his own.

[2] George H. Richardson, son of Deacon Wm. B. Richardson, member of 19th Indiana Regiment, enlisted August 30, 1862, and fell at the battle of South Mountain September 14, 1862.

The Major James A. Pratt Post, of the Grand Army of the Republic, was organized July 6, 1868, with ten charter members. The whole number of members belonging to the post since its organization is sixty-seven. The present number of members is forty-two. The post has received into its treasury, from various sources, the sum of thirty-eight hundred dollars, and has expended the sum of thirty-three hundred dollars, twenty-five per cent. of which has been for charitable purposes.

A very convenient Grand Army Hall has been fitted up in the old brick school-house, the free use of which is granted to the post by the town.

INDUSTRIES.—Sterling is almost exclusively a farming town. Owing to the absence of an abundant water-power, the town has never been favored to any great extent with those mechanical and manufacturing industries which have given such vigorous growth to adjoining towns. The only considerable manufacturing concern at the present time is the Wachusett Pottery and Sterling Emery Wheel Co. at West Sterling. The company has here quite an extensive plant, using for power either steam or water. The business was established and formerly carried on by M. L. Snow, now of San Bernardino, Cal. The company has an invested capital of forty thousand dollars. In the pottery department the manufacture is chiefly confined to plain and fancy flower-pots. The annual sales in this line are about twelve thousand dollars. The goods are sold mostly in the New England States. The emery wheel department is much the larger—the annual sales amounting to about forty-eight thousand dollars. The goods are largely shipped direct to New York, where the company has a wholesale and a retail establishment. Twenty-two men are employed in the business.

The chair business is carried on to a very limited extent as compared with former years. Mr. Edward Burpee, who has carried on the business for fifty years,

is still the principal manufacturer. He employs now only three or four hands. Mr. Elisha Stuart also and Mr. Edwin Stevenson are in the business, but the amount of their production is not, at the present time, very extensive. Aside from these the pursuit of the people is agriculture alone.

Formerly, before the use of machinery propelled by water or steam-power, when all kinds of manufactured articles were produced by hand-labor, the state of things was altogether different. It may surprise some persons to be told that, three-quarters of a century ago, Sterling was a leading manufacturing town in the county. Yet such was the fact. The principal article of manufacture then, as now, was chairs; but the amount of production was more than ten times greater. Over a large section of the town a chair-shop was connected with many a farm. There was a turning-lathe on almost every brook, and the forests abounded with pine, birch and maple—the material chiefly used—which, in being converted into chairs, gave profitable employment to the young men, built up the population, and gave life, energy and thrift to the inhabitants. Among the leading chair-makers, who made a success of the business and accumulated respectable fortunes, were such men as Gilson Brown, Joel Pratt, Benjamin Stuart, Nehemiah Pierson, Samuel Houghton and Eli Kilburn; and, of a later generation, we may add James W. Fitch and Edward Burpee. At the period of which we write there were various other trades besides, in which portions of the people were employed. The coopering business was an item of some importance. The two principal men engaged in it were Mr. Silas Wilder and Captain John Davis. There was a large demand for cider barrels, and the trade was remunerative. Plows and hay-forks were manufactured in the north part of the town by Mr. Silas W. Arnold. These articles of Mr. Arnold's make were decided improvements upon those previously in use. They were of better finish, more evenly balanced, and could be more effectively handled by the farmer. But, in the rapid march of improvement, they have long since given place to others of more artistic construction. A large number of shoemakers found constant employment in supplying the demand for boots and shoes. Shoe stores were unknown outside the populous city, and the supply of these needful articles for all classes was furnished, by special order, at the shoe-shop. But the manufacture often exceeded the demand for home consumption, and the surplus found sale in Boston.

The manufacture of hats by Blood & Rice was quite extensive for a period of twenty-five or thirty years, and gave employment to forty or more persons, including some females. The amount of annual sales was said to be about forty-five thousand dollars. About seventeen thousand fur and felt hats was the annual production, the larger part of which was sold in Southern markets.

Scythe snaths of excellent quality were made in the south part of the town by Silas Lamson & Sons. Lamson's snaths were very popular, and much in demand by farmers. The annual sales amounted to ten thousand dollars. Owing to the scarcity of ash timber Mr. Lamson removed to the western part of the State in 1833, where he increased the business to something like two hundred thousand dollars per year. With the advent of mowing-machines the sales were very much diminished.

All articles of clothing were the result of domestic manufacture. The raw material, such as flax, cotton and wool, was spun and woven into cloth, the cloth dyed and made into garments for each member of a household by the females of the family.

But with the introduction of labor-saving machinery came a change in the employments of our people. Owing to a want of sufficient water-power all these mechanical industries had to be abandoned here, and were transferred to those towns having greater natural facilities for their prosecution on a grander and broader scale.

Hence farming became, many years ago, the chief pursuit of the people. But agriculture, like every other human industry, is subject to change and improvement, and surely no occupation requires greater practical and scientific knowledge for its successful execution.

For a hundred years following the first settlement of the town but little was accomplished in the way of farming beyond the clearing of the land, the enlargement of the area of cultivation, and the production of an abundant supply of everything necessary to a comfortable existence. Good living and contentedness was the characteristic of our ancestors. In their homespun they were independent, peaceful and happy.

About the year 1820 an important change is to be noted in the farming industry of the town. Previously there was comparatively but little money in circulation. There were neither banks nor markets at which the farmer could sell his surplus products. A Mr. Weatherly, of Marlborough, who had started the enterprise of running a weekly two-horse market-wagon to Boston from his own vicinity, now extended his business to the easterly part of this town, inducing some of the leading farmers to turn their attention to the making of butter, putting it up neatly in one-pound lumps, in boxes holding from twelve to thirty pounds each. He was soon followed by Mr. Wilkins, also from Marlborough, and by Mr. Randal of Princeton. The advent of these marketmen wrought a remarkable change in the farming interest in the town. Dairying, or butter-making, soon became the leading business; but not butter alone, but veal, pork, poultry, fruit, vegetables, and whatever else of a like nature the farm produced, found, through these marketmen, a ready sale in Boston, and brought a sure and quick return in cash the following week. This change led to important improvements in farm man-

agement, and also to a neater and more comely appearance of the general surroundings. The hay crop now became the chief object in the cultivation of the land, and was considered the most valuable production of the farm. Whether wisely or unwisely, sheep husbandry fell into discredit, and was soon entirely abandoned.

During this period, which continued nearly forty years, the productiveness of the farms was greatly increased, money became more plenty, many farmers freed themselves from debt and secured positions of financial ease and independence.

This season of prosperity was followed by another change in the farming interest of the town. Since 1850 Sterling has enjoyed the advantage of three different lines of railroad—the Worcester and Nashua (now leased to the Boston and Maine R.R. Co.), the Worcester and Fitchburg, and the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg. The two last are combined under the name of the Old Colony Northern Division. These lines of railroad afford direct communication with Boston, Worcester and Fitchburg three times daily. With the incoming of these swift messengers between town and city, the traditional stage-coach and the tardy market-wagon became obsolete and useless. All transportation was now by railroads, and this circumstance rendered possible the selling of milk in the Boston market, which privilege the farmers gradually availed themselves of, until now that article is the principal farm-product sold in the market. The daily average number of cans sold is estimated at one thousand. The average price per can at the railroad station is twenty-six cents the present year. The annual income to the citizens on this basis of calculation would amount to nearly or quite one hundred thousand dollars.

Fruit-raising is an important branch of farm industry. For the last thirty years the farmers of Sterling have given increased attention to this subject, until the production has assumed giant proportions. There are many orchards which, in favorable years, like the present, produce from one hundred to one thousand barrels of the choicest varieties of apples. Prominent among these is the Baldwin. But the R. I. Greening, the Roxbury Russet, the Northern Spy, the Palmer and the Gravenstein are profusely cultivated as especial favorites. Pears are raised in variety, but not to a great extent as a market crop.

THE FARMERS' CLUB.—The Sterling Farmers' Club had its birth on the evening of the 12th of November, 1857. It had a noble parentage; but most of the original members have passed on to their reward. We recall their venerable, manly forms, the genial expression of their countenances and the words of wisdom and experience which fell from their lips.

Pursuant to public notice, a meeting of the citizens was held, and after being duly organized, a committee appointed for the purpose presented a constitution, which was unanimously adopted. The first article declares that the association shall be called the Sterling Farmers' Club. The second defines the object in the these words: "Its object shall be to promote the interests of agriculture and the welfare of the farmer and disseminate such knowledge, practical and scientific, as shall conduce to that end."

Another article prescribes the order of business at each meeting as follows: "There shall be a meeting of the club once a fortnight, and at such meeting a discussion upon a topic previously announced, which shall be commenced by four members designated at a previous meeting by the presiding officer, and such other exercises as the club shall deem proper." Fifty-one gentlemen signed the constitution and at once became members. For more than twenty years the meetings of the club were well attended, its discussions carried on with earnestness, often with enthusiasm, and much practical information diffused among its members.

The work of the club has been educational in an eminent degree. By the discussion of the multitudinous questions of farm interest it has awakened thought, led to inquiry, investigation, experiment and practical knowledge. It has encouraged enterprise and promoted improvement in methods of farm work. In a social way, also, it has had a beneficent influence. With the exception of two years during the late war it has held its annual cattle-shows and exhibitions. Among those who have given addresses on these occasions are the Hon. Charles L. Flint, of Boston; the late Hon. John A. Goodwin, of Lowell; the late Rev. George Putnam, D.D., of Roxbury and the present Secretary of War, the Hon. William C. Endicott, of Salem.

Another instrumentality designed to promote the welfare of the farmer and the farmer's family is that of the order of the Patrons of Husbandry, which has been a successful experiment in this town. "The Sterling Grange, No. 53, Patrons of Husbandry," was organized in April, 1874. In some of its methods of operation it varies from the Farmers' Club, but is not, in any sense, in conflict with it. The objects of the two associations are identical. The Sterling Grange at the present time is an active force and has a membership of sixty persons.

THE CENTENNIAL.—The centennial anniversary of the incorporation of the town was observed on the 15th of June, 1881. The subject was brought up before the town, informally, at the annual town-meeting in November, 1879, and a committee was appointed to take the matter into consideration and report at a future meeting. The committee reported at the annual meeting in March following in favor of a suitable observance of the event, which report was unanimously accepted, and a Centennial Committee was chosen and empowered to make all necessary

arrangements therefor. The committee consisted of the following persons: Samuel Osgood, Captain Eli Kilburn, Dr. William D. Peck, Ezra Sawyer, Esq., Mr. William H. Burpee. Captain Kilburn, owing to the infirmities of age, declined to serve and Mr. Charles H. Loring was chosen in his stead.

The committee held frequent meetings during the summer and winter following, and made such arrangements as were deemed proper. An act was procured from the Legislature of 1880 authorizing the town to raise money by taxation *to an amount not exceeding five hundred dollars*, for commemorating the centennial anniversary of its incorporation and for publishing the doings of the celebration. The anniversary of incorporation occurred on the 25th of April, but on account of probable bad traveling and unpleasant weather at that time the celebration was postponed until the 15th of June, when it to k place according to the following

PROGRAMME.

1781. 1881.

Bells were rung and Salutes fired at Sunrise, at Noon and at Sunset.

At 9½ o'clock A. M. a Procession was formed under the direction of Chief Marshal, Capt. P. T. K. Burpee, in the following order:

A platoon of Police
Fitchburg Cornet Band.
Maj. James A. Post, No. 59, G. A. R.
Town Officers and Invited Guests in carriages.
Fire Company.
The Sterling Grange.
Representatives of Ancient and Modern Costumes.
The School Children.
The Citizens in carriages and on foot.

Route of Procession—through the principal streets to the Unitarian Church.

The exercises in the Church, commencing at 11 o'clock, were:

Voluntary on the Organ.

1st.—Prayer by Rev. Henry P. Cutting.

2d.—Hymn by the Centennial Choir under the direction of Prof. Birney Mann.

3d.—Music by the Band.

4th.—The following Address of Welcome by the Chairman of the Centennial Committee:

Friends and Fellow Citizens:

We have assembled on this beautiful June morning to observe in a fitting manner the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Sterling.

As the Chairman of the town's Centennial Committee it becomes my pleasant duty, in behalf of the town, to extend to you all a sincere and hearty welcome to the joys and festivities of this occasion.

To-day Sterling extends her hand in cordial greeting to all her friends and to all her sons and daughters from far and from near, and bids them "welcome home"—welcome to her hills and valleys—to her green fields and to her many homes smiling in peace and plenty—whose doors are open to receive you.

And may it prove a benediction and a blessing to us all, that leaving our cares and labors and anxieties behind us, we have gathered here at the old homestead to revive the fond recollections of earlier years, and exchange friendly greetings amid the familiar scenes of our childhood and youth.

One Hundred years ago, on the 25th day of April, this rural town, then known as the Second Precinct of Lancaster, was, by an Act of the Legislature, invested with all the rights and privileges and duties of a town, and took her place among her sister towns in the Commonwealth as the town of Sterling.

One Hundred years! As a grain of sand on the globe, so is a Century in the Cycles of time. But as compared with human life, it is a long period and most wonderful are the changes that are wrought therein.

As a suitable introduction to the exercises that are to follow, I will now call upon our much respected fellow-townsman, Dr. William D. Peck, to read the Act of Incorporation.

5th.—Centennial Address, by William Frederick Holcombe, M.D., of New York, a native of the town.

6th.—Hymn.

7th.—Music by the Band.

8th.—Auld Lang Syne, sung by Choir and Audience.

At the close of the exercises in the Church, which was completely filled, dinner was served in a tent on the Common by Augustus Marrs, caterer of Worcester, and was followed by toasts and speeches by distinguished speakers, and the reading of letters and poems.

In the Town Hall there was a display of portraits and photographs of past and present inhabitants of the town, antique articles and interesting relics.

In the evening there was an illumination, and fireworks on the Common, accompanied by music by the band.

TOWN OFFICERS SINCE 1794.

1793.—Selectmen, John Robbins, Joel Pratt, Silas Roper, Timothy Kilburn, Moses Smith.

1794.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith.

1795.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, John Robbins, Timothy Kilburn, Moses Smith, Joel Pratt, Silas Roper; Assessors, John Robbins, Moses Smith, Silas Roper; Representative to General Court, Edward Raymond, Esq.

1796.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, John Robbins, Moses Smith, Joel Pratt, Timothy Kilburn, Silas Roper; Assessors, Robert B. Thomas, Moses Smith, John Robbins; Representative to the General Court, Edward Raymond, Esq.

1797.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, John Robbins, Timothy Kilburn, John Snow, Robt. B. Thomas, Ebenezer Buss, Jr.; Assessors, John Snow, John Robbins, Robt. B. Thomas; School Committee, Israel Allen, M.D., John Barnard, M.D., Samuel Clark.

1798.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Timothy Kilburn, Robt. B. Thomas, John Snow, Aaron Kimbal, Andrew Putnam; Assessors, Josiah Kendall, John Snow, Aaron Kimbal; School Committee, Israel Allen, John Barnard, Robt. B. Thomas, John Robbins, Moses Smith; Representative to the General Court, William Putnam.

1799.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, John Snow, John Robbins, Robt. B. Thomas, Joseph Palmer, Silas Buss; Assessors, John Snow, John Robbins, Joseph Palmer; School Committee, Robt. B. Thomas, Israel Allen, Moses Smith, John Barnard, Luther Allen.

1800.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Joseph Palmer, Silas Buss, Robt. B. Thomas, John Robbins, Samuel Sawyer; Assessors, Robt. B. Thomas, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Sawyer; School Committee, John Robbins, Israel Allen, Robt. B. Thomas, John Barnard, Luther Allen; Representative to the General Court, Benjamin Richardson, Esq.

1801.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Robt. B. Thomas, Joseph Palmer, Silas Buss, Samuel Sawyer, Paul Bailey; Assessors, Robt. B. Thomas, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Sawyer; School Committee, Dr. Israel Allen, Luther Allen, Robt. B. Thomas, John Barnard, Isaac Story; Representative to the General Court, Dr. Israel Allen.

1802.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Sawyer, Paul Bailey, Joseph Pierson, John Porter; Assessors, Joseph Palmer, Paul Bailey, Samuel Sawyer; School Committee, Pearson Kendall, Israel Allen, Thomas H. Blood, Luther Allen, John Barnard; Representative to the General Court, Dr. Israel Allen.

1803.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Samuel Sawyer, Paul Bailey, Joseph Palmer, Joseph Pierson, John Porter; Assessors, Joseph Palmer, Samuel Sawyer, Paul Bailey; School Committee, Pierson Kendall, Israel Allen, John Barnard, Luther Allen Thos. H. Blood; Representative to the General Court, Dr. Israel Allen.

1804.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Paul Bailey, Samuel Sawyer, Joseph Pierson, John Porter, Barthl. Brown; Assessors, Paul Bailey, Samuel Sawyer, Joseph Pierson; School Committee, Dr. Israel Allen, John Robbins, Thos. H. Blood, Barthl. Brown, Pierson Kendall; Representative to the General Court, Dr. Israel Allen.

1805.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Paul Bailey, Joseph Pierson, Barthl. Brown, Thos. H. Blood, John Buss; Assessors, Paul Bailey, Joseph Pierson, Bartholomew Brown; School Committee, Israel Allen, Pierson Kendall, Thos. H. Blood, Barthw. Brown, Robt. B. Thomas; Representative to the General Court, Dr. Israel Allen.

1806.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Paul Bailey, Joseph Pierson, Thos. H. Blood, Bartw. Brown, John Buss; Assessors, Paul Bailey, Joseph Pierson, Bartw. Brown; School Committee, Israel Allen, Bart. Brown, T. H. Blood, Pierson Kendall, David Willard (3d), Robt. B. Thomas, Saml. Sawyer; Representatives to the General Court, Dr. Israel Allen, Rev. Ruben Holcomb.

1807.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Paul Bailey, Bartw. Brown, T. H. Blood, John Buss, Moses Thomas; School Committee, Bartholomew Brown, T. H. Blood, Luther Allen, David Willard (3d), Saml. Sawyer, Israel Allen, J. Robbins; Representative to the General Court, Dr. Israel Allen.

1808.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Paul Bailey, Moses Thomas, John Buss, Harrison Wilder, Jesse Dana; Assessors, Paul Bailey, Moses Thomas, Jesse Dana; School Committee, B. Brown, P. Kendall, T. H. Blood, L. Allen, Joseph Gary, M. Thomas, Israel Allen, Paul Bailey; Representative to the General Court, Dr. Israel Allen.

1809.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Paul Bailey, Jesse Dana, Harrison Wilder, James Wilder, Gideon Beaman; Assessors, Paul Bailey, Moses Smith, Samuel Sawyer; School Committee, Israel Allen, Luther Allen, Thos. H. Blood, Pierson Kendall, Bartholomew Brown; Representatives to the General Courts, Dr. Israel Allen & Bartholomew Brown, Esq.

1810.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, James Wilder, Gideon Beaman, Saml. Sawyer, Thomas Sawyer, Elijah Houghton; Assessors, Paul Bailey, Samuel Sawyer, Moses Smith; School Committee, Luther Allen, Pierson Kendall, Joseph Geary, Luther Rugg, Paul Bailey; Representatives to the General Court, Dr. Israel Allen, Samuel Sawyer.

1811.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Saml. Sawyer, James Wilder, Gideon Beaman, Thomas Sawyer, Elijah Houghton; Assessors, Samuel Sawyer, Elijah Houghton, James Wilder; School Committee, Luther Allen, Pierson Kendall, T. H. Blood, Isaac Goodwin, Joseph Geary; Representatives to the General Court, James Wilder, Samuel Sawyer.

1812.—Town Clerk, Moses Smith; Selectmen, Samuel Sawyer, Gideon Beaman, Thomas Sawyer, Elijah Houghton, Benj. Bailey; Assessors, Samuel Sawyer, Elijah Houghton, Joseph Pierson; School Committee, Pierson Kendall, Luther Rugg, Saml. Sawyer, Jona. Wilder, T. H. Blood, I. Goodwin, L. Allen; Representatives to the General Court, Samuel Sawyer, James Wilder.

1813.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Elijah Houghton, Gideon Beaman, Benj. Bailey, Isaac Goodwin, Putnam Sawyer; Assessors, Samuel Sawyer, Elijah Houghton, Sawyer Wilder; School Committee, I. Goodwin, T. H. Blood, Moses Sawyer, Luther Allen, P. Kendall, Saml. Sawyer, Dr. I. Allen; Representatives to the General Court, Samuel Sawyer, Thomas H Blood.

1814.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Elijah Houghton, Benj. Bailey, Isaac Goodwin, Putnam Sawyer, Luther Rugg; Assessors, Samuel Sawyer, Elijah Houghton & Sawyer Wilder; School Committee, Dr. Israel Allen, Isaac Goodwin, Luther Allen, Benj. Fairbanks, Luther Rugg, Dr. P. Kendall, T. H. Blood; Representatives to the General Court, Thomas H. Blood, Samuel Sawyer.

1815.—Town Clerk, Moses Sawyer; Selectmen, Luther Rugg, Jona. Wilder, Silas Howe, Francis Butterick, Moses Sawyer; Assessors, Sawyer Wilder, Luther Rugg, Joseph Palmer; School Committee, Isaac Goodwin, Israel Allen, Moses Sawyer, Pierson Kendall, Thos. H. Blood; Representatives to the General Court, Thomas H. Blood, James Wilder.

1816.—Town Clerk, Moses Sawyer; Selectmen, Luther Rugg, Silas Howe, Francis Butterick, Jona. Wilder, Moses Sawyer; Assessors, Sawyer Wilder, Luther Rugg, Nathan Waite; School Committee, Isaac Goodwin, Luther Allen, Moses Sawyer, Israel Allen, Thos. H. Blood; Representatives to the General Court, James Wilder, Samuel Sawyer; Senator from Sterling, Thomas H. Blood.

1817.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Jona. Wilder, Francis Butterick, Samuel Conant, Thomas Wright, Ebnr. Pope, Jr.; Assessors, Luther Rugg, Sawyer Wilder, Nathan Waite; School Committee, Moses Sawyer, Jona. Wilder, T. H. Blood, Isaac Goodwin, Luther Allen; Representative to the General Court, ——— ———; Senator from Sterling, Thomas H. Blood.

1818.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Samuel Conant, Thomas Wright, Stephen Hastings; Overseers of the Poor, Luther Rugg, Jonathan Wilder, Samuel Sawyer; Assessors, Luther Rugg, Nathan Waite, Moses Sawyer; School Committee, Isaac Goodwin, David Wilder, Luther Allen, Thos. H. Blood, Luther Rugg; Representatives to the General Court, Samuel Sawyer, James Wilder.

1819.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Samuel Conant, Thomas Wright, Stephen Hastings, T. H. Blood, Ebnr. Pope, Jr.; Assessors, Luther Rugg, Nathan Waite, Moses Sawyer, John Robbins, Isaac Goodwin; School Committee, Isaac Goodwin, David Wilder, Luther Allen, T. H. Blood, Luther Rugg, Moses Sawyer, Jona. Wilder, Samuel Conant, Dr. P. T. Kendall, Nathl. Lewis, Josiah Kendall, Jr., Rufus Hastings, Samuel Sawyer, Ephm. Nelson, Ebnr. Pope, Jr.; Representatives to the General Court, James Wilder, Samuel Sawyer, Esq.

1820.—Town Clerk, Manasseh Bailey; Selectmen, John Porter, Francis Butterick, John Davis; Assessors, Joseph Pierson, Joseph Palmer, Jonathan Wilder; School Committee, the same that served last year; Representative to the General Court, Samuel Sawyer, Esq; Delegates to the Constitutional Convention, Thomas H. Blood and John Robbins.

1821.—Town Clerk, Manasseh Bailey; Selectmen, John Porter, John Davis, Francis Butterick; Assessors, Joseph Palmer, Joseph Pierson, Jonathan Wilder; School Committee, Samuel Sawyer, Rufus Hastings, Phineas B. Dana, David Wilder, Mark Kendall, Augustin Holcomb, Josiah Kendall, Jr., Isaac Goodwin, Esq.; Representives to the General Court, Col. James Wilder and Luther Rugg.

1822.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, John Robbins, Harrison Wilder, James Kilburn; Assessors, Moses Sawyer, Luther Rugg, Thomas Wright; School Committee, the number chosen this year was 20, consisting of former members with two new members, viz.: Ezra Kendall, Jr. and Samuel Sawyer (3d).

1823.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, John Robbins, Harrison Wilder, James Kilburn; Assessors, Jacob Conant, Jonathan Wilder, Joel Pratt, Jr.; School Committee, Moses Sawyer, Rufus Hastings, Phineas B. Dana, David Wilder, Mark Kendall, Augustin Holcomb, Josiah Kendall, Jr., Isaac Goodwin, L. Buss, T H. Blood, Luther Allen, J. Wilder, S. Sawyer, S. Conant, N. Lewis, E. Nelson, E. Pope, Jr., Dr. P. T. Kendall, Ezra Kendall, Jr., Samuel Sawyer, (3d); Representatives to the General Court, Luther Rugg, James Wilder.

1824.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Isaac Goodwin, Thomas Wright, Tyler P. Osgood; Assessors, Nathan Waite, Luther Rugg, Moses Sawyer; School Committee, same as last year, except Oliver Blood and Josiah Pope instead of Mark Kendall and L. Buss.

1825.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Jacob Conant, Tyler P. Osgood, Jonathan Wilder; Assessors, Moses Sawyer, Moses Thomas, Luther Rugg; School Committee, same as last year—twenty members.

1826.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Jonathan Wilder, Jacob Conant Tyler P. Osgood; Assessors, Moses Thomas, Moses Sawyer, Luther Rugg; School Committee, Moses Sawyer, Rufus Hastings, Phineas B. Dana, David Wilder, A. Holcomb, I. Goodwin, L. Rugg T. H. Blood, S. Sawyer (3d), L. Allen, Jona. Wilder, S. Sawyer, Esq., Nathl. Lewis, Ephm. Nelson, Ebnr. Pope, P. T. Kendall, Ezra Kendall, Jr., Josiah Pope; Representative to the General Court, Jonathan Wilder.

1827.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Jonathan Wilder, Jacob Conant, Rufus Hastings, Samuel Sawyer (2d), Nathl. Lewis; Assessors, Moses Thomas, Moses Sawyer, Luther Rugg; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Luther Allen, Alexr. Dustin, Rufus Hastings, Saml. Sawyer (2d), Ezra Kendall, Jr., Augustin Holcomb; Representative to the General Courts, Jonathan Wilder.

1828.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Jacob Conant, Rufus Hastings, Saml. Sawyer (2d), Eli Kilburn, Calvin Wilder; Assessors, Samuel Sawyer, Phineas B. Dana, Thomas Wright; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Luther Allen, Alexr. Dustin, Rufus Hastings, Augustin Holcomb, Samuel Sawyer (2d), Ezra Kendall, Jr.; Representatives to the General Courts, Ebenezer Pope, Jonathan Wilder.

1829.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Jacob Conant, David Wilder, Nehemiah Pierson; Assessors, Thomas Wright, Nathan Waite, David Wilder; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Alexr. Dustin, Luther Allen, David Wilder, Samuel Sawyer (2d), Augustin Holcomb, Ezra Kendall; Representatives to the General Court, Jacob Conant, Thomas Wright.

1830.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Jacob Conant, David Wilder, Nehemiah Pierson; Assessors, Thomas Wright, David Wilder, Nathan Waite; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Luther Allen, Alexr. Dustin, Saml. Sawyer (2d), Augustin Holcomb, David Wilder, Ezra Kendall.

1831.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Jona. Wilder, David Wilder, N. Pierson, Joel Pratt, Jr., Gilson Brown; Assessors, Thomas Wright, Moses Sawyer, Samuel Sawyer (2d); School Committee, Rev. P. Osgood, Alexr Dustin, Augustin Holcomb, Samuel Sawyer (2d), David Wilder, Ezra Kendall, Moses Sawyer; Representatives to the General Court, Jonathan Wilder, Moses Sawyer.

1832.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen; Selectmen, Gilson Brown, Joel Pratt, Jr., Eli Kilburn, Ezra Kendall, Samuel Sawyer; Assessors, Moses

Sawyer, Samuel Sawyer (2d), Samuel Sawyer, Esq ; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Alexr Dustin, Samuel Sawyer (2d), David Wilder, Moses Sawyer, Ezra Kendall, Augustin Holcomb ; Representatives to the General Court, Jacob Conant, Thomas Wright.

1833.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen ; Selectmen, Eli Kilburn, Silas Buss, Fisk Houghton ; Assessors, Moses Sawyer, Moses Thomas, Thomas Wright ; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Dr. P. T. Kendall, Augustin Holcomb, Edwin Conant, Solon S Hastings, Ruben H. Sawyer, Thos H. Blood ; Representatives to the General Court, Jacob Conant, Thomas Wright.

1834.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen ; Selectmen, Fisk Houghton, Oliver Johnson, Francis Butterick ; Assessors, Moses Sawyer, Moses Thomas, Thomas Wright ; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Dr. P. T. Kendall, Solon S. Hastings, Ruben H. Sawyer, Saml Sawyer (2d), Moses Sawyer, Torry Houghton ; Representatives to the General Court, Moses Sawyer, Gilson Brown.

1835.—Town Clerk, Luther Allen ; Selectmen, Oliver Johnson, Samuel Houghton, Charles H. Whiting ; Assessors, Moses Sawyer, Thomas Wright, Cyrus Holbrook ; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Dr. P. T. Kendall, Solon S. Hastings. Augs Holcomb, Moses Sawyer, Samuel Sawyer (2d), Torry Houghton ; Representatives to the General Court, Moses Sawyer, Samuel Sawyer (2d).

1836. Town Clerk, Luther Allen ; Selectmen, Oliver Johnson, Samuel Houghton, Charles H. Whiting ; Assessors, Moses Sawyer, Thomas Wright, Cyrus Holbrook ; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Moses Sawyer, Dr. P. T. Kendall, Samuel Sawyer (2d), Augustin Holcomb, Solon S. Hastings, Torry Houghton ; Representatives to the General Court, Samuel Sawyer (2d).

1837. Town Clerk, Thomas H. Blood ; Selectmen, Samuel Houghton, Charles H. Whiting, William Goss ; Assessors, Thomas Wright, Cyrus Holbrook, John Springer ; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Dr. Pierson T. Kendall, S. S. Hastings, Saml Sawyer (2d), Torry Houghton, Samuel Osgood, Gilbert H. Howe ; Representative to the General Court, Emery Burpee.

1838.—Town Clerk, Thomas H. Blood ; Selectmen, William Goss, Samuel T. Sawyer, Jons Nichols, J. B. Goodnow, Daniel Hosmer ; Assessors, Thomas Wright, Cyrus Holbrook, Ruben H. Sawyer ; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Rev. Rufus S. Pope, Dr. Pierson T. Kendall, S. S. Hastings, Torry Houghton, Samuel Osgood, Gilbert H Howe ; Representatives to the General Court, Timothy Endicott, William Goss.

1839.—Town Clerk, Thomas H. Blood ; Selectmen, Wm. Goss, S. T. Sawyer, Jons. Nichols, Jonas B Goodnow, Daniel Hosmer ; Assessors, Thomas Wright, Ruben H. Sawyer, Solon S. Hastings ; School Committee, Rev. Peter Osgood, Rev. R. S. Pope, Dr. P. T. Kendall, S. S. Hastings, Torry Houghton, Gilbert H. Howe, Rev. George Waters ; Representatives to the General Court, Wm. Goss, Samuel T. Sawyer.

1840.—Town Clerk, Thomas H. Blood ; Selectmen, Samuel T. Sawyer, Manasseh Houghton, Richard Hildreth ; Assessors, Thomas Wright, Ruben H. Sawyer, Solon S. Hastings ; School Committee, Rev. George Waters, Torry Houghton, Cyra Kendall ; Representative to the General Court, Cyrus Holbrook.

1841.—Town Clerk, Thomas H. Blood ; Selectmen, Manasseh Houghton, Richard Hildreth, Jesse Curtis ; Assessors, Thomas Wright, Ruben H. Sawyer, Torry Houghton ; School Committee, Torry Houghton, Ruben H. Sawyer, Samuel Osgood ; Representative to the General Court, Manasseh Houghton.

1842.—Town Clerk, Thomas H. Blood ; Selectmen, Manasseh Houghton, Jesse Curtis, John W. Spring ; Assessors, R. H. Sawyer, Torry Houghton, Luther W. Rugg ; School Committee, Torry Houghton, R. H. Sawyer, Samuel Sawyer (2d) ; Representative to the General Court, Manasseh Houghton.

1843.—Town Clerk, Thomas H. Blood ; Selectmen, John W. Spring, Silas Howe, Jr., James Phelps ; Assessors, R. H. Sawyer, Torry Houghton, L. W. Rugg ; School Committee, Rev. John Allen, Rev. David Fosdick, Rev. George Proctor ; Representative to the Legislature, Manasseh Houghton.

1844.—Town Clerk, Thomas H. Blood ; Selectmen, James Phelps, Samuel Houghton, Ruben H. Sawyer ; Assessors, R H. Sawyer, Torry Houghton, L. W. Rugg ; School Committee, Samuel Osgood, Ezra Kendall, Torry Houghton, P. M. Rugg, John M. Stevenson ; Representative to the Legislature, Samuel Houghton.

1845.—Town Clerk, Thomas H. Blood ; Selectmen, Samuel Houghton, R. H. Sawyer, Perley Bartlett ; Assessors, R. H. Sawyer, Torry Houghton, Luther W. Rugg ; School Committee, Rev. David Fosdick, Rev. O. Cunningham, Samuel Osgood, Torry Houghton, John M. Stevenson ; Representative to the Legislature, Samuel Houghton.

1846.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Samuel Houghton, R. H. Sawyer, Perley Bartlett ; Assessors, Torry Houghton, L. W. Rugg, Ephraim Fairbank ; School Committee, Rev. O. Cunningham, Samuel Osgood, Torry Houghton, J. N. Stevenson, Prentice M. Rugg ; Representative to the Legislature, Jonas B. Goodnow.

1847.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, R. H. Sawyer, Perley Bartlett, John H. Davis ; Assessors, R. H. Sawyer, L. W. Rugg, Francis Butterick, Jr. ; School Committee, Rev. O. Cunningham, Rev. T. Prentiss Allen, Rev. Quincy Whitney, Samuel Osgood, Prentice M. Rugg ; Representative to the Legislature, William D. Peck.

1848.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Perley Bartlett, Benj. Stuart, Jacob Priest ; Assessors, Luther W. Rugg, Ephraim Fairbank, Samuel Osgood ; School Committee, Rev. O. Cunningham, Rev. T. Prentiss Allen, Rev. Quincy Whitney, Samuel Osgood, Prentice M. Rugg ; Representative to the Legislature, William D. Peck.

1849.—Town Clerk, Dr. William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Manasseh Houghton, John H. Davis, Levi Kilburn ; Assessors, L. W. Rugg, Ephraim Fairbank, Samuel Osgood ; School Committee, Rev. O. Cunningham, Rev. T. Prentiss Allen, Rev. Samuel A. Davis, Samuel Osgood, Prentice M. Rugg ; Representative to the Legislature, Manasseh Houghton.

1850.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Manasseh Houghton, John H. Davis, Levi Kilburn ; Assessors, Moses Sawyer, James W. Fitch, John M. Stevenson ; School Committee, Samuel A. Davis, John M. Stevenson, Jacob N. Tolman ; Representative to the General Court, Luther W. Rugg.

1851.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Jacob Priest, Joseph Whitney, James Phelps ; Assessors, Luther W. Rugg, Silas M. Wilder, Samuel Osgood ; School Committee, T. Prentiss Allen, Samuel A. Davis, J. M. Stevenson, Samuel Osgood, P. M. Rugg ; Representative to the General Court, Luther W. Rugg.

1852.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Joseph Whitney, James Phelps, J. S. Butterick ; Assessors, Samuel Osgood, Silas M. Wilder, P. M. Rugg ; School Committee, Rev. S. A. Davis, Rev. T. P. Allen, Rev. William Guilford, Samuel Osgood, P. M. Rugg. J. N. Tolman, George Bass, Jr. ; Representative to the General Court, Luther W. Rugg.

1853.— Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, John H. Davis, Moses Sawyer (2d), Charles M. Bailey ; Assessors, John M. Stevenson, James W. Fitch, Henry E. Kendall ; School Committee, Samuel Osgood, P. M. Rugg, John M. Stevenson ; Delegate to the Constitutional Convention, Samuel Houghton ; Representative to the General Court, William D. Peck.

1854.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, John H. Davis, Moses Sawyer (2d), Charles M. Bailey ; Assessors, James W. Fitch, Henry E. Kendall, Levi Reed, Jr. ; School Committee, Samuel Osgood, P. M. Rugg, Rev. Wm. M. Guilford ; Representative to the General Court, J. Sawyer Butterick.

1855.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Moses Sawyer (2d), Charles M. Bailey, L. W. Rugg ; Assessors, James W. Fitch, Prentice M. Rugg, John H. Davis ; School Committee, Rev. T. P. Allen, Rev. J. H. Learned, Samuel Osgood, N. M. Lee, Jonathan Davis ; Representative to the General Court, Moses Sawyer (2d).

1856.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Charles M. Bailey, S. W Rugg, Joseph P. Heywood ; Assessors, Prentice M. Rugg, John H. Davis, Levi Reed ; School Committee, Rev. Wm. Miller, Samuel Osgood, Jons. Davis, Nelson N. Lee, Ezra Sawyer ; Representative to the General Court, Moses Sawyer (2d).

1857.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, L. W. Rugg, Joseph P. Heywood, J. Sawyer Butterick ; Assessors, John H. Davis, Samuel Osgood, Perley Bartlett ; School Committee, Rev. Wm. H. Knapp, Rev. Wm Miller, N. M. Lee, Samuel Osgood ; Representative to the General Court, Samuel Osgood.

1858.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, L. W. Rugg, Joseph P. Heywood, J. Sawyer Butterick ; Assessors, John H. Davis, Samuel Osgood, Perley Bartlett ; School Committee, Jons. Davis, P. M. Rugg, John E. Grey, F. A. Sawyer, Samuel Osgood, W. A. P. Willard.

1859.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Perley Bartlett, Asa Keyes, Edward Burpee ; Assessors, John H. Davis, Samuel Osgood, Prentice M. Rugg ; School Committee, Samuel Osgood, J. Kendall Dearing ; State Senator, William D. Peck.

1860.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Perley Bartlett, Asa Keyes, Edward Burpee ; Assessors, John H. Davis, P. M. Rugg, Ezra Sawyer ; School Committee, Prentice M. Rugg, Luther Rugg (2d) ; Representative to the General Court, Samuel Osgood.

1861.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck ; Selectmen, Perley Bartlett, Asa Keyes, Edward Burpee ; Assessors, John H. Davis, P. M. Rugg,

Ezra Sawyer; School Committee, Benjamin Woodard, Rev. E. B. Fairchild, Jon^{a}. Davis.

1862.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, J. S. Butterick, Josiah Phelps, James A. Pratt; Assessors, John H. Davis, P. M. Rugg, Ezra Sawyer; School Committee, Samuel Osgood, Rev. E. B. Fairchild, Rev. J. C. Labaree; Representative to the General Court, Luke Sawyer.

1863.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, J. S. Butterick, Josiah Phelps, Ephraim Fairbanks; Assessors, Prentice M. Rugg, Samuel Osgood, John Houghton; School Committee, Samuel Osgood, Prentice M. Rugg.

1864.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Ezra Sawyer, Henry E. Kendall, Moses B. Heywood; Assessors, Prentice M. Rugg, John Houghton, Luke Sawyer; School Committee, P. M. Rugg; Representative to the General Court, Luke Sawyer.

1865.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Ezra Sawyer, Henry E. Kendall, Moses B. Heywood; Assessors, Prentice M. Rugg, Edward W. Toombs, L. W. Nichols; School Committee, Dr. F. D. Lord, Rev. J. C. Labaree.

1866.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Ezra Sawyer, Henry E. Kendall, Moses B. Heywood; Assessors, Prentice M. Rugg Ezra Sawyer, M. B. Heywood; School Committee, Rev. Elbridge Gerry.

1867.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Luke Sawyer, Clinton Heywood, Edward W. Toombs; Assessors, Prentice M. Rugg, E. W. Toombs, Luke W. Nichols; School Committee, Samuel Osgood.

1868.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Prentice M. Rugg, Clinton Heywood, S. Thurston Wilder; Assessors, Moses B. Heywood, James A. Pratt, Jonathan Davis; School Committee, Rev. A. S. Nickerson (for three years) and Henry S. Sawyer (for one year).

1869.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, P. M. Rugg, Clinton Heywood, S. Thurston Wilder; Assessors, M. B. Heywood, James A. Pratt, Jonathan Davis; School Committee, Dr. F. D. Lord, Mrs Mary S. Rugg, Alvah S. Howe, Miss Abby Hastings, Samuel Osgood, Miss Nellie A. Willard; Representative, Charles H. Loring.

1870.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Ezra Sawyer, James W. Fitch, James A. Pratt; Assessors, Prentice M. Rugg, Samuel Osgood, Clinton Heywood; School Committee, Rev. H. C. Bates, William H. Burpee, Henry S. Sawyer.

1871.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Ezra Sawyer, John H. Davis, F. L. Wilder; Assessors, P. M. Rugg, Samuel Osgood, Clinton Heywood; School Committee, Rev. H. C. Bates, Jonathan Davis; Representative, Asa Keyes.

1872.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Ezra Sawyer, John H. Davis, F. L. Wilder; Assessors, Ezra Sawyer, Jonathan Davis, William H. Burpee; School Committee, Rev. H. C. Bates, Wm. H. Burpee, George K. Powers.

1873.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Ezra Sawyer, John H. Davis, Charles H. Loring; Assessors, Ezra Sawyer, Jonathan Davis, William H. Burpee; School Committee, Henry S. Sawyer.

1874.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Ezra Sawyer, John H. Davis, Charles H. Loring; Assessors, P. M. Rugg, Wm. S. Walker, A. L. Fitch; School Committee, William H. Burpee, Rev. L. D. Mears, Representative, Moses B. Heywood.

1875.—Town Clerk, Wm. D. Peck; Selectmen, Moses B. Heywood, Charles H. Loring, Wm. H. Sawyer; Assessors, Jonathan Davis, P. M. Rugg, S. Thurston Wilder; School Committee, Rev. L. D. Mears.

1876.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Jonathan Davis, James Bailey, Marcus L. Snow; Assessors, P. M. Rugg, Wm. S. Walker, Ezra Sawyer; School Committee, Henry S. Sawyer, Rev. Henry P. Cutting; Representative to the Legislature, Perley Bartlett.

1877.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Jonathan Davis, James Bailey, Marcus L. Snow; Assessors, P. M. Rugg, Ezra Sawyer, Wm. S. Walker; School Committee, William H. Burpee.

1878.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Jonathan Davis, Marcus L. Snow, James Bailey; Assessors, P. M. Rugg, Ezra Sawyer, Wm. S. Walker; School Committee, Oliver W. Rugg.

1879.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck: Selectmen, Jonathan Davis, E. W. Toombs, P. T. K. Burpee; Assessors, P. M. Rugg, Ezra Sawyer, Wm. S. Walker; School Committee, Henry S. Sawyer.

1880.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Pierson T. K. Burpee, Charles H. Loring, Perley Bartlett; Assessors, P. M. Rugg, Ezra Sawyer, S. Thurston Wilder; School Committee, William H. Burpee; Representative to the Legislature, William H. Burpee.

1881.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, P. T. K. Burpee, C. H. Loring, Perley Bartlett; Assessors, P. M. Rugg, Ezra Sawyer, S. Thurston Wilder; School Committee, Oliver W. Rugg.

1882.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Jonathan Davis, E. W. Toombs, F. L. Wilder; Assessors, Ezra Sawyer, S. Thurston Wilder, Wm. S. Walker; School Committee, R. L. Chandler, J. H. Wilder.

1883.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Jonathan Davis, E. W. Toombs, F. L. Wilder; Assessors, Ezra Sawyer, S. Thurston Wilder, W. S. Walker; School Committee, C. D. Albro.

1884.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Jonathan Davis, E. W. Toombs, F. L. Wilder; Assessors, Ezra Sawyer, S. Thurston Wilder, W. S. Walker; School Committee, J. S. Burpee; Representative to the Legislature, F. L. Wilder.

1885.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Jonathan Davis, E. W. Toombs, F. L. Wilder; Assessors, Ezra Sawyer, S. Thurston Wilder, W. S. Walker; School Committee, Samuel Osgood.

1886.—Town Clerk, William D. Peck; Selectmen, Jonathan Davis, E. W. Toombs, F. L. Wilder; Assessors, Ezra Sawyer, S. Thurston Wilder, Henry W. Burpee; School Committee, Arthur P. Rugg.

1887.—Town Clerk, Edward P. Bartlett; Selectmen, W. S. Walker, Henry W. Burpee, George F. Davidson; Assessors, Henry W. Burpee, W. S. Walker, Ezra Sawyer; School Committee, J. S. Burpee.

1888.—Town Clerk, Edward P. Bartlett; Selectmen, W. S. Walker, George F. Davidson, H. W. Burpee; Assessors, W. S. Walker, H. W. Burpee, Ezra Sawyer; School Committee, Dr. A. M. Tyler; Representative to the Legislature, Albert H. Newhall.

The following persons, natives of the town, have had charge of our public schools as teachers:

Luther Allen,	George Richardson,	Lucy Buss,
Luther Rugg,	Luther Rugg (?d),	Olive L. Nelson,
David Willard (3d),	William Richardson,	Eusebia Gerry,
Samuel Sawyer,	Wm. A. P. Willard,	Elizabeth Parker,
Jonathan Wilder,	Alonzo W. Willard,	Polly A. Burpee,
David Wilder,	John Rugg,	Elizabeth Bailey,
Moses Sawyer,	Henry S. Sawyer,	Lucinda Hildreth,
AugustineHolcomb,	Josiah H. Wilder,	Jane Hildreth,
Mark Kendall,	William H. Burpee,	Jane E. Sawyer,
Josiah Kendall,	Oliver W. Rugg,	Mary E. Willard,
Ezra Kendall,	Joseph H. Osgood,	Mary Richardson,
P. T. Kendall,	George K. Powers,	Mary Rugg,
Nathaniel Lewis,	Ezra Powers,	Nellie A. Willard,
Oliver Blood,	Edmund Powers,	Sarah H. Rugg,
Rufus Hastings,	R. L. Chandler,	Mary S. Osgood,
Phineas B. Dana,	J. S. Burpee,	Georgianna Pratt,
Samuel Sawyer (2d),	E. P. Willard,	Mary K. Pratt,
Edwin Conant,	F. B. Willard,	Fannie Kidder,
Thomas S. Blood,	Polly Kimball,	Delia S. Nourse,
James T. Allen,	Nabby Buss,	Mary Burpee,
Solon S. Hastings,	Keziah Buss,	Carrie Rugg,
Reuben H. Sawyer,	Betsey Pratt,	Anna E. Osgood,
Gilbert H. Howe,	Lydia Porter,	Augusta Richardson,
Darius Redding,	Caroline Allen,	Jessie F. Osgood,
Torry Houghton,	Mary Ann Phelps,	Kittie Wilder,
Amos W. Breck,	Harriet Rugg,	Gertrude H. Rugg,
Samuel Osgood,	Caroline Moore,	Helen Burpee,
Charles H. Loring,	Emily Wright,	Flora P. Barnes,
Prentice M. Rugg,	Polly Belknap,	Mary K. Loring,
Joseph Gerry,	Lucy Belknap,	Rosa E. Willard,
Edmund Moore,	Martha Kendall,	Addie Burpee,
Edwin May,	Adolphia Rugg,	Nellie Heywood.
Edward A. Synds,	Rebeccah Buss,	

List of practicing physicians in Sterling:

1774.—Josiah Leavitt, to 1787; removed.

1786.—Israel Allen, died 1817, aged sixty; John Barnard, died 1825, aged eighty-two; Pierson Kendall.

1804.—Luther Allen.

1817.—Pierson T. Kendall, after forty years' practice, removed to Clinton, where he died January 11, 1865, aged seventy-two years.

1830.—Dr. Newhall, of Stow, remained but a short time.

1837.—William D. Peck.

1840.—John S. Andrews, removed after five or six years' practice.

1851.—E. C. Knight, remained in town only about six months.

1854.—Thomas H. Gage, removed to Worcester, 1856; A. W. Sidney, removed to Fitchburg.

1859.—Frederick A. Sawyer, removed to Greenfield, 1862; C. E. Dowells, removed 1874.

1862.—Friend D. Lord, removed to Newton Lower Falls, 1870.

1870.—Warren Pierce, removed to West Boylston, 1874.

Eli Kilburn

Edward Burpee

1874.—Herbert Shurtliff, removed to Brockton, 1879.

1879.—E. N. Perkins, removed to Harvard; C. D. Albro, removed to Mendon, 1887.

1887.—George D. Skinner, died same year; A. M. Tyler; F. C. Gillson, removed to Boston, 1888.

The above dates may not be exactly correct, but nearly so.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

CAPTAIN ELI KILBURN.

Eli Kilburn was born in Princeton, Mass., April 3, 1796. His father, Calvin Kilburn, was a native of Sterling, but spent most of his life in Princeton, where he died, January 23, 1852, in the ninety-fifth year of his age. His mother, Mary Stratton Kilburn, was a native of Rutland. She died in Princeton, September 15, 1847, at the age of eighty-nine.

Eli was the youngest of three sons, with two sisters, one older and one younger than himself. He is now, and has been for many years, the sole survivor of his father's family.

Eli was educated in the common schools of Princeton, and at the Leicester Academy. At the age of eighteen he came to Sterling, and began learning the chair-making business. Soon after attaining his majority he became a manufacturer on his own account.

In 1821 he married Miss Lucinda Bailey, of Sterling, and settled near Dana's Mills, in that town.

In 1829 he was chosen commander of a company of light infantry, known as the Sterling Guards.

In 1856, at the age of sixty, Captain Kilburn closed his prosperous career as a chair manufacturer, and bought a lot in Sterling Centre, on which he built a house, where he has since resided.

His wife, Mrs. Lucinda Bailey Kilburn, died in February, 1867, and in April, 1868, he married Mrs. Jane H. Powers, widow of Ezra S. Powers, and half-sister to his first wife.

Captain Kilburn during his long and active life has held many positions of trust and responsibility. He served as justice of the peace for twenty-eight years, and was chairman of the board of trustees of Oak Hill Cemetery for twenty-nine years.

For several years he was chairman of the Boards of Selectmen and of the Overseers of the Poor, and has served on numerous important committees in town affairs.

He has settled many estates, and acted as guardian for sixteen minors. For thirty years he has been the agent in Sterling for the Worcester Mutual Fire Insurance Company. About two years ago he gave up this business, finding that his private affairs needed all of his time and strength.

Captain Kilburn has been a successful business man, and, by persevering industry, good management and habits of thrift, has amassed a handsome fortune.

Since coming to Sterling he has been an active and influential member of the First Congregational (Unitarian) Society.

He has always taken an active interest in politics, and cast his first vote for President for James Monroe.

During recent years Captain and Mrs. Kilburn have made many pleasant excursions, visiting the White Mountains, the Saguenay River, Niagara Falls, Saratoga, Washington and other places of interest, visiting Saratoga Springs for thirty consecutive years.

Happy in his domestic life, prosperous in his business, honored and respected by his fellow-citizens, sound in mind and body at the age of ninety-two, cheerful, hopeful, serene, Captain Eli Kilburn is to-day one of the best representatives of our New England life.

EDWARD BURPEE.

Edward Burpee is one of the most substantial and highly respected citizens of Sterling. He comes from a line of honored ancestry, reaching back nearly to the first settlement of the town.

His great-grandfather, Jeremiah Burpee, came to Sterling from Rowley, in Essex County, probably about the year 1745 and settled on Rowley Hill (so called), where he died in 1817 at the advanced age of ninety-two years.

The subject of this sketch was the son of Jonathan Burpee—a citizen of Sterling universally respected for the rectitude of his character—and was born June 13, 1814. His mother's name, before marriage, was Fanny Johnson, daughter of Edward Johnson.

As Mr. Burpee was an only child he remained with his parents, assisting them in their labors, and, by their example, acquiring habits of industry and strength of moral character, until he was eighteen years of age. At this time his father obtained for him a situation with Joel Pratt, Jr., at that time one of the most prominent chair manufacturers in Worcester County. He remained with Mr. Pratt three years, serving him faithfully for the sum of one hundred dollars, with board and clothing and with the privilege of attending the district school in the winter; his entire education being such only as the common schools of the town at that time afforded. At the close of his apprenticeship to Mr. Pratt he left his employ and engaged service to Mr. Thomas Lewis (2d), a near neighbor.

He renewed his engagement to Mr. Lewis three years successively. At the end of this period, in 1838, he purchased Mr. Lewis' place and business and commenced the manufacture of chairs on his own account. In April of that year he married a Sterling lady, Miss Lucy Ann Smith, a daughter of Manasseh Smith, and began housekeeping in the same house he now occupies.

In 1861 he had the misfortune to lose his wife by

death, but in the following year he again entered into the marriage relation with Mrs. Mary Curtis, who now faithfully presides over his household and devotedly ministers to his comfort as the infirmities of age begin to creep upon him.

Thus, for fifty years, with varying fortunes, he has been constantly, and at times quite extensively, engaged in the chair business, by which, through industry, economy and forethought, he has secured such a competency as relieves him from all anxious thought in respect to present wants or future needs.

His home and attention to his own private business was always more congenial to his nature than crowded assemblies or public office. Nevertheless, he has several times held the office of selectman and other responsible positions, and his fellow-townsmen have ever had implicit confidence in his intelligence, sound judgment and uprightne-s of character. He is still in business, doing a larger amount than any other concern of the same line in the town. He receives his friends with a hearty welcome, and entertains them with generous hospitality.

CHAPTER LXXVIII.

BROOKFIELD.

BY WILLIAM T. DAVIS.

A LITTLE south of what is nearly the centre of Massachusetts there is a territory about eight miles square lying for the most part within the limits of Worcester County and including a small tract of land in Hampshire County, which, as early as the year 1647, attracted the attention of settlers along the coast, who were seeking favorable spots for farming and pasturage. It was occupied by the Quabaug tribe of Indians, and had been cleared by them to such an extent that its hillsides and plains, together with the meadows watered by the rivers and streams flowing through them, offered a rich prize to those who were adventurous enough to wander into the wilderness so far from the more thickly-settled villages and towns along and near the shore. The Quabaug Indians by some historians have been called a distinctive tribe, and by others they are supposed, with the Agawams and Waranakes and Naunotuks and Pacomptucks and Squakheags, along the Connecticut River, the Nipmucks proper, a little farther to the eastward, and the Nashaways, a little farther to the north, to have formed the great Nipmuck tribe. They exhibit, however, in their history, an individuality which warrants the belief that they were an independent tribe, acting only by voluntary association with other tribes and under the rule of sachems not their own. It is stated on undeniable authority that when suffering from the hostile attitude of other tribes they appealed to Massasoit, the chief of the Wampanoags, for assistance, and that late in life that sachem dwelt among them and became their ruler. Indeed, it is more than probable that the famous warrior of Mount Hope was the sagamore of the Quabaugs in 1661, and that in that year or the next, while Wamsutta, his son, was the acting sachem of the Wampanoags, died among his new-found followers.

At the time at which this narrative opens Springfield, settled in 1636, was the only town on the west and the nearest towns on the east were Lancaster, planted in 1643; Concord, settled in 1635, and Sudbury, in 1639. These new settlements were reached by the Indian trails or paths, along which the immigrant could only travel on horseback or on foot; but these trails leading from the villages of the Indians to various points on Massachusetts Bay, Mount Hope Bay and Long Island Sound were looked on by the early settlers, inured as they were to hardship and fatigue, and eager in their efforts to secure the ownership of land, as easy avenues to the prizes they sought.

The territory to which we have referred was called Quabaug, and gave its name to the tribe occupying it. As pronounced by the Indians, it was Squapauke or Squabaug, and signified "red water place," or "red pond," and was so called from the reddish color of the bottom underlying the various sheets of fresh water with which it abounded. According to J. H. Temple, whose exhaustive and interesting "History of North Brookfield" has afforded much material for this narrative, the various villages of the Quabaug tribe lay along the different trails which intersected its territory, the largest of which was the Wekabaug village, in what is now West Brookfield. The native word was Wekapauke, meaning "at the end of the pond," and was adopted by the English as the name of Wekabaug Pond, containing about three hundred acres and lying near West Brookfield village. Another large village was Quobagud or Quobacutt, in the east part of Brookfield, near what is now called Quabaug Pond, and still another was Ashquoach village, north of Great Pond, in Brimfield, and others still were the Quassuck, in what is now Sturbridge, and Putikookuppog, on the south side of the Quinebaug River, near the present line between Sturbridge and Bromfield.

The Quabaug territory is watered by the Quabaug River, which is formed by the union of the Five Mile River and the Seven Mile River and flows into Quabaug Pond. It leaves the pond at its westerly end and flows through what is now the town of Warren, uniting afterwards with Ware River, where it takes the name of Chicopee River, and empties into the Connecticut in the town of Chicopee. Numerous brooks, of more or less size and importance, enter Quabaug River at various points, including Moore's Brook, Stone's Brook, Coy's Brook, Sucker Brook, New Mill Brook, Cheney's Brook, Mason's Brook,

Salmon Brook, Dean's Brook, Wigwam Brook and many other small streams, some of which in early and later times have furnished water for wheels of industry. Among the ponds which dot the territory, are the Quabaug Pond, more than five hundred acres in extent; South Pond, nearly two hundred acres; Wekabaug Pond, three hundred acres, and Cranberry, North, Horse and Perry Ponds, of smaller dimensions.

Such was the territory when, in 1647, it first came within the notice of the government of the Massachusetts Colony. In that year the Quabaug tribe suffered from the raids of marauding Indians of other tribes, and applications for aid were sent by Quacunquasit, the sachem of the tribe, to the Massachusetts Governor. At the same time John Eliot became interested in the tribe, and in 1649 made a visit to their villages, an account of which he gave in a letter, from which the following is an extract, dated Roxbury, December 29, 1649:

There is another aged Sachem at Quobagud, three score miles westward, and he doth greatly desire that I would come thither and teach them and live there; and I made a journey thither this summer and I went by Nashaway; but it so fell out that there were some stirs betwixt the Narraganset and Monahegan Indians, some murders committed, etc., which made our church doubtful at first of my going; which, when the Nashaway Sachem (Sholan) heard, he commanded twenty armed men (after their manner) to be ready, and himself, with these twenty men, besides sundry of our near Indians, went along with me to guard me; but I took some English along with me also, so that hereby their good affection is manifested to me and to the work I have in hand. Here also (at Quobagud) I found sundry hungering after instruction; but it pleased God to exercise us with such tedious rain and bad weather that we were extreme wet, in so much that I was not dry night nor day from the third day of the week unto the sixth, but so travelled, and at night pull off my boots, wring my stockings and on with them again and so continued. The rivers also were raised, so as that we were wet riding through; but that which added to my affliction was my horse tired so that I was forced to let my horse go empty and ride on one of the men's horses, which I took along with me. Yet God stept in and helped; I considered that the word of God (2 Tim. 2: 3), "Endure hardship as a good soldier of Christ," with many other such like meditations. And I thank the Lord neither I nor my company took any hurt.

The Indian trail followed by Eliot was doubtless one of the Connecticut trails which ran through the present towns of Weston, Sudbury, Stow, Lancaster, Princeton, Barre, New Braintree, Warren, Brimfield and Springfield. This simple record of the Indian apostle shows the bold and adventurous spirit which characterized the early settlers of New England, who, having migrated from comfortable English homes and experienced the comparative discomforts with which a life in the towns and villages along the coast were surrounded, were willing and even eager to push still farther into the wilderness to unknown regions, where to hardship and exposure and want were added the dangers which the nearness of savage Indians constantly threatened. No explanation of this spirit is satisfactory that does not emphasize the greedy desire which every Englishman must have felt for that which the opportunity offered—the possession of land. To most, if not all, of the immigrants to our shores such a possession was a new privilege. Landed possessions, which in the old country were confined to the noble or wealthy classes, inspired them with hopes newly born, with aspirations never before experienced, and laid before their eyes visions of untold prosperity and worldly success.

Such as has been here described was the Quabaug territory, when only a few years later, in 1660, some of the inhabitants of Ipswich petitioned the General Court for a grant of land, which was accorded in the following language of the records:

At a great and general Court of Election held at Boston, the 20th of May, 1660.

In ansr to the peticon of severall the inhabitants of Ipswich this Court Judgeth it meete to Graunt the petitioners sixe miles square or so much land as shall be contejned in such a Compasse in a place nere Quoboag ponds provided they have twenty familyes there resident within 3 years & that they have an able minister settled there within the said terme such as ther court shall approve & that they make due provision in some way or other for the future either by setting apart of land in what else shall be thought meete for the Continuance of the ministry amongst them; and that If they shall faile in any of these particulars above mentioned this Graunt of the Court to be voyd & of none effect.

Precisely who the grantees were is not known, but John Warner, John Ayres and William Prichard were probably among their number. John Ayres and John Warner appeared first at Ipswich in 1648, and William Prichard in 1649. These three men are supposed to have visited Quabaug in 1660 with the view of selecting definitely a place of settlement; but owing to Indian troubles no further action was taken under the grant until 1665. In that year it is believed that John Warner, with his son Samuel, John Ayres, Thomas Parsons and Thomas Wilson, took up a settlement, building houses and making other preparations for a permanent home. Wilson was probably a young man, and was the son of Theophilus Wilson, who first appeared at Ipswich in 1636. Parsons was also a young man, only twenty years of age, and was born in Windsor. It is not unlikely that his father had removed from Essex County and was thus naturally associated with the settlers of Quabaug.

Previous to this settlement in 1665 and since 1647, at which date this narrative opened, new towns not far distant had been organized. Hadley, earlier known by the Indian name, Norwottock, was incorporated May 20, 1661, and Northampton October 18, 1654, and these towns with Springfield constituted Hampshire County at the date of its incorporation, May 7, 1662.

These three towns, though they had long enjoyed the privileges of municipal government, had not previously been included in either Suffolk, Essex, Norfolk or Middlesex Counties, the four counties into which the colony of Massachusetts was divided in 1643. Special enactments were at various times passed providing for the administration of justice within their limits, but they were associated with no county organization. As will be seen by the following act incorporating Hampshire County in 1662, the Quabaug territory fell within its boundaries, and

consequently Brookfield, when incorporated, became a Hampshire town.

The act incorporating the county of Hampshire was passed May 7, 1662, and is as follows:

Forasmuch as the inhabitants of this jurisdiction are much encreased so that now they are planted farre into the country upon Conecticott River, who, by reason of their remotenes cannot conveniently be annexed to any of the countyes already setled & that publicke affaires may, with more facility, be transacted according to lawes heere established, it is ordered by the Court & authority thereof that henceforth Springfeild, Northampton and Hadley shall be & hereby are constituted as a county the bounds or ljmitts on the south to be the south ljne of the pattent, the extent of other bounds to be full thirty miles distant from any or either of the foresajd tounes, & what tounes or villages soever shall hereafter be erected wthin the foresajd precincts to be & belong to the sajd county; and further that the sajd county shall be called Hampshire, & shall have & enjoy the libertjes & priviledges of any other County; & that Springfeild shall be the shire toune there, & the Courts to be kept one time at Springfeild & another time at Northampton; the like order to be observed for their shire meetings, that is to say, one yeere at one toune & the next yeare at the other, from time to tjme. And it is further ordered that all the inhabitants of that shire shall pay their publicke rates to the countrey in fatt catle or young catle, such as are fitt to be putt off, that so no unnecessary damage be put on the country; &, in case they make payment in corne, then to be made at such prices as the lawe doe comonly passe amongst themselves, any other former or annuall orders referring to the prices of corne notwithstanding.

The settlement of these western towns, together with the grant of four thousand acres near Quabaug to John Eliot, stimulated the Quabaug grantees to occupy the lands before it was too late. Even at the date of their occupation the three years' limitation of their grant had expired, and a petition was presented to the General Court by the settlers, asking for a new grant, to which the court responded by the passage of the following order:

May 15, 1667. In ans^{r} to the petition of the inhabitants at Quabaug; This Court having perused the grant which the Generall Court made anno 1660 to the first undertakers from that place, doe finde that

1. By their non observance of the condition of their grant, the same is altogether vojd, & that now the ordering & disposing thereof is wholly in this Court's power;

2. Considering that there is already at Quabauge about sixe or seven familyes, & that the place may be capable of receiving many more, this Court will readily grant them the liberty of a township when they shall be in a fitt capacity.

3. In the meane time this Court appoints Capt. John Pynchon, John Aires, W^{m}. Prichard, Richard Coy & John Younglow, or any three of them, whereof Capt. Pinchon to be one of the three who shall have power to admitt inhabitants, grant lands & to order all the prudentiall affaires of the place in all respects untill it shall appeare that the place shall be so farr settled with able men, as this Court may judge meete to give them the full liberty of a touneship according to lawe.

4. Because the inhabitants of Ipswich made the first motion for that plantation, & some of them have binn at charges about it, although by their remisse prosecution they have now lost all their right, yet such of them as shall setle there by midsummer come twelve moneth, they shall have an interest in the lands there in proportion with others; but if, by that time, they shall not be there setled, they shall then loose their lands & all their charges, which they have been att upon ye place.

5. They are to take care for the getting & mayntayning of a godly minister among them, & that no evill persons, enemjes to the lawe of this commonweale in judgment or practice, be receaved as inhabitants.

6. For promoting of the aforesajd plantation & incouragement thereof this Court doeth now grant that plantation seven yeares freedom from all publick rates & taxes to the country, provided these inhabitants of Ipswich, which intend to inhabit at Quabauge by midsummer come twelve month, doe engage to give security to the abovesajd committee, within three moneths after the date hereof, that they will performe accordingly, that so others that would setle there may not be hindered.

Richard Coy was probably an Essex County man, though not of Ipswich, and John Younglow was probably son of Samuel Younglove, who appeared in Ipswich in 1635. Captain John Pynchon was born in England in 1627, and came to New England in 1630 with his father, William Pynchon, a leader in the settlement of Springfield in 1636. William, the father, who was at one time treasurer of the Massachusetts Colony, and for many years an assistant in the government, published in England in 1650 a book entitled "Meritorious Price of Christ's Redemption," in opposition to the Calvinistic view of the atonement, which caused his deposition from the magistracy. His book was burned on Boston Common by order of the Court, and, in consequence of persecutions which followed, he returned to England in 1652. His son, John, mentioned in the grant above-quoted, was for fifty years a magistrate of Springfield and one of the founders of Northampton in 1654. He died January 17, 1703. It was undoubtedly thought judicious by the General Court to appoint one alien member on the committee, and that, unlike the occupants of Quabaug lands, who were men probably of no experience in public affairs, he should be familiar with the methods and requirements of municipal administration.

In the mean time, before the regrant was made by the court, the old grantees took measures to secure a release from the Indians of their title in the lands which their grant covered, and negotiated with Ensign Thomas Cooper, of Springfield, to take a deed in his own name. This he did, but afterwards assigned his interest to the grantees. The following is the Indian deed:

These Presents Testify That Shattoockquis, alias Shadookis, the sole & propper owner of certayne lands at Quabauge, hereafter named, Hath for good & valluable Considerations, him, the said Shattooquis thereunto moveinge given, graunted, bargayned & Sold, And by these presents Doth fully, clearily & absolutely give grant, bargayne & sell unto Ensigne Thomas Cooper, of Springfield, for the use & behoofe of the prsent English Planters at Quabaug & their Associates & their successors, & to them & their heires for evoer certayne pcells of land at towards or about the North end of Quabauge pond, that is to say, beginning at a little Meddow at the North end of the pond Quabauge, wch meddow is called Podeek, wth the land about it & soe to a little hill Wullamanick & from thence Northward or North & by East about Three miles, & soe Westward off to ye North end of Wecobaug Pond, taking in all the playnes, meddowes & upland from Podunk by Quabaug to Wecobaug pond, all the land betwixt as that called Nacommuck (vis^{t} a brook where meddow is), and soe to Massequockummes vis^{t} another brook where meddow is and soe through the playn to Wecobaug pond & then down to Lashaway, vis^{t} the River wch comes from Quabaug pond all ye land as aforesaid on the East or Northeast side of that River, and about three miles North or North & by East from the River together wth the said River & the lands on the west side, or south, or southwest side of the said River, & particularly from Lashaway down the River to a brook or streame called Naltaug, & soe up that brook to the head of it Southward, & then from the head of that brook to verge of a hill called Asquoach, & soe down Southward or Southeast to ye pond Quabauge, taking in all the wett meddow & meddows called Masquabamick & Nanantomqua, it being about foure miles from the river to the verge or foote of the hill aforesaid, called Asquoach, and about six miles or neere thereabouts from the River at the mouth of ye brook called Naltaug to Quabaug pond. All the

aforesaid Tract of land from Wecobauge to Podunk at the North end of Quabauge, & from Naltaug to Quabauge, called Naltaug, Lashaway, Manequockcumis, Nacommuck, Wullammannuck, Podunck, Nananton-qua, Masquabamick & soe to the hill called Asquoach. All wch land afore described, together with the trees, waters, stones, profits, comodityes & advantages thereof & thereunto belonging the said Ensigne Thomas Cooper, for himself and for the present Planters at Quabaug; and their Associates & successors is to have, hold and enjoy, & that for ever.

And the said Shattookquis, as well for other cousiderations, as also for & in consideration of the summe Three Hundred fadom of Wampampeage in hand Received, doth grant, bargayne & sell All & Singular the aforenamed Tract of land to Ensigne Thomas Cooper, his suc cessors & assignes as aforesaid, & to their heires for ever. And the said Shattoockquis doth hereby covennate & promise to & wth the said Ensigne Thomas Cooper that he will save ye said Thomas Cooper harmless from all manner of clamyes of any person or psons lawfully clayming any right or interest in the said lands hereby sold, or in any part thereof, & will defend the same from all or any molestation & incumbrence by any Indians lawfully laying clayme or title thereunto. In witness whereof the said Shattoockquis hath herewith sett his hand, this tenth day of November, 1665:

The mark of * * * * Shattoockquis.
The mark of Mettawomppe, * * *
An Indian witness, who, challenging some interest in the land above sold, received part of ye pay & consented to the sale of it all.

Subscribed & delivered in ye presence of
Elizur Holyoke,
Samuell Chapin,
Japhett Chapin.

Shattoockquis, an Indian above-mentioned, did own & acknowledge this to be his act & deed, resigning up all his right, title & intrest in the lands above-mentioned unto Thomas Cooper, his Associates & Assignes, as above said, this Tenth day of November, 1665.

Before mee, John Pynchon, *Assistant.*

The wampumpeage, three hundred fathoms of which were paid for the land, was made from the purple and white parts of the quaw-haug shell, and consisted of flat, round, button-like pieces of shell, about a sixteenth of an inch in thickness, and a quarter of an inch in diameter, with a hole in the middle for stringing on strings of bark or hemp. The purple and white pieces alternated on the string, the purple being of double the value of the whi e, and the whole valued at five shillings per fathom. After wampumpeage went out of use as currency, it long retained a place among the Indians for the adornment of their persons. Before the days of the Pilgrims, it had a very limited use, and that only among the tribes on the seaboard. In 1627, when the Plymouth Colony effected a settlement with the London merchants, by which they were found to owe an indebtedness of twenty-four hundred pounds to them and other creditors, the debt was assumed by William Bradford, Miles Standish, Isaac Allerton, Edward Winslow, William Brewster, John Howland, John Alden and Thomas Prence, together with their friends, James Sherley, John Beauchamp, Richard Andrews and Timothy Hatherly, of London, and the trading privileges of the Colony were assigned to them as security. In order to pay the debt, these gentlemen caused all the inland tribes to be instructed in the value and use of wampumpeage, and by its use they carried on so profitable a trade in the purchase of furs and their exportation to England as within nine years—the time prescribed in their settlement—to pay off the entire debt and to leave the Colony in the undisputed possession of all their lands.

Until 1673 the committee appointed by the court held in their hands the entire management of the lands, and by them the allotments were made. They kept their Books of Records and Mr. Pynchon was the recorder. Their first book was probably destroyed by fire in 1675, and the only knowledge extant of the methods and plan of land distribution is derived from memoranda and extracts found among the papers of Mr. Pynchon. From them it appears that what were called the home-lots were laid out so as to take in what is now known as Foster's Hill, extending from Hovey's Brook on the southeast to Coy's Brook on the northwest, including in all about five hundred acres. Beginning at Coy's Brook, the lots lay in the following order: 1. Richard Coy; 2. Thomas Parsons; 3. John Warner; 4. Samuel Kent; 5. Samuel Warner; 6. John Younglove; 7. Thomas Wilson; 8. Thomas Millet; 9. Meeting-House; 10. John Ayres; 11. William Prichard; 12. James Travis; 13. Judah Trumble; 14. Daniel Hovey; 15. James Hovey; 16. Thomas Hovey. The lot on which probably the first meeting-house was built was in the middle of the allotted territory, and was probably a little northwesterly of the present barn of Mr. D. H. Richardson. These lots contained twenty acres each, with a right to twenty acres of meadow and eight or ten acres of plain land, and larger lots were assigned to the minister and to fathers of grown-up sons. Each home-lot was also entitled to forty acres of upland and all undivided lands were held in common.

After this liberal division of lands, it was found, nevertheless, that the demand of the settlers for pasturage, mowing land, timber and fuel was far from being met, and the following petition for a further grant was sent to the General Court:

To the much honored General Court held at Boston, the 12th of October, 1670:

This honored Court being pleased upon petition presented to them by some of the inhabitants of Ipswich for land to settle a plantation at Quaboag; so far to favor their notion or to grant them a tract of land of six miles square for that end, and farther since to encourage the poor inhabitants that are upon it. The humble petition, therefore, of the poor inhabitants of Quaboag to this honored Court is, that according as they were pleased to intimate their readiness to grant us the liberty of a township (whereby meet inhabitants upon the place we should be capable of it) so they would be pleased at this time to do it. Our humble petition to this hon'd C't is farther, that they would be pleased to enlarge our grant, if they see good, for that we may go six miles every way from the centre. The reason of this, our request to the hon'd C't, is because we find the meadow to lie very much scattered about the place in many small parcels far distant one from the other, and therefore we fear that unless the hon'd C't grant us some considerable further enlargement, we shall not be able to fetch within our bounds a sufficient quantity of meddows to accommodate families enough to make a comfortable society in a place so remote in the wilderness as ours is. We would further crave leave to acquaint the honored C't that there is a great farm of land laid out very near our plantation for Peter Taft, as we do adjudge, within a matter of three or four miles from the river, which runs through our place to Springfield, as we humbly conceive that it will fall within our bounds. If it should not, we humbly crave that the hon'd C't would grant that it may pay public charge with us; it being very difficult to carry on a place so remote

from all other plantations in the woods as ours is. And this hon'd C't so far countenancing us as they have already, doth persuade, as by way of humble petition, to present these things to this hon'd C't, submitting ourselves their good pleasure concerning us herein. Wee, whose names are here underwritten, have subscribed hereto in the behalf of the rest.

RICHARD COY,
JOHN AYRES,
WILLIAM PRICHET.

From Quaboag, October 9th, 1670.

To this petition no response appears to have been made.

In 1673 application was made to the General Court for an act of incorporation as a town. We are told by Mr. Temple that the original petition was found in a junk-shop by Dr. John F. Pratt, of Chelsea, and he has saved it from oblivion by giving it a place in his valuable history. The petition reads as follows:

To the Highly Honnored General Corte of the Massachusetts:

The humble Petition of the inhabitants of Quaubauge Sheweth That whereas wee being not yet allowed a Township, wee are disabled as to comfortably carrying on ye affaires of the place as is requisite for the publicke & our own conveniences in diverse respects as for the ordering the Prudentiall affaires of the Town proper, to select men, makeing & collecting of Rates, &c. Wee have, indeed, a Committee to helpe in these matters, but in regard we cannot rationally desire or expect the p^sence & assistance of One of the Committee (vest the Honno^rd Major Pynchon) soe often as we need by reason of his remoteness. And yett w^thout his p^sence or concurrence the Committee cannot make a valid act. The p^mises considered, Our Humble request is, that this much Honno^rd Corte would be pleased to grant us the Priviledge & Libertyes of a Township, whereby we may be the better inabled to carry on our onne matters w^thout too much distraction.

And yo^r Petitione^rs shall ever pray for yo^r prosperity If Yo^r Honno^rs please let ye name of ye Place be Brookfeild.

Octr. ye 10, 1673.

John Ayres, Sen^r.	Thomas Wilson.
Richard Coy, Sen^r.	Samuel Prichet.
Samuel Kent.	John Ayres, Jr.
John Warner.	Nathaniel Warner.
Samuel Warner.	James Travis.
Samuel Ayres.	Richard Coy.
John Younglove.	James Hovey.
William Pritchet.	Juda Trumbull.
Thomas Parsons.	

It is probable, judging from the names in this petition and from the allotment of lands, that most, if not all, of the old Ipswich grantees had taken advantage of the privilege accorded to them in the re-grant. John Warner, Samuel Warner, John Younglove, Thomas Wilson, John Ayres, William Prichard, Daniel James and Thomas Hovey were all from Ipswich, while Richard Coy, Samuel Kent, James Travis and Judah Trumbull were Essex County men and probably associated with the Ipswich men in the original grant.

Accompanying the petition was a letter from John Pynchon, desiring to be discharged from the committee for Quabaug, and this letter also Mr. Temple has reproduced in his history. The deputies of the court, as the record states, judged

meete to graunt this pet, & that the name of the place be Brookefeild, as is above desired, on Hono^rd magistrates consenting hereto.

WILLIAM TORREY, *Cleric.*

The record also states that the "magist^s Consent hereto, provided they divide not the whole land of ye Township till they be forty or fivety familyes in y^e meane time, yt their dividings, one to another, exceed not two hundred acres apeec to any p^sent inhabitant, their brethren, the deputyes hereto consenting.

22 October, 1673, EDW. RAWSON, *Secrety,*
Consented to by the deputies. WM. TORREY, *Cleric.*

On the 19th of December in the year of the incorporation Thomas Cooper, the grantee in the deed from Shattoockquis, assigned his interest in the lands conveyed to him to the inhabitants of the new town by the following instrument:

I, Thomas Cooper, above mentioned, doe hereby relinquish & resigne up all my right & title in ye lands within mentioned, to be bought of Shattoockquis, hereby declaring that my acting in ye p^rmises was only in the behalfe & for the use and behoofe of the inhabitants of Quabauge (now called Brookfeild) & their successors. The purchase of the above-mentioned land being at their pper cost and charge, who had obteyned a grant thereof from ye Honno^rd Gen^rll Corte, & are now allowed a Toune; I doe therefore hereby deliver up this instrument, or deed of sale to John *John* Warner, Richard Coy & William Pritchard, of Quabauge, *alias* Brookefeild, for the use & as the propp^r right of the inhabitants of Brookefeild, the said Persons beinge betrusted by the Toune, or present inhabitants of Brookefeild, for taking in & receiving this present Deed; wherefore I doe hereby deliver it up to them, hereby declaring it & the land therein mentioned to be sold to be & belong to the present Inhabitants of Brookefeild, as they are a Township, and to particular psons only, according as they have or shall have grants of land confirmed to them. The whole tract of land above mentioned I doe fully & absolutely resigne up to the Inhabitants of Brookefield aforesaid, and to their successors & their heires for Ever, As witness my hand this 19th day of December, 1673.

THOMAS COOPER.

December 19^th, 1673. Lieut. Thomas Cooper, above mentioned, subscribed hereunto & acknowledged the resigning up this Deed & all his intrest in the premises to the Inhabitants of Brookefeild,

Before me, JOHN PYNCHON, *Assistant.*

This Deed was Recorded March ye 1673-4 By mee,

ELIZUR HOLYOKE, *Recordr.*

Thus it will be seen that by the early part of 1673–74 the town was organized, had acquired full possession of the lands, and was ready under favorable auspices to begin a career of municipal prosperity. But unforeseen disasters befell the town. In 1675, within two years of its incorporation, it was entirely destroyed by the Indians in King Philip's War, its meeting-house and all its dwellings were burned, some of its leading men, among whom were John Ayres, Richard Coy, William and Samuel Prichard, and James Hovey, were killed and families were otherwise broken up by the murders of wives and children. The Quabaug Indians, with whom for ten years the settlers had lived in harmony, were under the sway of Philip, and among the most earnest in the relentless war he waged. It is not necessary in this narrative to recount the details of this war, as they may be found in a score of historical works to which readers have easy access, and may at almost any time and place refer.

With the death of Philip, on the 10th of August, 1676, the war ceased, and with the return of peace the Quabaugs left their old homes, and the scattered remnants of their tribe retreated westward beyond the Hudson River never to return.

So the young frontier town of Brookfield disappeared. Its twenty families, with all their remaining provisions, migrated to new homes; the meeting-house, in the erection of which, as the seal of their municipal union, they had taken special pride, and in

which John Younglove and Thomas Millet had preached to them the word of God, was burned, their fields were devastated and their houses in ashes, and for ten years the territory of Quabaug was a deserted waste. The memory of past disasters and the fear of their recurrence prevented during that long period its renewed occupation and settlement. So far as the incorporation of the town was concerned the privileges of a town were annulled by the following act of the General Court, passed May 28, 1679, and approved on the 9th of the following month:

At a General Court held at Boston May 28, 1679.

For the greater comfort and safety of all people who are intended to resettle the villages deserted in the late war or the planting any new Plantation within th is jurisdiction.

It is ordered and enacted by this Court and the authority thereof That no deserted town or new Plantation shall be inhabited until the people first make application unto the Governour and Council or to the County Court within whose jurisdiction such Plantation is. And the Council or County Court are hereby ordered and empowered to appoint an able and discreet committee (at the charge of the people intending to plant) which Committee are ordered and impowered to view and consider the place or places to be settled and give directions and orders in writing under their hands in what form way and manner such town shall be settled or erected, wherein they are required to have a principal respect to nearness and conveniency of habitation for security against enemies and more comfort for church communion & enjoyment of God's Worship and education of children in schools and civility with other good ends.

And all such planters are hereby injoined to attend and put in practice such orders and directions as shall be given by such committee upon the penalty of five hundred pounds fine to the country to be inflicted upon them by order of the Council or County Court for their neglect or refusal to attend this order.

Passed and Consented to. June 9, 1679.

J. DUDLEY.

In 1686, as has been already mentioned, the resettlement of Brookfield began, but only the family of John Ayres, of all the original settlers, returned. The new occupants of the land were chiefly from Marlborough, Springfield, Suffield and Hadley, while a few were from the more distant settlements of Essex County. The first effort in behalf of a reorganization is to be found in the following petition:

To the Hon^{bl} Simon Bradstreet Governor &c. The humble Petition and Request of James Ford of Brookfield.

"Whereas there was a Township formerly granted by the Hon^{bl} General Court at a place called by the Indians Quaboag & by the English Brookfield which was settled but by the Incursions and outrages of the Indians was depopulated and layd waste & and hath been so for many years: the Ancient Inhabitants wholly deserting the same and it being a place very commodious for scittuation in the Road to Springfield &c and may be beneficial and profitable as well to the Country as to particular persons; and whereas some are already seated and others would be willing to settle the said place againe were there some encouragement from the Hon^{l} Council and one to guide & order the prudential affaires for such a Plantation.

Yor Petitioner humbly requests your Hon^{rs} would be pleased to appoint and impower some prudent and able persons as a Committee to admit Inhabitants and order the affaires of the place in forming ye Toune granting Lotts & directing & ordering all matters of a prudential Nature till such time the Place be settled and a competent number of Inhabitants & persons of discretion to order the affaires thereof and your Petitioners as in duty bound shall even pray &c.

JAMES FORD.

In response to this petition, and doubtless others sent by the inhabitants, action was taken by the Council, which is stated in the records as follows:

November 9, 1686, Maj. John Pinchon, Joseph Hawley, Capt. Samuel Glover, Mr. Samuel Marshfield, Mr. Samuel Ely, & Mr. John Hitchcock all of Springfield, are appointed a Committee for settling the Town of Quabaag & the Petition of the said Town is granted and the aforenamed Gentlemen are to receive the claims of the sd Inhabitants, grant lotts to others & give necessary orders for the more orderly settlement of the said Toune.

Under the operations of this committee lands were allotted as required, and new settlers continued to come in until 1688, when new troubles arose with the Indians and the growth of the settlement was checked. Its inhabitants lived in constant fear of savage raids, and what was called Gilbert's Fort, which contained barracks for soldiers and refugees, served as a garrison to which those in the neighborhood might flee in case of an alarm.

In 1691, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Ely having died, Captain Partridge and Mr. Medad Pumroy were placed by the court on the town committee.

In 1693 an Indian raid was made on the houses of Joseph Woolcott, Thomas Lawrence and Joseph Mason, which stood at some distance from the fort, and Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Mason, with his son and the wife and two children of Mr. Woolcott, were killed. But notwithstanding the constant fear of Indian depredations, the town increased in numbers, and a determination was manifested to make the settlement, under any and all circumstances, a permanent and prosperous one. Indeed, not only was every effort made by the General Court to aid and encourage the outlying settlements, but direct and positive measures were taken to prevent their abandonment. On the 23d of March, 1699–1700, it was voted by the court

that no town or precinct being a frontier of the province which the towns hereafter named are to be accounted; that is to say Wells, York, Kittery, Amesbury, Haverhill, Dunstable, Chelmsford, Groton, Lancaster, Marlborough, Brookfield, Deerfield, Mendon and Woodstock; nor any of the towns following to wit Salisbury, Andover, Billerica, Hatfield, Hadley, Westfield and Northampton . . shall be broken up or voluntarily deserted without application first made by the inhabitants and allowance had & obtained from the Governor and Council in Court & Council for their drawing off if it appear to them that it may be of public advantage or that the place is not tenable. Nor shall any inhabitant of the frontier & other towns or precincts before named, or any of them having an estate of freehold in lands or tenements within the same at the time of any insurrection or breaking forth of any war, remove from them with intent to sojourne or inhabit elsewhere without special license first had and obtained as aforesaid.

In November, 1698, the inhabitants of Brookfield presented the following petition to the General Court:

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Brookfield to the Hon^{l} General Court assembled at Boston, Nov., 1698, Humbly Sheweth.

Firstly. That we seeme to be called of God to continue our habitation in this place; we are low in the world and it would be a breaking thing to our estates to remove to any other plantation, and the Land here is very capable of entertaining a considerable body of people; the inhabitants have been slow to come to us by reason of ye War, yet the land is very Incouraging, capable to afford a comfortable subsistence to many ffamilies.

2. That it is an Intolerable burden to continue as we have done without the preaching of the Word. God doth require his people to attend not only ffamily worship but His public worship; it is the ordinance of God that on the Sabbath Day there should be an holy convocation, and that his Word be preached by those that are able and faithful, and our necessitys put us upon it earnestly to desire it. Both we and our Children need the Instructions, rebukes and encouragements of the Word,

the darkness and deadness of our own hearts, together with the many snares that are in the world, are an experimental conviction to us that we need al those helps and advantages that God hath sanctifyed for our good.

3. That we are not able at present, to maintain the Worship of God. We are but twelve ffamilies, and we are not of estate sufficient to give suitable encouragement to a minister. We are willing to do to the outside of our ability, but tho' we do as much as can be expected from us, it will not amount to such a summ as a Minister may reasonably require for his labour.

4. That if this Hon^{d} Court would please to pity us and grant us some help for a few years for the maintenance of a godly, able Minister, besides the advantage it may be to these few familys that are here, it would be a means to draw many other Inhabitants to us, whereby we shall be so far assisted that we may, of ourselves, be able to uphold the Worship of God and not be burdensome to others.

Under these circumstances we humbly beg that this Hon^{d} Court would exercise compassion to us & arregne some reliefe to us out of the Publick Treasury, which we shal look upon not onely a testimony of your zeal for the worship of God, but alsoe of your tender compassion to the souls of those whom God hath made you ffathers of. And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

Samuel Owen,	Thomas Barns,
Henry Gilbert,	Stephen Gennings,
John Woolcott,	James Pettee,
Saml. Davies,	Wm. Barns,
Thomas Parsons,	Thomas Rich,
Abijah Bartlett,	Danl. Price,
John Clary,	Joseph Marks.
John Pettee,	

In response to the above petition the court ordered that twenty pounds be paid out of the public treasury towards the support of an orthodox minister for one year. The payment of this sum was delayed until 1701, when Rev. George Phillips, a graduate at Harvard in the class of 1686, and son of Rev. Samuel Phillips, of Rowley, was engaged to preach one year, and the money was drawn from the Province Treasury.

In the same year the following petition was presented to the General Court:

To the Honbl. Wm. Stoughton, etc:

The humble petition of the Committee and Inhabitants of Brookfield sheweth,

Whereas, by the Providence of God by allowance from the General Court and our own necessites and inclinations we have and are now settled at Brookfield and altho' we are now but fewe in number, yet here is accommodations for a considerable Township; being new in our beginnings, and through the difficulties and hazzards of the times people tho' otherwise well inclined to come & settle here, yet have been slow in motion this way by reason whereof we labour under many difficulties at present—Therefore move to this Court that they would be pleased to grant us some allowances for oure encouragement & help as followeth:

First, that we may, in some measure, be in a capacity to obtain the benefit of an orthodox ministry of God's word (which we are in necessity of). That this Court would grant us such allowances towards the maintenance of such an one a year or two or three, which together with what we might do among ourselves, might incourage a minister to settle amgst us which would tend much to advantage both as to Ecclesiastical and Civil affairs.

Second, With reference to Publick charges amongst us, That this Court would order that all men that make good a claim of a proprietie within the bounds of our place might be engaged to bear their part in due proportion of all charges arising, and when notified of their Rate or proportion be obliged to pay on the place from time to time or quit their lands, etc.

Third, That this Court do settle and state the bounds of our Township, the centre to be the place where the first meeting-house stood and to extend six miles East, West, North and South, viz., twelve miles square extending from said centre as aforesaid.

These things we apprehend might be a means to promote the welfare of our place so as in time we might be beneficial to the publick interest of the Province and the granting of which will oblige your poor suppliants as in duty bound for your Honours ever to pray,

John Pynchon,
Saml. Partrigg,
John Hitchcock,
In the name of the Committee.

Henry Gilbert, Thomas Barns, Thomas Rich, Sam^{el} Davis, Steven Jennings, Abijah Bartlet, Sam^{el} Wheeler, Benj. Bartlett, Samuel Owen, Thom^{s} Parsons, Thomas Gilbert.

Brookfield, May 26, 1701.

As a result of this petition a plan was made of eight miles square, the quality of land stated and boundary lines described and the whole reported to the court in obedience to its order. In consequence of the loss of this plan another survey was made by Timothy Dwight in 1719 and the boundaries of the town were established by the court.

Shortly after the engagement of Rev. Mr. Phillips the coming on of what was called Queen Anne's War once more subjected Brookfield to the dangers of Indian warfare. In this state of things, upon a renewed application to the General Court for assistance, the sum of twenty pounds were allowed to be paid towards the support of a chaplain to the garrison in the town. No meeting-house had been erected since the first was burned in 1675, and it is probable that until the erection of the second house of worship in 1715 Sabbath services were held in the garrison. Rev. Joseph Smith, a son of Lieut. Philip Smith, of Hadley, and a graduate at Harvard in 1695, was appointed chaplain and was the second minister of the town since its reconstruction. Mr. Smith remained until 1705, and was afterward settled in Cohansey, New Jersey, and Middletown, Connecticut. During the whole of his ministry in Brookfield and for some years after the sum of twenty pounds was annually paid by order of the court for the support of the ministry.

In 1704 the condition of the town had again reached a low ebb. The war continued and though some new settlers came into the town, they for the most part were refugees from more exposed settlements, and brought little with them for the promotion of their own comfort or of the public good. This unhappy condition is well illustrated in the following petition:

Brookfield, Dec. 14, 1704.

To His Excelleency etc.:

We hues names are underwriten do humbly beage your Excelancy's favor and that you wod consider our weke condishone; the favor we beg is that we all ov us, not that such of us as find they are under such disadvantages that they cant subsist there, might remove into some other towne where they may worke fore there liveinge. by the deficulty of the times we are reduste to such pverty that we cant subsist except your onors will plese to grant us wages as soldiers & pay for our diat, for we raize little or none of our provision by rezen of our being draun so far frome our improvements of Lands. Our families are so large and our means are so small that we cant live without sume other imploye than any we have at present. And if the honoured Cort ceases to put us in as soldiers we will as we do account it our duti conform to the orders of authority—but we rather, if it may be granted, choose to remove into other towns, and we humbly intrete that the onors of the Corte would plese to grant us pay for our diat for the time we have served as soldears. No more at present, but we remain youars as followeth:

Henry Gilbert, Benjamin Bartlett,

JOHN WOOLCOTT,	JOHN GILBERT,
SAMLL. OWEN,	SAMLL. OWEN, JR.,
THOS. PARSONS,	HENRY TAYLOR,
SAMUEL DAVIS,	STEPH. JENNINGS,
PHILIP GOSS,	BENJ. JENNINGS,
EBENR. HAYWARD,	EDWARD WALKER,
THOMAS GILBERT,	JOSEPH BANISTER,
JOSEPH RICE,	JOHN HAYWARD,
JOSEPH MARKS,	JOHN HAMILTON,
JOHN CLARY,	JOSEPH JENNINGS.
THOMAS BARNS.	

This petition was probably acted on favorably by the court, as the records show that the muster-roll for wages and subsistence of soldiers posted at Brookfield and Springfield was increased from £271 9*s*. 1*d*. for the four months ending October 18, 1704, to £426 15*s*. 10*d*. for the three months ending January 31, 1705.

On the 24th of October, 1705, Rev. William Grosvenor was engaged to take the place of Mr. Smith and remained until August 25, 1708. Mr. Grosvenor was the son of John Grosvenor, who came from Chester County, in England, to Roxbury, and who was one of the settlers of Pomfret, Connecticut, who obtained a grant of land from the General Assembly in 1686 and an act of incorporation as a town in October, 1713. The son William graduated at Harvard in 1693. After the departure of Mr. Grosvenor, as far as can be learned, the people of Brookfield were without a minister until May 1, 1711, when Rev. John James was engaged and received, as his predecessor had done, a stipend of twenty pounds from the province. Mr. James remained at Brookfield until May 1, 1714, when he removed to Wethersfield, Conn., where he died August 10, 1729.

The year 1713 brought to a termination the Indian hostilities, which during nearly forty years had intimidated the inland towns of the province and checked their growth. The people of Brookfield almost for the first time since its original settlement could now without distraction and alarm turn their attention to the pursuits of peace. In that year, in consequence of the death of Joseph Hawley and John Hitchcock and the age and infirmity of Medad Pomroy, Samuel Porter, Ebenezer Pomroy and Luke Hitchcock were appointed on the town committee, which now consisted of these gentlemen and John Pynchon, Medad Pomroy and Samuel Partridge the surviving members. At a meeting of the committee held on the 4th of September, 1713, it was agreed that all grants of land should thereafter be upon the following conditions: 1st, that the grantees should work on the land within six months from the grant; 2d, that they should live on it within a year; 3d, that they shall live on it three years from the date of the grant, and 4th, that in case the grantees fail in any of the above conditions the grants should be void.

On the 1st of May, 1714, Rev. Mr. James terminated his ministry, and in the same year Rev. Daniel Elmer was engaged to preach. Mr. Elmer remained only six months and consequently received only ten pounds from the province treasury. He was a graduate at Yale in 1713, and after leaving Brookfield preached at Westborough, Mass., and at Fairfield, New Jersey.

On the 17th of September, 1714, it is recorded that the committee unanimously agreed

That the inhabitants build a meeting-house wherein to attend the worship of God, which shall be set up and erected in said place where formerly the meeting-house was built near old John Ayers' House Lott, lying near about the center of the Town; And the Committee here and do by these presents order that the Constable, together with Edward Walker, Sen., and Joseph Banister, take an exact list of the ratable estates, both real and personal, within the precincts of Brookfield, and cause a rate to be made for the payment of their minister and other charges.

On the 22d of November, 1715,

The inhabitants of Brookfield agreed by the consent of the committee to build a meeting-house wherein to carry on the worship of God; in the form and manner as followeth, viz.: 45 feet in length and 35 feet in width and to put in Galery pieces so that they may build galeries when they shall have occasion; and to carry on the building the said house as far as they can conveniently with their labour; and what shall be required in money for the carrying said work to be raised by a Town rate; and if any person or persons refuse to labour having suitable warning by the committee hereafter named shall pay their proportion in money. The inhabitants likewise agree to get the timber this winter. The committee chosen to oversee and take care for the carrying on of said work are Thomas Barns, Henry Gilbert, Lieut. Philip Goss, Ens. Thomas Gilbert Joseph Banister, Edward Walker, Joseph Jennings, John Woolcott, Wm. Old. Then ordered that a rate of 150 pounds be made towards building the meeting-house.

On the same day that the above vote was passed, Rev. Thomas Cheney was engaged to preach. On the 16th of October, 1716, the church was organized and he was ordained. On that occasion the new meeting-house was for the first time used. The inhabitants voted to give him fifty-two pounds annually for three years and to raise the salary forty shillings a year until it reached seventy pounds. He was to have also all the land which the committee proposed to give him, to have a house and barn built for him suited to his wishes, he finding the glass, nails and iron, to have twenty-five cords of wood annually during his life, and one day's labor annually from each man. He was also to have eight acres of land fenced and made fit for sowing, four of which were to be on the hill. At his ordination Rev. Solomon Stoddard, of Northampton, preached the sermon, and the following covenant was subscribed:

You do now, in the presence of the great and holy God, the elect Angels and this assembly of witnesses, enter into a solemn and perpetual covenant, never to be forgotten, never to be broken.

You sincerely and cordially give up yourself to that God whose name alone is Jehovah; taking God the Father to be your God and Father, God the Son to be your only Saviour and Redeemer, God the Holy Ghost to be your sanctifier and comforter.

You submit yourself to Christ and accept him as the Prophet Priest and King of your soul the Great Head of the Church, and the only Mediator of the covenant of grace; promising that by the assistance of the Holy Spirit you will keep the covenant of the Lord inviolably; that you will cleave to the Lord Jesus Christ by faith and Gospel obedience; and will endeavor to reform your life as to all known sin whether open or secret—will live in the conscientious discharge of all duty towards God and man—walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blamelessly; that you will endeavor that the inward temper of your mind be conformed to God's will and word; and that you will follow the excellent example which Christ has set you for the rule of your life.

You also give up yourself to this Church in the Lord; and freely cove-

nant and bind yourself to walk as a regular member of Christ's Church; to obey them that have rule over you in the Lord; to read God's word, and to live in the practice of social and secret prayer and in diligent attendance on the word preached and ordinances administered;—relying on the grace and all-sufficiency of Christ, which are sufficient for you—you promise to walk according to what you now know, or shall know, to be your duty.

Do you sincerely and cordially consent to the covenant now proposed?

We then receive you as a sincere disciple of Christ and a member of the same church with ourselves—promising so long as God shall continue you among us, to watch over you with meekness and brotherly love;—and may the Lord add to the numbers and graces of his church, and finally bring us all to join the general assembly and Church of the First-born, whose names are written in heaven. Amen.

So far as the church is concerned this may be considered to have been its birth. Though religious services had been held for many years and ministers employed, there was no formal church organization until the date above mentioned, October 16, 1717. The meeting-house, though occupied, was not completely finished for several years, but the church was fairly launched, and afterwards, with few interruptions, successfully maintained. The salary of the minister was paid by a rate or tax, which included also the current expenses connected with the erection of the meeting-house. This rate was made on the 22d of April, 1717, and amounted to £121 3*s.* 8*d.* The names of the persons taxed with the amounts of their tax are included in the following list of land-owners who had received grants from the town committee from the date of the earliest grants down to 1768, which was the last year in which the affairs of the town were managed by the committee:

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Benjamin Ayres	1	4	6
Edward Ayres	0	12	6
John Ayres, Sr.	1	4	11
Joseph Ayres	0	12	6
Mark Ayres	0	12	6
Nathaniel Ayres	0	12	6
Thomas Ayres	0	12	6
Samuel Ayres			
John Ayres, Jr.			
Captain Thomas Baker	3	1	0
Joseph Banister	2	11	6
Noah Barns	0	12	6
Samuel Barns	1	16	0
Thomas Barns	4	0	8
Joshua Barns	0	18	3
Abijah Bartlet (heirs)	0	13	0
Benjamin Bartlet	1	3	6
Thomas Bartlet	1	4	6
Josiah Beamin	2	8	11
Simon Beamin, Jr.	0	12	6
Thomas Bettys (heirs)	0	12	6
Wm. Biggerton	0	12	6
Joseph Babrook	1	17	0
Samuel Bush	1	5	2
Wm. Barns			
Samuel Brown			
John Beamin			
Richard Coy	0	9	5
John Chadwick			
Richard Coy, Jr.			
John Clements			
John Clary			
Thomas Cheney			
Benjamin Davis	0	12	6
Samuel Davis, Sr.	2	16	0
Samuel Davis, Jr.	0	12	6
Lieut. Henry Dwight	0	18	9
Hezekiah Dickinson			
Jonathan Davis			
Robert Emmons	1	9	0
Daniel Elwin			
Gershom Ferry	0	9	5
James Ford			
Thomas Gibbs	1	4	6
Ebenezer Gilbert	1	4	6
Henry Gilbert	3	13	9
John Gilbert	1	4	6
Nathaniel Gilbert	0	12	6
Samuel Gilbert	1	4	6
Thomas Gilbert (Ens.)	2	3	11
Thomas Gilbert	0	12	6
Philip Goss			
John Green			
Wm. Grovesnor			
John Hamilton, Sr.	3	17	8
John Hamilton, Jr.	0	12	6
Joseph Hawley (Ens.)	0	12	6
Ephraim Hayward	0	12	0
Ebenezer Hayward (heirs)	0	12	6
Enoch Hinds	0	12	6
Hopestill Hinds	1	4	6
John Hinds	1	2	0
John Hitchcock (Ens.)	1	11	3
Luke Hitchcock (Capt.)	0	12	6
Jeremiah How	1	5	9
Daniel Hovey			
James Hovey			
Thomas Hovey			
John Hayward, Jr.			
George Hayward			
Daniel How			
Elisha How			
Benj. Jennings (heirs)	0	12	6
Jonathan Jennings	1	14	1
Joseph Jennings	3	4	11
Stephen Jennings			
John James			
Samuel King	0	9	5
Benjamin Knowlton	1	5	0
Samuel Kent			
John Killum			
Edward Kellogg			
Joseph Kellogg			
John Lawrence			
Joseph Marks, Sr.	1	6	7
Joseph Marks, Jr.	1	4	6
John Morse	0	9	5
Thomas Millett			
Joseph Marber			
Joseph Mason			
Daniel McIntosh			
Tilly Merrick			
Nicholas Nichols			
James Negro			
Wm. Old	1	4	6
Jabez Olmstead	1	5	4
Samuel Owen, Sr.	1	4	6
Samuel Owen, Jr.	1	9	4
Robert Old			
John Parsons	1	18	3
Thomas Parsons	1	5	9
Samuel Partridge (Col.)	0	15	8
Goldsbery Partridge (Col.)	0	12	6
John Perry	0	14	2
Joseph Perry	1	3	10
Henry Peters	0	6	3
Ebenezer Pomroy (capt.)	0	12	6
Samuel Porter (esq.)	0	18	9
Daniel Price	2	0	2
John Pynchon (col.)	5	5	0
John Pynchon (capt.)	0	12	6
Wm. Prichard			
Thomas Parsons			
Samuel Prichet			
John Petter			
James Petter			
George Phillips			
Ebenezer Prescott			
John Rich	0	12	16
Thomas Rich	1	4	6
Thomas Rich, (Sr. heirs)	0	13	2
Amos Rice	1	4	6
Azariah Rice	1	4	6
Cyprian Rice	1	5	7
Elisha Rice	1	16	0
Pelatiah Rice	1	4	6
Joseph Rice			
Obadiah Rice			
Peter Rice			
John Shepherd	1	4	6
John Stoddard (maj.)	0	15	8
Samuel Smith (m.)			
Preserved Smith			
Ichabod Smith			
Ebenezer Smith			
Peter Shanaoway			
Samuel Swazey			
Samuel Swazey (m.)			
Isaac Shattuck			
Henry Taylor, (heirs)	0	4	2
James Travis			
Judah Trumble			
Matthew Tomblin			
Isaac Tomblin			
Benjamin Thomas			
Henry Taylor			
Arthur Tucker			
John Wait	0	15	8
Jerre Wait	0	15	8
John Wait	0	15	8
Joseph Wait	0	15	8
John Belding	0	15	8
Joseph Smith	0	15	8
Benjamin Walker	0	12	6
Edward Walker, (Sr.)	2	15	8
Edward Walker, (Jr.)	1	4	6
Joseph Walker	0	12	6
David Wedge	0	18	3
Samuel Wheeler	1	9	4
John White, (heirs)	1	5	0
Samuel Williams, (lieut.)	0	17	5
John Woolcott, (Sr.)	2	10	9
John Warner			
Nathaniel Warner			
Samuel Warner			
Thomas Wilson			
John Woolcott, (Jr.)			
Joseph Woolcott			
Nathaniel Wood			
John Younglove			

CHAPTER LXXIX.

BROOKFIELD.—(*Continued.*)

Up to the year 1718 the town of Brookfield through all the vicissitudes of its life can hardly be said to have enjoyed full municipal privileges. To a certain extent it had been under the guardianship of the committee appointed first by the Massachusetts Colony Court and after the charter of the Province of Massachusetts Bay in 1692 by the government of that province. This committee had always been composed of trustworthy men, and there seems to be no record of any serious dissatisfaction on the part of the people with their administration. In the above year the committee then in commission asked to be discharged from the further performance of their duties in the following petition:

To His Excellency, Samuel Shute, Esq., and the Honbl. Council and House of Representatives, convened in General Court the 28th of May, 1718.

We undersigned, the Committee for Brookfield, after many Disappointments by warr and otherwise, which for a long time the people have laboured under, by the good providence of God are now so increased that they are now near fifty families on the place have near finished a very convenient meeting-house, have settled a church and ordained an orthodox and learned Minister. We humbly propose that they be made a Township according to the directions of the Law by themselves & said Committee released—which we submit to the Courts' determination. And for your Excellency and Honor's shall ever pray.

SAMUEL PARTRIDGE, } *Committee*
SAMUEL PORTER, } *for*
LUKE HITCHCOCK, } *Brookfield.*

This petition was granted and the following order was passed by the House of Representatives, November 12, 1718, and after concurrence by the Council, was consented to by Governor Shute:

Ordered that the prayer's of this petition be granted, and that the Inhabitants of the Town of Brookfield be invested with all the powers, privileges and authorities to direct, order and manage all the affairs of said Township that other towns are or ought to be invested with. And that the Committee be dismist from the care of them with the thanks of this Court for their good and faithful service. The said Town to lye to the County of Hampshire.

The first town meeting was held on the 15th of December, 1718, at which Philip Goss acted as moderator and Thomas Gilbert was chosen treasurer and clerk. At an adjourned meeting at which Thomas Baker acted as moderator, Thomas Barns, Philip Goss, Elisha Rice, Samuel Barns and Thomas Gilbert were chosen assessors; Tilly Merrick, Joseph Brabrook and Thomas Parsons a committee to examine town debts; Joseph Jennings and Joseph Banister measurers, and Elisha Rice, Thomas Gibbs and Jonathan Jennings a committee "to see that the grants made by the former committee do pay equal proportion to the rate committed to Constable Walker to collect for the meeting-house." At this meeting it was voted that Tilly Merrick, Henry Gilbert, Edward Walker and Joseph Jennings be a committee to see that the town is supplied by the grist-mill with meal according to an arrangement which had been made with John Hayward. The grist-mill here referred to was built on land granted to Mr. Hayward about the year 1706. The grant included "forty acres of upland in the west part of the town, and fifteen acres of meadows; also seventy acres joining the first lot and twenty-four acres of meadows for his encouragement to build a grist-mill in Brookfield, and on condition that he maintain the same in such repair as the town may be supplied at all times with grinding from said mill for the term of twenty-five years." The mill was built on the New Mill Brook, and according to Mr. Temple, the remains of its dam may be seen near the home of Mr. Sexton Douglass.

The first year after what might be called the second birth of the town, was characterized by a movement to establish public schools. On the 5th of January, 1719–20, the town granted forty acres of land for a school, and it is probable that a school was opened near that time. On the 23d of January, 1728, it was voted that a school be built in four several places in town, the town to be divided into four parts by a committee, consisting of Wm. Old, Ephraim Hayward, Wm. Ayres, Samuel Barns and John Hinds, and twenty pounds were appropriated for the salary of a school-master. On the 15th of May, 1732, it was voted to direct the selectmen to hire four women to keep school, and the sum of fifty pounds was appropriated. On the 23d of November, 1739, it was voted to have two school-masters, and the sum of one hundred pounds was appropriated. In 1746 the town granted one hundred and fifty pounds, old tenor, for the support of a grammar school, and in 1749, three hundred pounds, of the same tenor. But it is not necessary to follow the evolution of the school system of the town, and state the various steps by which its present condition has been reached. It was voted by the town after the three precincts were formed, that each precinct should have the care of its schools, and from that time each precinct raised its own school money, selected teachers, and had the general management of education within its borders. There are at present in the town fifteen schools, including the high school. These are the high school, a grammar, first intermediate, second intermediate, first primary and second primary, in the centre village, a grammar, intermediate, first primary and second primary, in the east village, the Potopoag, Rice Corner, Upper Podunk, Lower Podunk and the school over the river, with enrollments numbering six hundred and thirty-eight and average membership of five hundred and thirteen.

Little of interest occurred in the life of the town until 1744. There had been occasional alarms on account of Indian raids, and at various times companies of men had been raised to serve as scouts, and proper safeguards had been adopted. Brookfield was now scarcely enumerated among the border towns, and its people lived to a certain extent behind the shield and shelter which newer towns farther to the west and north had raised to protect them. Sheffield had been incorporated in 1733, Stockbridge, in 1739, Deerfield in 1682, Northfield in 1713, Saunderland in 1714, Brimfield in 1731, Westfield in 1669, Hatfield in 1670 and Sturbridge in 1738. But, nevertheless, occasional Indian attacks served to keep them on the watch, and to more or less obstruct and delay that development of business and trade which the older and better guarded settlements on the seaboard enjoyed.

With the settlement of new towns a new adjustment of counties became necessary. Middlesex and Suffolk counties, incorporated in 1643, had become with the incorporation of new towns disproportionately large, and an exigency seemed to exist for the formation of a new county. In the adjustment which ensued the town of Brookfield was involved. On the 2d of April, 1731, an Act was framed incorporating Worcester County, which included Worcester, Lancaster, Westborough, Shrewsbury, Southborough, Leicester, Rutland and Lunenburgh, which had previously been

included in Middlesex county, Mendon, Woodstock, Oxford, Sutton and Uxbridge, which had before been included in Suffolk county, and Brookfield, which as has already been stated, had previously been included in Hampshire county.

In March, 1744, war was declared between England and France, and what has always been known in our history as the old French and Indian War, followed until the treaty of Aix la Chapelle, in October, 1748. In this war several Brookfield men took a prominent part. Joseph Dwight commanded a regiment in the expedition against Louisburg; Jabez Olmstead commanded a company in the same expedition, and the following soldiers entered into the service of the province:

Jonathan Clary, drummer,
Benjamin Gilbert, ensign,
Eleazer Haywood,
Edward Smith,
Thomas Buckminster, captain,
Joseph Allen, lieutenant,
Noah Ashley, ensign,
Benj. Ruggles, sergeant,
Ephraim Hayward, sergeant,
Gershom Makepeace, clerk,
Edward Walker, corporal,
Simeon Dwight, "
John Wait, "

Sentinels.

James Converse,
Andrew Cowee,
Obadiah Cooley,
John Bell,
Joseph Banister,
Uriah Bush,
John Blair,
Thomas Banister,
Samuel Bascom,
Peter Blackmer,
Elijah Bartlett,
Jude Converse,
Gideon Cooley,
Thomas Gilbert,
William Dady,
Samuel Hinckley,
John Hamilton,
Moses Hascall,
Hopestill Hinds,
Nehemiah Hinds,
Jacob Hinds,
Samuel Galloon,
Dudley Jordan,
Solomon Keyes, Jr.,
Richard Marks,
Silas Newton,
Phinehas Powers,
Thomas Rich,
Solomon Rich,
Nathan Smith,
William Shepherd,
John Steward,
Simeon Dwight,
Phinehas Warner,
Henry White,
Isaac White,
Joseph Warner,
James Patterson.

In the second French and Indian War, extending from 1754 to 1763, Brookfield also performed her full share in furnishing men. Her soldiers in this war, without specifying the commands to which they were attached or the special service in which they were engaged, were:

Martin How,
Arthur Tucker,
John Tute,
William Hair,
Wm. Brabrook,
Caleb Dodge,
Ephraim Hayward,
Levi Hamilton,
Seth Hamilton,
Joseph Waite,
Thomas Waite,
Nathaniel Woolcott, corporal,
David Hinckley,
Jonathan Waite,
Jedathun Baldwin captain,
Wm. Dorothy,
Comfort Barns,
Thomas Barns, corporal,
Joseph Gilbert,
John Green,
Thomas Stevens,
Joseph Rutland,
Daniel Walker,
Benjamin Wood,
Corlis Hinds,
Jedediah How,
Simeon Walker,
Levi Walker,
Sylvanus Walker,
Joseph Witt,
Josiah Wood,
Jonathan Gilbert, sergeant,
Oliver Woolcott, corporal,
Silas Walker, corporal,
Joel Abbott,
Onesiphorus Ayres,
Stephen Blackmer,
Simeon Brooks,
John Davis,
Oliver Evans,
David Gilbert,
Ebenezer Hayward,
Eleazer Warner,
Joseph Hamilton, sergeant,
Abraham Adams,
Nathan Hamilton,
John McClure,
Phinehas Slayton,
Solomon Rood,
Jacob Wood,
Peter Harwood, ensign,
Wm. Blackmer,
Daniel Ainsworth,
Joseph Barr,
Adoniram Bartlett,
Daniel Beman,
Samuel Bliss,
Thomas Cheney,
Henry Chadwick,
James Clark,
Robert Clark,
Josiah Cutler,
Robert Cutler,
Samuel Dorothy,
Josiah Farrell,
Ebenezer Foster, Jr.,
Wm. Gallaway,
David Mitchell,
Nathan Gould,
Jason Hinds,
Abraham How, Jr.,
Amos Marsh,
Joshua Morris,
Joseph Old,
Wm. Ranger,
Isaac Rice,
John Rice,
Daniel Walker,
Benj. Gott, surgeon's mate,
Comfort Brabrook,
Nathan Thompson,
Samuel Barns,
Uriah Gilbert,
Joseph Walker,
Thomas Riggs,
Breed Batcheller,
Jedediah Deland,
Jonathan Dodge,
Walter Dorothy,
John Goldsbury,
Abraham Hair,
Wm. Ranger,
John Woolcott,
Gideon Abbott,
Thomas Weeks,
Wm. Ayres, Jr.,
Edward Ayres,
Eliphalet Hamilton,
John Adams,
Ebenezer Davis,
Solomon Flagg,
Abner Old,
Caleb How,
Joseph Hatfield,
Philip Reed,
Henry White,
John Williams,
Ezekiel Woodbury,
Samuel Church,
Philip Gilbert,
Obadiah Cooley, captain,
Moses Barns, clerk,
Cornelius White, sergeant,
Moses Jennings, corporal,
Asa Bacon,
Christopher Banister,
Moses Bragg,
Jabez Crosby,
John Goss,
Joseph Gilbert,
Peter Hill,
Caleb How,
Ebenezer Killen,
Adoniram Walker,
Joseph Walker,
Jeremiah Woodbury,
John Walker,
John Gibson,
Wm. Virgin,
David Palmer,
David Gilbert, Jr.,
Jedediah Gilbert,
Obadiah Wright,
Daniel Gilbert,
Philip Goss,
Robert Claflin, Jr.,
Thomas Cook,
Joseph Stone, lieutenant,
Daniel Matthews, corporal,
Nath[l]. Paige, corporal,
Philip Deland, drummer,
Jabez Ayres,
Joseph Banister,
Matthew Bartlett,
Obadiah Deland,
Josiah Dodge,
Samuel Gould,
John Ranger,
John Rich,
Thomas Slayton,
Nathan Smith,
Elijah Temple,
Reuben Walker,
Wm. Wright,
Peter Harwood,
Joseph Perry,
Amos Tate,
Asa Lamson,
Joseph Barns,
Solomon Gilbert,
Eliakim Spooner,
James Thompson.

Besides the above, the following muster-rolls are on record of men enlisting in 1757 for various terms of service, many of whom had before enlisted:

Captain Nathaniel Woolcott's Cmpany:

Abraham How, lieutenant.
Benjamin Adams, ensign.
Thomas Taylor, ensign.
Aaron Bartlett, corporal.
Wm. Watson, corporal.
Wm. Ayers, corporal.
Daniel Gilbert, corporal.
Moses Ayres.
Onesiph Ayres.
Wm. Ayres (3d).
John Baker.
Jeremiah Gould.
Nathan Gould.
Samuel Gould, Jr.
John Hair.
Timothy Hall.
Joseph Hatfield, Jr.
Oliver Hayward.
Corlis Hinds.
Caleb How.
Ephraim How.
Abram How.

Jacob Ball.
Thomas Ball.
Aaron Barns.
Adoniram Bartlett.
Zacariah Brown.
Joseph Bartlett.
Matthew Bartlett.
Nathaniel Bartlett.
Samuel Chapman.
Benjamin Cooley.
Nahum Eager.
Solomon Flagg.
John Goodale.
Joseph Gilbert.
Jedediah How, Jr.
Silas How.
Nathl. Jones.
Asa Lamson.
John Lamson.
Daniel Mathews.
Daniel Patten.
Joseph Stone.
Arthur Tucker.
Daniel Witt.
John Woolcott.
Oliver Woolcott.
Wm. Wright.

Captain Jabez Upham's Company:

Obadiah Cooley, lieutenant.
John White, lieutenant.
Benj. Walker, ensign.
Ebenezer Jennings, sergeant.
Nathan Hamilton, sergeant.
Wm. Old, sergeant.
Benj. Rice, sergeant.
James Brigham, corporal.
Josiah Hobbs, corporal.
Ezekiel Old, corporal.
Philip Deland, corporal.
Gideon Abbott.
Abraham Adams,
Abraham Adams, Jr.
David Aiken.
Joseph Banister.
Seth Banister.
John Belenger.
Moses Bragg.
David Bridge.
Uriah Bush.
James Converse.
Jabez Crosby.
Ebenezer Davis.
Daniel Deland.
Obadiah Deland.
Thomas Dodge.
John Green.
Stephen Green.
Amos Hamilton, Jr.
Josiah Hamilton.
Eliphalet Hamilton.
John Hamilton.
Ezra Hamilton.
Thomas Hamilton.
Wm. Henshaw.
Eben Hayward, Jr.
Samuel Hinckley.
John Jennings.
Moses Jennings.
Benj. Jennings.
David McClure.
John McClure.
Comfort Old.
Reuben Old.
Asa Partridge.
Asahel Peters.
Daniel Rolf.
John Ranger.
Ephraim Rice.
Jonas Rice.
Oliver Rice.
Solomon Rice.
Samuel Rogers.
Phinehas Slayton.
Thomas Slayton.
Josiah Stephens.
Roger Stephens.
John Waite, Jr,
Abraham Walker.
Adoniram Walker.
Joseph Walker.
Edward Walker.
Phinehas Walker.
Reuben Walker.
Daniel Walker.
John Woolcott.
Ithamar Wright.
Obadiah Wright.
Richard Vorci.

In Captain Jacob Abbott's Company:

Thomas Gilbert, lieutenant.
Abner Brown, ensign.
Jonathan Abbott, clerk.
Joseph Wood, sergeant.
Robert Claflin.
Uriah Abbott.
Caleb Dodge.
Josiah Dodge.
Walter Dorothy.
Abner Gilbert.
John Gilbert.
Othniel Gilbert.
Philip Gilbert.
Seth Gilbert.
John Goss.
Peter Hill.
Joseph Loring.
Abraham Martin.
Stephen Martin.
David Palmer.
John Peso.
John Phipps.
Wm. Ranger.
Moses Rich.
Philip Rich.
Thomas Rich.
James Rooff.
Charles Rice.
Wm. Tuffs.
John Watt.
Samuel White.
Jeremiah Woodbury.

In Captain William Paige's Hardwick Company:

Silas Walker, sergeant.
Gideon Walker, sergeant.
Caleb Dodge, sergeant.
Joel Abbott, corporal.
Wm. Ranger, corporal.
Rufus Putnam, corporal.
Josiah Dodge.
Charles Dorothy.
Josiah Gibbs,
Thomas Gilbert (3d).
Amos Hamilton.
Nathan Hamilton.
Breed Batcheller, drummer.
Gideon Abbott.
Jacob Ainsworth.
Asa Bacon.
Nathan Barns.
Wm. Batcheller.
Zeph Batcheller.
Thomas Brown.
Samuel Chapman.
Robert Chaplin, Jr.
Jedediah Deland.
Daniel Deland.
Jonathan Dodge.
Wm. Henderson,
Elisha How.
Asa Lamson.
Thomas McClure.
Abner Old.
David Patrick.
Thomas Ranger.
Asahel Rogers.
Roger Stevens.
Wm. Tuffs.
Isaac Walker.
Jacob Walker.
Samuel White.

In Capt. Sylvanus Walker's Company, 1758

Eliphalet Hamilton, lieut.
Daniel Walker, ens.
Thomas Riggs, sergt.
Reuben Old, sergt.
Christ: Banister, sergt.
Obed Abbott, corp.
David Gilbert, corp.
James McClure, corp.
Ebenezer Davis,
Abner Gilbert,
Nathan Goodale,
Erastus Hamilton,
Job Lane.
Cyrus Rich,
Moses Rich,
Daniel Rolfe,
David Slayton,
Gad Smith,
Reuben Stevens,
Arthur Tucker,
Benj. Walker, Jr.
Oliver Walker,
Zebulon Walker,
Henry Wisdom,
Isaac Wood.

In Capt. David McFarland's Worcester Company, 1758.

Jonathan Dodge, sergt.
Ebenezer Heyward, corp.
Charles Dorothy,
Abraham Gilbert,
Nathan Hamilton,
Cornelius Hinds,
Stephen Jennings,
Abner Old,
Samuel Robinson,
Daniel Rolfe,
Jonathan Streeter,
Samuel Streeter,
Josiah White,
Jacob Wood.

In Capt. Wm. Paige's Hardwick Company, 1760.

Daniel Walker, lieut.
Zeph Batcheller, sergt.
Obadiah Wright, sergt.
Ebenezer Davis, sergt.
Nathan Abbott,
Jonathan Barns,
Nathan Barns,
Wm. Batcheller,
Comfort Gilbert,
Ezekiel Gilbert,
John Goodale,
Nathan Goodale,
Solomon Goodale,
Caleb Green,
Elijah How,
John McFarland,
Asa Partridge,
Asahel Rogers,
Ezra Rood,
Gad Smith,
Aaron Tute,
Nathan Tyler,
Zebulon Walker,
Thomas Weeks,
John Woolcott.

There were others enlisting in various companies in 1758 and afterwards, many of whose names are included in the above lists, in connection with an earlier service. These were Rev. Eli Forbes, chaplain in the Crown Point expedition, Francis Stone, David Getchell, Stephen Ayres, Ephraim Ayres, Solomon Cummings, Daniel Dodge, Chas. Dorothy, Jacob Getchell, Henry Gilbert, Jesse Gilbert, Moses Gilbert, Jonas Hayward, William Mace, Samuel Palmer, Daniel Rolfe, Caleb Thayer, Nathaniel Wait, Richard Wait, Solomon Walker, Zebulon Walker, Samuel Whiston, Samuel White, John Fletcher, Beamsley Pottle, David Pratt, Job Smith, Lemuel Smith, Jesse Vose, John Whetstone, Asa Humphreys, James Wesson.

But we must return to the narration of some events which occurred just before and during these wars. The growth of the town up to the year 1741 may be estimated to have been considerable, from the fact

that in that year sundry inhabitants in the southwest part of the town joined with inhabitants in parts of Brimfield and of a district then called Kingsfield, but afterwards, in 1752, incorporated as the town of Palmer, and petitioned the General Court to be set off and incorporated as the town of Western, now Warren. The act of incorporation obtained by them, passed January 16, 1741, provided that the new town should consist of lands bounded as follows:

Beginning at Brookfield, southwest corner, then running half a mile north on said Brookfield line; then west thirty-four degrees, north three miles and eighty rods to the river and bounded with a small walnut staddle standing in the split of a rock; thence running up the river to an elm tree marked; thence crossing the river and running north forty-four degrees east about three miles and an half to Brookfield west line to a heap of stones near a chestnut tree marked; and running east eleven degrees and thirty minutes; south one mile and an hundred and fifty rods, to a heap of stones on a rock at the end of a meadow on mill pond, then bounded on Cornelius White's land, till it comes to Mill Brook, so called; then bounded with the Mill Brook to the river, as the brook runs; then crossing the river and extending southeasterly to a white oak tree, known by the name of the northeast corner of the mile square; thence extending southeasterly to Brookfield south line, intersecting that line two miles and three-quarters from said first mentioned southwest corner bounds.

On the 11th of December, 1747, Rev. Thomas Cheney, the first settled pastor of the church, died. Mr. Cheney was born in Roxbury, January 29, 1688–89, and was the son of William and Rebecca (Newell) Cheney. He graduated at Harvard College in 1711, and married two wives,—the first Dorothy, daughter of Joseph Hawley, of Northampton; and second, Mary, great-granddaughter of Rev. John Cotton, of Boston. The death of Mr. Cheney and the loss of a portion of the southwestern section of the town, changing its geographical centre, stimulated a movement for the formation of a second precinct in the northerly part of the township.

Ebenezer Witt and others petitioned the town in that year to build a new meeting-house as near the new centre as possible, or set them off as a distinct precinct. At the annual meeting in March the town refused to grant the petition, and voted down both propositions, concerning the meeting-house and the precinct.

In the mean time, Rev. Elisha Harding, a graduate of Harvard in 1745, was invited to settle, and on the 28th of November, 1748, the town concurred with the church in the invitation, and at an adjourned meeting, on the 22d of December, voted, after considerable debate, as the record states, one thousand pounds, old tenor currency, "for his encouragement to settle in the Gospel ministry," and for his annual salary the sum of five hundred pounds, old tenor, "accounting it as though it be in Indian corn, at twenty shillings a bushel; Rye, thirty shillings; Wheat, forty shillings —and so the five hundred pounds to be increased or diminished yearly, as the prices of the grain varied." He was also to have free liberty to cut wood for fuel on the common land of the town, known by the name of the Rocks.

In estimating these amounts, it must be remembered that what was called old tenor currency was in value only one-tenth of sterling—that is, that one thousand pounds of old tenor was really only one hundred pounds in sterling.

Mr. Harding was ordained September 13, 1749, on which occasion Rev. Nathan Buckman preached the sermon. After the settlement of Mr. Harding, the dissatisfaction of the people in the north part of the town continued, and on the 29th of March, 1750, the second or north precinct was incorporated. Previous to that date, the town having signified that the formation of the precinct would be assented to in case fifty or more persons signed a request therefor, in less than ten days after such a condition was agreed upon more than the requisite number of signatures had been obtained, and thus, with the assurance that no further objection would be raised, a meeting-house was begun in April, 1749.

On the 16th of the following October a covenant was signed by forty-two of the inhabitants, and some dissatisfaction having manifested itself with the location of the meeting-house, then still unfinished, it was agreed to submit the location to the arbitration of disinterested men. The location, as originally selected, was approved and the building by slow degrees went on to its completion.

The incorporation of the second precinct was granted by the General Court in response to a petition signed by Thomas Hale and fifty-six others, reciting the grievances under which the inhabitants of the north part of the town labored and the advantages of a separate precinct. The order of the court, passed by the House of Representatives March 28, 1750, passed in concurrence by the Council March 29 and consented to by Spencer Phipps, Governor, was "that the prayer of the petition be so far granted as that the petitioners, with their families and estates, together with such persons and their estates who shall, within three months from this time, signify their desire therefor under their hands to the clerk of the town of Brookfield, be and they hereby are set off a distinct Parish, and are endowed with all the privileges and subjected to all the duties which the other inhabitants of Parishes are by the laws of this Province endowed with or subjected to—Provided, their possessions do not exceed one-third part of the said town of Brookfield for quantity and quality."

On the 21st of May, 1750, a meeting of the precinct was held at the house of Jabez Ayres, in accordance with a warrant issued by John Chandler, Jr., Esq., at which William Ayres acted as Moderator. At this meeting the following officers were chosen: Wm. Ayres, Precinct Clerk; Wm. Ayres, Ebenezer Witt, Samuel Gould, Noah Harris and Benjamin Adams, Precinct Committee; Joseph Stone, Collector, and Wm. Ayres, Samuel Gould, Wm. Witt, Jason Bigelow and Moses Ayres, Assessors. On the 21st of September, 1750, it was voted by the precinct to raise by assessment on the polls and estates £13,

6*s*. 8*d*. to supply the precinct with preaching, and in 1751 forty pounds were raised for the same purpose. In 1752 Rev. Eli Forbes was invited te settle with the sum of one hundred and twenty pounds as a settlement, and £53. 6*s*. 8*d* as an annual salary. The final salary agreed on was after 1767 to be £66. 13*s*. 4*d*, and thirty cords of wood a year. The church was organized May 28, 1752, and on June 3d, Mr. Forbes was ordained.

The covenant was signed by twenty-six males and twenty-two females, as follows: Eli Forbes, John Watson, Jabez Ayres, Ebenezer Witt, Noah Barns, John Cutler, Benjamin Adams, Abram How, Ammiel Weeks, Ichabod How, Abner Taylor, Thomas Hale, Uriah Gilbert, Joseph Stone, Moses Ayres, Charles Adams, Moses Barnes, Jason Biglow, Nathan Stevens, Thomas Taylor, Ephraim Cutler, Daniel Newell, Jonathan Gilbert, Aaron Barns, Isaac Cutler, John Witt, Esther Watson, Mary Tucker, Martha How, Sarah Stone, Abigail Cutler, Rebecca Witt, Mary Witt, Abigail Gilbert, Hannah Barns, Rebecca Ayres, Esther Gilbert, Elizabeth Gilbert, Miriam Newell, Sarah Ayres, Rebecca Adams, Persis Adams, Naomi Taylor, Annah Barns, Phebe How, Mary Hale, Mary Stevens, Hannah Bartlett.

The ministry of Mr. Forbes continued until March 1, 1775, and June 5, 1776, he was installed over the first church in Gloucester, where he died December 15, 1804. His dismission, given at his own urgent request, was the result of indignities shown him in consequence of his suspected disloyalty. It is undoubtedly true that he was not by nature an enthusiast and did not enter into the revolutionary spirit with extreme ardor, but his immediate settlement and satisfactory ministry in Gloucester precludes the belief that he entertained other than patriotic sentiments during his residence in Brookfield. Mr. Forbes entered Harvard College in 1744 and during his freshman year enlisted in the Provincial army during the first French and Indian War. After his discharge he returned to college and graduated in 1751 in the class with Judge William Cushing, Rev. Mather Byles and Rev. John Willard, receiving the degree of S. T. D. from his Alma Mater in 1804, the year of his death.

On the 23d of May, 1776, a call was given to the Rev. Joseph Appleton, of Ipswich, a graduate at Brown University in 1772, to succeed Mr. Forbes in the ministry, with the offer of one hundred and thirty-three pounds, sixteen shillings and eight pence as a settlement, and of seventy pounds as an annual salary for two years and eighty pounds afterward. Mr. Appleton was ordained October 3, 1776, and died in his pastorate July 25, 1794.

Rev. Thomas Snell succeeded Mr. Appleton and was ordained June 27, 1798, and continued in his pastorate until his death, May 4, 1862, with a salary never exceeding five hundred dollars a year. He was born in Cummington November 21, 1774, and graduated at Dartmouth College in 1795. Until September 21, 1851, for fifty-three years he was the sole pastor and senior pastor, with a colleague from that date until his death closed a ministry of sixty-four years. At this point the sketch of the Second Precinct will be closed in this narrative. as that precinct was incorporated as the town of North Brookfield in 1812 and will be found further referred to in the history of that town in another part of this County History.

After the incorporation of the Second Precinct a movement was initiated in the First Precinct to build a new meeting-house. The question of location became a serious one and three localities were proposed —the site of the old house on the hill, the plain and Mr. Seth Banister's lawn. The plain was in what is now West Brookfield, Mr. Banister's lawn was in what is now Brookfield and the hill was between the two. The people of the west village, though preferring the plain, were willing to compromise on the old site on the hill but the people of the south village would consent to nothing but the lawn within their own special territory. The people of the south part formed a majority of the First Parish and at a meeting held November 20, 1753, it was voted to build a meeting house on the height near Seth Banister's house. On the 4th of December Jedediah Foster, Abner Brown, John Goss and forty others living in the west part asked to have the parish divided into two, equal as to quantity and quality of lands and number of inhabitants. The majority objected to the terms and conditions of the petition, but were willing that the petitioners themselves might be set off as another parish. In the meantime the erection of the meeting-house went on and the petitioners in the west part applied to the General Court for an injunction. Without, however, going further into the details of the controversy it is sufficient to state that on the 8th of November, 1754, an act was passed by the General Court incorporating a third precinct and making an addition to the Second Precinct, which was incorporated in March, 1750. The following is the text of the Act:

WHEREAS, it is made evident to this court that the annexing some of the inhabitants of the first precinct in the town of Brookfield, with their lands, to the second precinct in said town, and the dividing the remainder of said first precinct into two precincts would serve very much to remove many difficulties and inconveniencies which divers of the inhabitants of said first precinct at present labour under, and also very much to accommodate the greatest part of the inhabitants of said first precinct,—

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and House of Representatives,

SECT. 1. That all the lands in the present first precinct in said town, lying northward of a line beginning at the northeast corner of George Harrington's lands, upon Spencer line, and running westward by his, the said George's lands, to Five Mile River Bridge at the country road; from thence westerly on the most southerly parts and lines of the lands of Thomas Slayton, Captain Nathaniel Woolcet, Thomas Moor, Ebenezer Jennings, John Jennings, Obadiah Rice, Wm. Parks, Josiah Converse, Francis Dodge, Paul Deland, the heirs of John Green, deceased, Stephen Green and Joseph Ranger, Jun.; and from said Ranger's southwest corner to the southwest corner of Wm. Ayres' meadow, on Coy's Brook, so-called, near the place where the old school-house stood; and from thence northward on the most eastward parts and lines of the

lands of John Tuff and Josiah Gilbert, and on the most westward parts and lines of the land of Jeremiah Woodbury and John Hill to Abner Tyler's land; and from thence on the most eastward part and lines of the lands of Jacob Abbot and Joshua Dodge and Joshua Dodge, Jun., to the center line of said town; and from thence all the lands eastward of that part of said center line, which is northward of the place where the above described line meets with the said center line to New Braintree District be and hereby are annexed to the second precinct in said town of Brookfield; and that all those persons that now are or hereafter may be inhabitants on said lands, be and hereby are incorporated with the second precinct, and shall be always hereafter obliged to do all precinct duties, and shall receive all precinct privileges in the said second precinct.

And be it further enacted,

SECT. 2. That the remainder of the lands in the said first precinct in said town of Brookfield be divided into two precincts in manner following, viz.: the dividing line shall begin at the southeast corner of Paul Deland's land, and shall run from thence to the country road in said Brookfield, so as to take in and include all John Rich's land where he dwells, into the West Precinct or division; and from said country road said dividing line shall run in the midst of the town road that leads southward from said country road to the river called Quabaug River, to the southeast corner of Ephraim Bartlet's land; and from thence westward, southward of all Ephraim Bartlet's and Obadiah Wright's land, to Quaboag River; and from thence the said river shall be the dividing line down said river to the mouth of Salmon Brook; and from thence the dividing line shall run straight to a large white oak tree standing in the northeast corner of a tract of land called the Mile Square; said tree being a boundary between the townships of Brookfield and Western; and that the lands lying in the said town of Brookfield (and not included in the second precinct) westward of the above dividing line be and hereby are made a precinct by the name of the First Precinct in the Town of Brookfield; and that the inhabitants of said land westward of the said dividing line above described be and hereby are invested with all the powers and privileges and subjected to all the duties that precincts in this province by law are invested with and subjected to; and that the lands lying in the said town of Brookfield (and not included in the second precinct), eastward of the above dividing line be and hereby are made a separate precinct by the name of the Third Precinct in the Town of Brookfield; and that the inhabitants of the said lands eastward of the said dividing line above described be and hereby are invested with all the powers and privileges and subjected to all the duties that precincts in this province by law are invested with and subjected to, and be it further enacted,

SECT. 3. That all the inhabitants of the lands which by this act are made the first precinct and all the inhabitants of those lands which by this act are annexed to the said second precinct be and hereby are and shall forever hereafter be exempted from paying or contributing any part towards the charges and debts that have already arisen or may hereafter arise by reason of the building the new meeting house which has lately been erected in said town on the lands by this act made the third precinct in said town, any of the votes of the late first precinct notwithstanding; and that all the materials of the old meeting-house which was lately standing in said town was taken down be equally divided between the said three precincts; and that all the ministerial revenues arising from all and any lands lying in any part of the said town of Brookfield heretofore sequestered to the use of the ministry in said town shall be always hereafter equally divided between the said three precincts; and that the charge of the committee who were appointed by this court in April, one thousand seven hundred and fifty-four, to view the said town be borne and paid by the inhabitants of said town.

On the 22d of January, 1755, the people of the first precinct voted to build a meeting-house "at the turning of the county rode, near the northeast corner of a plow-field belonging to John Barns, being on the plain in said first precinct." It was to be forty-five feet long and thirty-five feet wide, and so far as can be learned it was finished without serious delay. The question now arose as to which church the Rev. Mr. Harding belonged. The General Court had provided that the estates of the first parish should be held for the payment of his salary up to the time of the division, but did not determine his future relation. Owing to the embarrassments attending this question he was at his own request dismissed May 8, 1755. Two years later, February 1, 1757, Rev. Nehemiah Strong, of Hadley, was chosen pastor to succeed Mr. Harding, but declined on account of the insufficiency of the proposed salary. Rev. Joseph Parsons, of Bradford, a graduate at Harvard, in 1752, was then called and was ordained November 23, 1757. Mr. Parsons served until his death, in 1771, when he was followed by Rev. Ephraim Ward, a graduate at Harvard in 1763. Mr. Ward was ordained October 23, 1771, and served until his death, in 1818. Rev. Eliakim Phelps was settled as his colleague October 23, 1816, and after a service of ten years and two days, two years as colleague and eight years as pastor, he resigned October, 1826 and assumed the preceptorship of the Brookfield "Classical Female School." On the day of the dismission of Mr. Phelps Rev. Joseph I. Foote was installed, and after six years' service retired, and died on the day before his proposed inauguration as President of Washington College, in the State of Tennessee. Mr. Foote was succeeded by Rev. Francis Horton, a Harvard graduate of 1826. His ministry began August 15, 1832, and continued to September 15, 1841. Rev. Moses Chase was settled January 12, 1842, and was followed by Rev. Leonard S. Parker, a graduate of Oberlin Collegiate Institute, December 19, 1844. During his pastorate the first precinct was incorporated as West Brookfield in 1848, and for a continued sketch of the parish reference must be had to the history of that town in these volumes.

On the 15th of April, 1756, the third precinct, which is now the town of Brookfield, was organized with a membership of twenty-five males and fourteen females. The Rev. Nathan Fiske, a graduate of Harvard, in the class of 1754, was ordained May 24, 1758. He was in the class with John Hancock, Daniel Treadwell and Samuel West, and received the degree of S. T.D., in 1792. His pastorate continued until his death, May 24, 1799, when he was succeeded by Rev. Michael Stone, who was ordained March 11, 1801.

In 1827 the society became Unitarian, and settled Rev. George R. Noyes October 30, 1827, who remained six years, and afterwards became professor of sacred literature in Harvard University. Mr. Noyes was a graduate of Harvard in 1818. Rev. Seth Alden followed, remaining ten years, and was followed November 8, 1845, by William B. Greene, a graduate of West Point, who, in the war of 1861, commanded a regiment of Massachusetts Heavy Artillery. Rev. S. S. Hunting succeeded October 5, 1852; Rev. R. D. Burr November 18, 1858; Rev. Edward I. Galvin April 15, 1863; Rev. A. Judson Rich October 31, 1870, and later by Rev. Henry W. Woude and Rev. Samuel Hamlet. The society is at present without a pastor.

On the retirement of Mr. Stone from the society, at the time of its change of theological belief, a new society was organized called the Evangelical Society

of Brookfield, and he became its pastor. Rev. Richard Woodruff was selected as his colleague February 5, 1838, and dismissed September 12 in the same year. On the day of his dismissal Rev. Washington A. Nichols was ordained as colleague, and remained until January 11, 1843. Rev. Lyman Whiting was ordained on the day of the dismissal of Mr. Nichols, and remained four years. Mr. Stone died in September, 1852. He was followed by Rev. Jesse R. Bragg, who remained eight years; Rev. Josiah Coit, who remained seven years; Rev. Joel M. Seymour, who officiated from 1873 to 1876, and afterwards by Rev. Charles E. Stebbins. The Revs. Charles P. Blanchard, A. F. Schaufflin and Charles F. Moore have at various times supplied the pulpit, but at present the society is without a pastor.

About the time of the incorporation of the Third Precinct, a Baptist congregation held meetings in that part of the town, and without any further organization continued at intervals to hold services for forty years. It had no settled minister, nor any special place of worship. In 1788 Rev. Jeremiah Haskell was engaged to preach, and served several years. In 1795 a meeting-house was built, and in 1800 a formal society was organized. Various ministers officiated until 1818, including Rev. Nathaniel Price, Rev. Laban Thurber, and Rev. John Chase. On the 10th of June in that year a church was formed with thirty-seven members, and Mr. Chase was ordained as its pastor. He died July 28, 1833, and has been followed in the pastorate by Rev. Benjamin B. Manning, Rev. Winthrop Morse, Rev. J. H. Rickett, Rev. Job Boomer and Rev. Andrew Dunn.

During the Revolution Brookfield assumed and faithfully performed its full share. At a town-meeting held May 17, 1773, at which Jedediah Foster presided, a committee was appointed consisting of Joseph Gilbert, Benjamin Adams, Benjamin Babbet, Samuel Hinckley and Joshua Dodge, whose report was accepted and sent by copy to the Committee of Correspondence at Boston. The report declared that:

> The town will be ever ready to assist, and in every legal and pro per way maintain those rights and liberties for our children, which with so much labor, blood and treasure were purchased by our ancestors, whose memory is and ought to be esteemed by us; and we hope, notwithstanding the attempts of the enemies of our constitution, to deprive us of those rights, yet by a steady, firm and constant exertion we shall not finally be deprived of them.

At a meeting held on the 3d of the following December, another committee was chosen, of which Jedediah Foster, Jeduthun Baldwin, Joseph Gilbert, Benjamin Rice and Phinehas Upham were members, whose report, which was accepted by the town, stated that:

> We think it our indispensable duty, in the most public manner, to let the world know our utter abhorrence of the last and most detestable scheme in the introduction of tea from Great Britain, to be peddled out amongst us, by which means we were to be made to swallow a poison more fatal in its effects to the national and political Rights and Privileges of the People of this country than ratsbane would be to the natural body.
>
> *Therefore Resolved* that we will not, by any way or means, knowingly encourage or promote the sale or consumption of Tea, whatever, subject to a duty, payable in America, but all persons, whoever they may be, who shall be concerned in a transaction so dangerous, shall be held by us in the utmost contempt, and be deemed enumies to the country.

On the 12th of September, 1774, Jedediah Foster, Joshua Dodge, John Phipps, Jeduthun Baldwin, Joseph Gilbert, John Lyscam, Rufus Putnam, Phinehas Upham, John Hobbs, Asa Biglow and Jonathan King were chosen a Committee of Correspondence. On the 19th of April, 1775, the following company of minute-men, attached to the regiment commanded by Col. Jonathan Warren, marched for Boston in consequence of the commencement of hostilities at Lexington.

Jonathan Barnes, captain.	John Bell.
Peter Harwood, lieutenant.	Edmond Bridges.
Obadiah Bartlett, lieutenant.	Hugh Cunningham.
Jonas Brigham, sergeant.	Isaac Freeman.
Aaron Matthews, sergeant.	Robert Graham.
Benj. Willington, sergeant.	Reuben Gilbert.
James Washburn, sergeant.	Josiah Hincken.
Solomon Barns, corporal.	Timothy Hall.
George Townsend, corporal.	Joseph Hatfield.
John Bartlett, corporal.	Squier Hill.
Daniel Barris, corporal.	Thomas Jones.
David Chamberlain, drummer.	Charles Knowlton.
Benj. Gilbert, fifer.	Jonathan Marbel.
Hosea Edson, fifer.	Alexander Oliver.
Abner Bartlett.	Ezra Richmond.
Jonas Biglow.	Joseph Stevens.
Nathan Barns.	Ezra Tucker.
Wyman Bartlett.	Moses Tyler.
Jonathan Bond.	Peter Washburn.
Edward Marden.	Wm. Watson.
John Smith.	Samuel Watson.
Joseph Wait.	David Watson.
Jabez Warren.	Abner Witt.
Charles Wetherbee.	Eleazer Woods.
John Winter.	

The following company of minute-men marched for Boston on the same day:

Ithamar Wright, captain.	Theophilus Waterman.
John Packard, lieutenant.	Thomas Wood.
Nathan Hamilton, lieutenant.	John Wood.
Asa Danforth, sergeant.	Solomon Walker.
Daniel Bullard, sergeant.	Wm. Warner.
Nathan Allen, sergeant.	Joseph Stone.
Joseph Richardson, sergeant.	Abner Cutler,
Aaron Willard, corporal.	Benj. Pollard.
Seth Banister, Jr., corporal.	Elihu Blake.
Joseph Newton, corporal.	Wm. Gill.
Benj. Walker, corporal.	Daniel Keyes.
Nathan Richardson, corporal.	Daniel Ross.
Peter Hill, fifer.	Levi Parker.
Samuel Marsh, drummer.	John Stevenson.
Benj. Wood.	Jonathan Arms.
Asa White.	Aza Willis.
Benj. Richardson.	Jesse Banister.
Moses Barnes.	Reuben Gilbert.
Benj. Jennings, Jr.	Aaron Gilbert.
Silas Olds.	Samuel Kimball.
Meazer Adams.	Nath. Hayward.
Jude Adams.	Timothy Wolcott.
Erastus Hamilton.	Simeon Rockwood.
John Gilbert.	Jonas Newton.
Ebenezer Voree.	Theophilus Foster.
Samuel Pike.	Benj. Bachelder.
Jonas Swetter.	John Lyndes.
Joseph Dudley.	

There were other Brookfield men who marched for Boston on the 19th of April, 1775, under Capt. John Woolcott, but, as it is difficult to distinguish them from the Spencer men in the same company, they are omitted.

In Col. Larned's regiment there were enlisted from Brookfield, for eight months, in 1775, the following men:

Peter Harwood, captain.
Asa Danforth, lieutenant.
Benjamin Pollard, ensign.
George Townsend, sergeant.
Wm. Watson, sergeant.
Isaac Barron, sergeant.
Daniel Barns, sergeant.
Charles Rice, corporal.
John Denton, corporal.
Reuben Gilbert, corporal.
John Dodge, corporal.
Samuel Marsh, drummer.
Benjamin Gilbert, drummer.
Hosea Edson, drummer.
Jesse Adams.
Obadiah Adams.
Charles Adams.
Jesse Banister.
Jonas Biglow.
Ebenezer Baker.
Abner Bartlett.
Abner Cutler.
Joseph Dudley.
John Danforth.
Jonathan Danforth.
Charles Doroughty.
Wm. Gill.
Robert Graham.
Comfort Goss.
Asa Gilbert.
Henry Gilbert.
Samuel Green.
Jesse Hamilton.
Wm. Hincken.
Peter Hill.
Joseph Hamilton.
Amos Hodgman.
Josiah Hincken.
Thomas Jones.
Samuel Kimbal.
Daniel Keyes.
Jonathan Marble.
Thomas Nichols.
Jonathan Ormes.
Elijah Pollock.
Ezra Richmond.
Joseph Stephens.
John Stephenson.
Samuel Stephens.
John Smith.
Moses Tyler.
Solomon Wilder.
Eleazer Woods.
Joseph Wait.
Abner Witt.
Jeduthun Wait.
Wm. Wait.
Wm. White.
John Winter.

In Captain Joel Green's Company for same term:

John Granger, captain.
Jonathan Stone, sergeant.
Elijah Cumming, sergeant.
Reuben Slayton, ensign.
David Chamberlain, drummer.
Ebenezer Harrington, corporal.
Nathan Whitney.
Timothy Woolcott.
Solomon Woolcott.
Ebenezer Ball.
Jacob Harrington.

In Colonel Brewer's Regiment for the same term:

John Packard, captain.
Nathan Allen, sergeant.
James Washburn, sergeant.
Josiah Newton, sergeant.
Jareb Bacon, corporal.
Barnabas Potter, corporal.
Levi Packard, corporal.
Nathaniel Hayward, drummer.
Elijah Allen.
Nathan Barns.
Elisha Bartlett.
Jedediah Gilbert.
Aaron Gilbert.
Reuben Gilbert.
Joseph Gilbert.
Barzillai Hayward.
John Hubard.
Elisha Holton.
Robert Hopkins.
Elias Parkman.
Lemuel Ross.
Jonathan Willis.
Josiah Wood.
Theophilus Waterman.
Azariah Willis.
West Waterman.

The following also enlisted in 1775 for eight months and joined various companies and regiments:

Bethuel Washburn, lieutenant.
Nathan Goodale, lieutenant
Alexander Oliver, corporal.
Isaac Cutler, corporal.
Moses Ayres.
Sylvester Bishop.
Benjamin Batcheller.
Peter Cushing.
Joseph Chadwick.
Peter Bowen.
Jonathan Fletcher.
John Liddle.
John Pollard.
Isaac Hodgman.
Nathan Hill, sergeant.
James Hill, fifer.
Bartholomew Hill, fifer.
Berry Bowen.
Moses Bowen.
John Warren, drummer.
Stoddard Bowen.
Jonathan Ralph.
Pomp Lorum.
Benjamin Hill.
John Lynde, ensign.
Abner Gilbert.
Thomas Gilbert.
David Hamilton.
John Hayward.
Solomon Walker, sergeant.
Samuel Pike, sergeant.
Ebenezer How, corporal.
Simeon Rockwell, corporal.
Phinehas Slayton.
Nathan Whitney.
Joseph Olmstead.
Jonas Newton.
Eli Wood.
James Wood.
Moses Dodge.
Reuben Dodge.
Elijah Barnes.
Jabez Crosby.
Moses Hastings.
John Marble.
Daniel Moore.
Abner Old.
Jonas Streeter.
Ephraim Stone.
Josiah Stone.
John Woolcott.
Moses Woods, corporal.
Oliver Hinds.
John Sabin.
Elisha Livermore.
Elihu Blake.
Samuel Bunn.
Ebenezer Miller.
John Wood.
Joseph Wood.
Thomas Wood.

In 1776 the enlistments were as follows for various terms of short service:

David Watson, sergeant.
Charles Bruce, sergeant.
Wm. Smith, corporal.
John Barns.
Barnabas Brigham.
Antipas Bruce.
Hosea Edson.
Ebenezer Field.
John Hersey.
Daniel Matthews.
Abel Johnson.
David Leland.
Jonathan Sevier.
Abner White.
Joseph Gilbert, colonel.
James Converse, colonel.
Jonathan King, captain.
Rufus Putnam, lieut.-colonel.
Nathan Hamilton, captain.
John Bowker, lieutenant.
Joseph Olmstead, corporal.
Thomas Kimball, corporal.
Wm. Gilbert, corporal.
Prince Haskell, drummer.
Barnabas Potter.
Zadoch Gilbert.
Edward Allen.
Philip Allen.
Abner Gilbert.
Samuel Barns.
Solomon Wilden.
Samuel McClure.
Jonathan Moore.
John Burk.
John Sabin.
Nathan Davis.
Ammiel Weeks.
Seth Dean.
Benjamin Foster.
John Patterson.
Wm. Cunningham.
Stephen Chandler.
Ebenezer Wright.
Francis Pellet.
Ithamar Bowker.
Wm. Raiment.
Edward Stone.
Amos Hale.
Ephraim Wheeler.
Jesse Wheeler.
John Green.
Ephraim Richmond.
Ezekiel Bowker.
John Bowen.
Seth Twitchell.
Ichabod Warren.
Uri Babbitt.
Daniel Howe.

The enlistments in 1777 and 1778 were as follows:

Thomas Briggs.
Abner Cutler.
Cornelius Gilbert.
Robert Hall.
Reuben Hamilton.
Barzillai Hayward.
Daniel Keyes.
Jonathan Lampson.
John Lydley.
Alexander Oliver.
Elijah Pollock.
Jeduthun Wait.
Wm. Wait.
Nehemiah Ward.
Joshua Winter.
Wm. Adams.
Jason Allen.
Joel Babbitt.
Samuel Babbitt.
Daniel Barris.
Solomon Bartlett.
Wm. Hincken, sergeant.
Nicholas McClure, sergeant.
John Gilbert, sergeant.
Phillip Allen.
John Ayres.
Joshua Barns.
Wm. Barns.
Benjamin Batchelder.
Josiah Blanchard.
David Clark.
Reuben Dodge.
Jude Foster.
Zadock Gilbert.
Peter Hill.
Silas How.
Asa Humphrey.
Daniel Newell.
Comfort Old.
Abner Perry.
Amos Rice.
Elisha Rice.

Joseph Bartlett.
Jareb Bacon.
Moses Bedunah.
John Bowker.
Samuel Bunn.
Elijah Callay.
Hezekiah Cutting.
Antipas Dodge.
Thomas Dodge.
John Eveleth.
Elisha Foster.
Benjamin Gilbert.
Henry Gilbert.
Jedediah Gilbert.
Thomas Gilbert.
John Hayward.
Benjamin Hill.
James Hill.
Joseph Hamilton.
John Holden.
John Hopkins.
Joseph Green.
Zachariah Green.
Elijah Harrington.
John Hubbard.
Samuel Lancaster,
Isaac Lackey.
Abner Lasell.
Benjamin Lynde.
Joseph Marble.
Jonas Newton.
Joseph Newell,
Abner Old.
Jonathan Owen.
Joseph Olmstead.
Jesse Parker.
Ephrain Potter.
(Negro) Robena.
Lemuel Ross.
John Smith.
Asahel Stearns.
Gad Smith.
Gershom Whitney.
Gershom Whitney, Jr.
Hezekiah Whitney.
Israel Whitney.
Eleazar Whitney.
Elias Witt.
Jonathan Witt.
Lemuel Ward.
John Warren.
Caleb Willis.
Jonathan Willis.
Eli Wood.
Joseph Wood,
Thomas Wood.
Timothy Woolcott.
Ebenezer Bacon.
Benjamin G. Ball.
Joseph Ball.
Phinehas Bowman.
Thomas Hall.
John Burk.
Thomas Cole.
Jacob H. Deland.
Abraham Hair.
Philip Haskell.
John Herrick.
Josiah Hincken.
Amos Leonard.
Thomas Madden.
Joseph Owen.
Mirick Rice.
Robert Richmond, Jr.
Wm. White.
Daniel Gilbert, captain.
Wm. Clapp.
Jason Rice.
Joseph Richardson.
James Ross.
Phinehas Stevens.
Wm. Stone.
Joshua Taylor.
John Waite.
Thomas Wedge.
James Wood.
John Wright.
Asa Danforth, captain.
James Hathaway, lieutenant.
Jonas Bigelow, lieutenant.
Peregrine Foster, sergeant.
Amos Adams, sergeant.
Abraham Adams, sergeant.
Obadiah Rice, sergeant.
Joseph Richardson, corporal.
Reuben Gill, corporal.
Jude Adams, corporal.
Jesse Banister, corporal.
Nathan Hamilton.
Phinehas Upham.
Richard Wellington.
Daniel Walker.
John Hamilton.
Daniel Bullard.
Adoniram Walker.
Ephraim Cooley.
Gad Williston.
Jonathan Snow.
Jonathan Abbott.
John Linds.
John Waite.
Gershom Makepeace.
John Hobbs.
Elisha Hamilton.
Josiah Hamilton.
Samuel Owen.
Jason Walker.
Nathan Whitney.
Elisha Brigham.
Daniel Newell.
Obadiah Wright.
John Allen.
Jeremiah Streeter.
Benjamin Howard.
Samuel Green.
John Wade.
Thomas Summer.
Wm. Hamilton.
James Washburn.
Peter Washburn.
Sylvanus Curtis.
John Gilbert.
John Gilbert (4th).
Benjamin Gilbert.
Benjamin Walker.
Silas Stone.
Abner Perry.
Asa Gilbert.
Ebenezer Bartlett.
Philip Allen.
Samuel Gilbert.
Jerre Hamilton.
Rufus Hamilton.
Jonathan Danforth.
Josiah Cary.
Thomas Ranger.
Thomas Marsh,
Benjam Adams.
Benjamin Barrett.
Daniel Watson.
Jonathan Barns.
Jacob Kent.
Wm. Beals.
Silas Newton.
Joshua Dodge, Jr.
Samuel Gilbert.
James Ross.
Francis Stone, capt.
Wm. Peso.
Daniel Wait.
Jason Rice.
Levi Rice.

The soldiers whose names are repeated in the above and following lists enlisted more than once during 1777–78.

The following enlisted in 1779:

Joseph Olmstead, lieut.
Jesse Abbott, sergt.
Solomon Banister, corp.
Jonas Newton, corp.
Josiah Hamilton, corp.
Nahum Davis.
Simeon Wright.
Wm. Old.
Daniel Upham.
Silas Bridges.
Benjamin Forbush.
Oliver Walker.
Nathan Rice.
Joel Jennings.
Gershom Jennings.
Erastus Hamilton.
Joseph Hamilton.
Nathaniel Hamilton.
Thomas Hincken.
Simon Rice.
Joseph Barrett.
Josiah Cutler.
Silas Hamilton
Nathaniel Sabin.
Peter Bowen.
Joshua Green.
Jacob Harrington.
Abner Witt.
Caleb Loomis.
Joseph Hamilton.
Ebenezer Miller.
Thomas Wedge.
Thomas Hincken.
Silas Newton.
Thomas Hamilton.
Simon Rice.
Wm. Hamilton.
Jude Adams.
Judeth Stevens.
Isaiah Bowen.
Benjamin Jennings, Jr.
Samuel Walker.
Ezra Tucker.
Jonas Biglow.
Richardson Durham.
Thomas Tucker.
Nathan Moore.
John Gilbert, (2d).
Ephraim Cutter.
Benjamin Bragg.
Abner Rice.
Obadiah Wait.
Wm. Peso.
Elijah Barns.
Thaddeus Dodge.
Joseph Brown.
John Pollard.
Andrew Banister, fifer.
Joseph Richardson, capt.
Joseph Thornton, lieut.
Israel Aiken.
Isaac Abbott.
Oliver Gilbert.
Noah Hatch.
Thomas Lampson.
Asa Partridge.
Anthony Cutter.
Isaac Severn.
Ebenezer Witt.

The enlistments in 1780 were as follows:

Jonathan Willis.
Abner Witt.
Wm. Kimball.
Joseph Ranger.
Asa Gilbert.
Josiah Cutler.
Wm. Peso.
John Pollard.
Thomas Dodge, Jr.
Caleb Willis.
Bueanos Ayres.
Solomon Livermore.
Thomas Lampson.
Isaac Wetherbee.
Ichabod Stockwell.
Aaron Forbes.
Ezekiel Hardy.
Silas Barns.
Lewis Witt.
Nathan Moore.
Shadrack Wetherbee.
Thomas Hathaway, Jr.
Nathaniel Sabin.
Jacob H. Deland.
Thomas Wedge, Jr.
John Bowen.
Levi Rice.
Joseph Kimball.
Jason Ayres.
Jedediah Deland.
Levi Kendall.
Moses Dorr.
John Brown.
Wm. Posy.
Scipio Witt.
John Pollard.
Moses Walker.
Amos Wheeler.
Amos Rice.
Nathan Rice.
Silas Newton.
Benjamin Jennings, Jr.
Neverson Hastings.
Abner Hebery.
Thomas Wood, (3d).
Nathan Davis.
Thomas Young.
Ebenezer Marsh.
Aaron Forbes.
Benjamin Dane.
David Chamberlain.
Jude Stevens.
Wm. Forbes.
Eli Watson.
Jeremiah Dewing.
Martin Bridges.
Elisha Whitmore.
Peter Barton.
Silas Morse.
Timothy Armstrong.

Jesse Ayres.
John Cox.
Job Hinckley.
Samuel Lewis.
Levi Stockwell.
Wm. Richardson.

The enlistments in 1781 were as follows:

Joseph Bartlett.
George Townsend.
Joseph Kimball.
Silas Whitney.
Ezekiel Hardy.
Abijah Patten.
Asa Gould,
Samuel Stevens.
Jesse Watson.
Amos Leonard.
Scipio Witt.
John Rice.
Moses Bragg.
John Bowen.
Joseph Hamilton.
Levi Rice.
Thomas Dodge.
John Eveleth.
Amos Gilbert.
Jonas Gilbert.
Elisha Gill.
Eliphalet Hamilton.
Salma Keyes.
Samuel Pike.
John Smith.
Samuel White.
Jonathan Willis.
Jesse Banister.
Thomas Banister.
Simon Rice.
Jabez Upham.
Jacob Deland.
Joseph Cutler.

The above is an incomplete list of the soldiers furnished by Brookfield, but it indicates plainly enough the active and patriotic part which the people of the town took in the War. Not only were men furnished, but the resources of the inhabitants were largely drawn upon and seriously depleted by the demands constantly arising from bounties and supplies. The action taken by the town at various times to meet the exigencies of the period shows that its affairs were in the hands of earnest and devoted men who were determined that, so far as the burden of the War rested on them, it should be borne with courage and hope. The names of the first committee of correspondence, chosen in 1774, have already been given. In 1775 they were: Jedediah Foster, David Hitchcock, John Phipps, Daniel Gilbert, Thomas Moore, John Lyscam, Josiah Hobbs, Ephraim Walker, Ithamar Wright. In 1776 they were: Thomas Moore, John Wait, Tilly Rice, David Hitchcock, Jabez Crosby, Ithamar Wright, John Hamilton. In 1777 they were: David Hitchcock, Thomas Wheeler, Daniel Watson, Joseph Chadwick, Onesiph Ayres, Jonathan Bond, Ithamar Wright, Esekiel Olds, Jabez Crosby.

At a town-meeting held May 22, 1776, under a resolve of the General Court the question "whether the town would support the Honorable Congress in the measure if they for our liberty should see fit to declare the colonies independent of Great Britain" was decided almost unanimously in the affirmative. Indeed, the support of the War and the defense of the rights and liberties of the colonies received the united sympathies of the people. There was little or no disloyalty to the patriot cause. Joshua Upham was one of the few pronounced loyalists in the town. He was a graduate of Harvard in the class of 1763, and among his classmates was Sampson Salter Blowers, a noted loyalist, who rose to high judicial distinction in Nova Scotia, having risen from the bar through the grades of attorney-general and speaker of the House of Assembly to the seat of chief justice of the Supreme Court of the province. Mr. Upham retired to Boston, and soon after became colonel of dragoons and aide de camp to Sir Guy Carleton in New York.

He was with Arnold in the expedition to New London, and in 1781 was Deputy Inspector-General of Refugees at Lloyds Neck, Long Island. He settled in New Brunswick after the war, and became a member of the Council and judge of the Supreme Court. He was the father of the late Hon. Charles Wentworth Upham of Salem. His death occurred while on a business visit in England, in 1808.

Daniel Murray was another loyalist, a son of Colonel John Murray, and a graduate of Harvard in 1771. Mr. Murray entered the service of the crown, and was major of the King's American Dragoons. In 1778 he was proscribed and banished, and, retiring to New Brunswick, where he lived after the war on half pay, was, in 1792, a member of the House of Assembly. He died in Portland, Maine, in 1832. Colonel John Murray, of Rutland, the father of Daniel, with the other sons, Samuel, Robert and John, two of whom, it is believed, lived in Brookfield, were also loyalists.

In 1777–78–79 committees were appointed by the town to provide for the families of non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the Continental Army. In 1778 one hundred pounds per man and a blanket, were given for the soldiers in the second precinct, for the Continental Army; seventy pounds each to the militiamen, and one hundred pounds each for four men who were already in the field. In the same year it was voted to raise £988 8*s.* to defray the expenses of hiring the Continental and militia men recently enlisted, and also in the same year to "accept the confederacy of the Continental Congress, and to enjoin it on their representatives that they consent to the same." In 1779 it was voted to form a State convention, "for the sole purpose of forming a new constitution." An effort had been made by the Legislature to form a constitution, which failed. In 1780 the vote in favor of the new constitution stood one hundred and forty-three to eleven. In November of that year Brookfield furnished fifty-two head of cattle, thirty-three blankets, sixty-seven shirts, sixty-seven pairs of shoes and sixty-seven pairs of hose.

In 1781 it was voted in the second precinct that "the sum of £1080 in hard money be assessed upon the polls and estates of the precinct for the purpose of hiring twelve soldiers for three years' service, at £90 each." This vote of the second precinct was followed in the other two precincts, and was in obedience to a vote of the town that "the three precincts should raise soldiers for three years, or during the war, and choose committees to enlist men, and hire such sums of money as might be needed." "In the same year Brookfield furnished the army thirty-three blankets, sixty-seven shirts, sixty-seven pairs of shoes and sixty-seven pairs of hose, at a cost of £10,411, and before the close of the year, thirty-one blankets, sixty-two shirts, sixty-two pairs of shoes, and 15,450

pounds of beef. In 1782 the town furnished thirty-one blankets, sixty-two sheets, sixty-two pairs of shoes and sixty-two pairs of hose."

After the treaty of peace the people once more resumed their old occupations, and sought by determined effort to repair their individual and corporate condition. Since the date of the original grant, in 1660, there had been, up to this time, few years free from the alarms, and annoyances, and horrors of war; now, for the first time, there seemed to be a pathway before them in which they might walk with prosperous steps.

In 1784, the town instructed its representative that "it is the opinion of this town that the articles of confederation and perpetual union between the thirteen United States, ratified and established by each state in the union, are solemnly binding on the several states, and that no attempt ought to be made to dissolve or weaken the same; but, on the other hand, if we mean to support our dignity as a nation, every effort ought to be used to strengthen the union, and render the bonds indissoluble." Thus, in advance of the formation of the Constitution of the United States, the people of Brookfield declared what the result of the Civil War has confirmed, and what now every citizen of our country believes, in every State of our Union, whether East or West, North or South, that the nation established by our fathers is not a rope of sand, but is a welded, compact, and forever-united Union.

The annoyances of the French war in the latter part of the century from which the people on the seaboard suffered, like the summer air from the ocean, were not felt in the inland towns. Nor did the war of 1812 much disturb them. What was called Shays' Rebellion caused a momentary ruffle on the surface of public affairs which soon subsided. The next real source of disturbance to the people of Brookfield was the movement of the inhabitants of the second precinct to be incorporated as a separate town by the name of North Brookfield. The movement began in 1810, and in that year, under the direction of a committee consisting of Daniel Gilbert, Jason Biglow, Luke Patten, Aaron Forbes and Jacob Kettridge, the following petition was presented:

To the Hon^bl Senate and House of Representatives: The Inhabitants of the Second Precinct in Brookfield humbly pray that they may be set off from the other precincts in said town, and be incorporated into a township by the name of North Brookfield; and that the territorial limits of such incorporation may be the same as those whereby the said Precinct is designated.

And the said inhabitants would beg leave to further state that from the extensive limits of said town, it being separated into three distinct precincts together with the necessary mode of transacting the business of the same by annual rotation in each precinct, they not only find the distance of travel burdensome, but in considering the transacting of their parochial concerns a two fold labor and expense, that the offices of said Town are of necessity distant from the centre, and that from the numbers of its inhabitants and the multiplicity of the business of the said town, the term of one day insufficient for transacting the same."

This petition failed to receive a favorable consideration and on the 15th of April, 1811, another petition was presented, which the town voted to oppose under the direction of a committee formed for that purpose, consisting of Dwight Foster, Seth Banister and Nathan Allen. The result, however, was this time favorable to the petitioners, and the following Act of incorporation, amended in some of its provisions in 1818, was passed February 28, 1812:

Sect. 1. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same, That all that part of the town of Brookfield which has been heretofore called and known by the name of Second or North Parish (excepting that part of said territory now lying south of the post-road leading from Worcester through Spencer to Springfield) together with the inhabitants thereon be and the same is hereby incorporated into a separate town by the name of North Brookfield. And the said town of North Brookfield is hereby vested with all the powers and privileges and shall also be subject to all the duties to which other corporate towns are entitled and subjected by the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth.

Sect. 2. Be it further enacted, That the inhabitants of the said town of North Brookfield shall be entitled to hold such proportion of all the personal property now belonging to and owned by the inhabitants of the town of Brookfield as the property of the said inhabitants of North Brookfield bears to the property of all the inhabitants of the town of Brookfield according to the last valuation thereof.

Sect. 3. Be it further enacted, That the inhabitants of the said town of North Brookfield shall be holden to pay all arrears of taxes due from them together with their proportion (to be ascertained as aforesaid) of all the debts now due and owing from the said town of Brookfield on what may be hereafter found due and owing by reason of any contract or other matter and thing heretofore entered into or now existing.

Sect. 4. Be it further enacted, That the said town of North Brookfield shall be holden to support their proportion of the present poor of the town of Brookfield, which proportion shall be ascertained by the present valuation of the town; and all persons who may hereafter become chargeable as paupers to the town of Brookfield and North Brookfield shall be considered as belonging to that town or the territory of which they had their settlement at the time of passing this act, and shall in future be chargeable to that town only.

Sect 5. Be it further enacted, That the said town of North Brookfield shall be holden to pay their proportion of all state, town and county taxes assessed on the inhabitants of the said town of North Brookfield until a new valuation shall be made of the said towns. Provided, That the said town of North Brookfield shall be holden until the further order of the legislature to pay the town of Brookfield such proportion of any of the expenses of maintaining the bridges and causeways over the rivers in the town of Brookfield as a Committee of the Court of Sessions for the County of Worcester shall determine; and said Court of Sessions are hereby authorized on application of either of the inhabitants of Brookfield or North Brookfield from time to time to appoint a committee for the above purpose whose report made to and accepted by said court shall be binding on said towns.

Sect. 6. Be it further enacted, That any Justice of the Peace for the County of Worcester upon application therefor is hereby authorized to issue her warrant directed to any freeholder in the said town of North Brookfield, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants thereof to meet at such time and place as shall be appointed in said warrant for the choice of such officers as towns are by law required to choose at their annual town meetings.

On the 20th of February, 1818, the following amendatory act was passed:

Be it enacted, that Austin Flint, of Leicester, Nathaniel Jones, of Barre, and Joseph Cummings, of Ware, are hereby appointed a committee to hear and consider the claim of Brookfield on one part and of North Brookfield on the other; and finally to determine whether the town of North Brookfield ought in future to pay any part of the expenses of maintaining the bridges and causeways in the town of Brookfield.

Sect. 2. Be it further enacted, That from and after the time the report of said committee shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth the said fifth section of said act incorporating the town of North Brookfield shall be repealed, and the duties and liabilities of said North Brookfield resulting from the said section shall altogether cease.

On the 8th of February, 1823, an act was passed

by the Legislature which still further, though in a moderate degree, changed the bounds and contracted the territory of the town. It provided that Daniel Coney, with so much of his estate as is within the towns of Brookfield and Weston, in the county of Worcester, be and they are hereby set off from said towns and annexed to the town of Ware, in the County of Hampshire. A much earlier change in the boundaries which has not before been mentioned in the narrative was made in 1791, when the General Court in establishing a line between Brookfield and New Braintree set off a tract of land to the latter town and annexed to the former, "the lands of Calvin and Francis Stone and a part of Whitney Hill, so called."

The next change in the boundaries and the next birth of a new town from the loins of the mother-town occurred in 1848. On the 22d of the previous November, at a town-meeting over which Alanson Hamilton presided as Moderator, it was voted "that the town choose a committee of two, nominated by the Moderator, one from each Parish, to present a petition to the next Legislature to send out a disinterested committee to report to their body the terms upon which this town be divided, and that the town will abide said decision; provided that the town shall not agree among themselves upon the terms of division previous to the first of January next, in which case said committee will petition the Legislature to divide the town upon the terms agreed upon." John N. Fisk and Francis Howe were appointed on the committee. It was also voted that a committee of twelve, six from each parish, be appointed to agree on terms of division. This committee consisted of Perley Blanchard, Elliott Prouty, Alfred Rice, Wm. J. Adams, Wm. Howe, Charles Flagg, Baxter Ellis, Baxter Barnes, Nathaniel Lynde, Wm. Adams, Joseph Dane and Avery Keep.

At an adjourned meeting held on the 27th of December, 1847, the following report of the committee was adopted:

The Committee chosen by the town of Brookfield to consider and agree upon an equitable division of said town into two distinct towns in such manner and upon such terms as shall subject each town to bear the just proportion of the burdens or expenses and present liabilities of the whole undivided town, respectfully submit the following report: having duly considered all the facts and circumstances that we could bring to our minds, are of the opinion that the town should be divided by the same line that divides the two ancient parishes, all the part lying west of said line, except Preston Haver's land, shall be incorporated as a new and distinct town by the name of West Brookfield, with the following conditions on agreement, viz.: If the County Commissioners shall order either the road from Ware to West Brookfield depot or the road from Fiskdale to South Brookfield depot, or both of them to be made as they are now located, except a slight alteration may be made without additional expense, within two years each town shall pay an equal portion of the expense of making said road or roads; also of the present debts of the town, if any there be, West Brookfield shall relinquish and give up to Brookfield all their right or interest in the town farm with all the personal property on or belonging thereto, and Brookfield shall keep and support all the paupers who are now at the said establishment during their lives, West Brookfield paying to Brookfield fifty cents a week each for one half the number of said paupers now at said almshouse during their lives. The names of the persons to be there supported are as follows, and no other person, viz.: Joseph Porter, Abigail Stephens, Simeon Johnson, David Snow, Eleanor Gilbert, Solon Phipps, Hannah Lawrence, Martha Richardson, Elizabeth Hobbs, Harriett Richards, Sally Forbes, Sally Parker, Huldah Wood, Mary Walker, Mary Ward, Esther Jennings, Sally Thomas, Abigail Paddock, John Lindly, Wm. Richardson, Emily P. Morris, Ben Hamilton. Ruth Henshaw, insane, is to be supported by the town of Brookfield and Harriett Cording to be supported in West Brookfield. All persons who may hereafter claim town aid to be supported or assisted by the town in whose territorial limits they may have gained a settlement by the laws of the Commonwealth previous to the division of said town of West Brookfield, shall have the right to visit said Almshouse by an Agent or Committee for the purpose of seeing that said paupers are well treated or taken care of.

The expense incurred by your Committee they pray may be allowed, and that the town direct the Selectmen to give an order to Perley Blanchard, Chairman, for the sum of sixteen dollars for that purpose.

It was then voted to petition the Legislature for an act providing for admission substantially in accordance with the report, and on the 3d of March the following act was passed:

Section 1. All that part of the town of Brookfield in the county of Worcester which lies westerly of the line hereinafter described, is hereby incorporated into a separate town by the name of West Brookfield, and the said town of West Brookfield is hereby vested with all the powers privileges, rights and immunities, and shall be subject to all the duties and requisitions to which other towns are entitled and subjected by the constitution and laws of this Commonwealth. The dividing line between the two towns shall be and the same is hereby established as follows: Beginning at the north end of the said line at a town monument between Brookfield and North Brookfield, thence south eighteen and three-fourths degrees west thirty-one rods and twenty-two links to a stake and stones; thence south eighty-six degrees west twenty-four rods; thence north eighty-four and three-fourths degrees west ten rods and eighteen links; thence south fifty-six and three-fourths degrees west seventeen rods and five links; thence south fifty-four degrees west fifteen rods and twenty-three links; thence south sixty-nine and one third degrees west fourteen rods and twenty-two links; thence south seven degrees west nineteen rods and seven links; thence south twenty-four and one-fourth degrees west nine rods and nine links; thence north fifty-six and one-fourth degrees west twelve rods; thence north fifty-two and three-fourths degrees west sixteen rods; thence south nine degrees west sixty-six rods and twenty links; thence south fifteen degrees west sixty-six rods and twenty links; thence south nine degrees west seventeen rods and seventeen links; thence south eighty-two and one-half degrees west fifteen rods and three links; thence south five and one-half degrees east fifty-nine rods and seven links: thence south forty-nine degrees west eighteen rods and twelve links; thence south thirty-three and one-half degrees west eight rods; thence south ten and one-half degrees east seven rods and four links; thence south thirty degrees east seven rods and four links; thence south fifty-three and one half degrees east nine rods and thirteen links; thence south thirty-four degrees west twenty-six rods and thirteen links; thence south seventy-five and three-fourths degrees east nine rods and twenty links; thence south nine and one-fourth degrees west three rods; thence south seventy-four degrees east sixteen rods; thence south twenty and one-fourth degrees west one hundred and twenty-nine rods to the north bank of the river; thence southerly to the middle of the river; thence down the middle of the river to a point opposite the corner of land of Reuben Blair and the Brigham farm lying on the southerly side of said river; thence southerly to said corner; thence south thirty-three and one-fourth degrees west one hundred eighty-five rods and fifteen links; thence north sixty-eight and three-fourths degrees west thirty-three rods and twenty links; thence south sixteen degrees west two hundred thirty-six rods and twenty links; thence south sixty seven and three-fourths degrees east thirty-two rods; thence south seven degrees west three rods; thence south seventy degrees east sixteen rods and eight links; thence seventeen degrees west forty rods and two links; thence south eighty-four and three-fourths degrees west seven rods and fifteen links; thence south three and one-fourth degrees west twenty-six rods; thence south eighty-five and one-half degrees west twenty-four rods and thirteen links; thence north seventy and three-fourths degrees west twenty-eight rods and eighteen links; thence north eighty-six and one-half degrees west twenty-eight rods and five links; thence south twelve rods, thence south twenty-nine and one-half degrees west forty-four rods and fifteen links; thence south seventeen one-half degrees west fifty-five rods and fourteen links;

thence south seventy-five and one-half degrees east ninety rods; thence south thirteen one-third degrees west eighty-eight rods and twenty-two links; thence north seventy-five degrees west sixty-one rods and twenty links; thence south nineteen and three quarters degrees west eighty rods; thence south forty and one-half degrees east seventeen rods; thence north twenty-five degrees east twenty-three rods and fifteen links; thence south eighty degrees east fifty-four rods and ten links; thence south thirteen and one-third degrees west one hundred twenty-seven rods and five links; thence north sixty-four degrees west sixty-eight rods and ten links; thence south sixty-two degrees west eleven rods and twelve links; thence north forty-nine degrees west five rods and nine links; thence north sixty-one and one-half degrees west forty-two rods and twenty links, to a point on the town line between said Brookfield and Warner.

The remaining sections of the act provided for equitable settlements of arrears of taxes, of county taxes, of debts, of corporate property, the support of the poor, the construction of roads, and further provided, that West Brookfield should

Continue to be a part of the town of Brookfield for the purpose of electing a representative to the General Court, State officers, senators, representatives to Congress and electors of President and vice-President of the United States until the next decennial census shall be taken in pursuance of the 13th article of amendment of the Constitution; and all meetings for the choice of said officers shall be called by the selectmen of the town of Brookfield in like manner and in the same places as heretofore called.

Six years later, on the 15th of April, 1854, the town lines were again, and for the last time, changed. An act of the Legislature of that date provided that

So much of the town of North Brookfield in the County of Worcester as lies southerly of a line beginning at a stone monument at the old post road leading to Brookfield, a little Northwesterly of what is called the Wolcott Mill, and running thence south seventy-seven degrees and thirty minutes east three hundred and seventy-five rods, to a stone monument, as now established in the line of Brookfield and North Brookfield, on the easterly side of the Stephens pond, so-called with all the inhabitants and estates thereon is hereby set off from the town of North Brookfield and annexed to the town of Brookfield; provided, however, that for the purpose of electing representatives to the General Court to which the said town of North Brookfield is entitled until the next decennial census shall be taken in pursuance of the thirteenth article of amendment to the constitution, the said territory shall remain and continue to be a part of the town of North Brookfield, and the inhabitants resident thereon shall be entitled to vote in the choice of such representatives, and shall be eligible to the office of representative in the town of North Brookfield in the same manner as if this act had not been passed.

The record of Brookfield in the War of the Rebellion impresses upon us anew a realization of the immense resources of our government in bringing it to a successful conclusion. Every city and town and hamlet in the loyal North poured out its men and its means, and their sources of supply were far from exhausted when the last soldier had been drafted for the Confederate Army, and the last dollar had been expended for its support. On the 30th of April, 1861, at a town-meeting, at which John E. Prouty acted as moderator it was voted, "that every person belonging to this town who should enroll himself in the company now being raised in this town and vicinity for the purpose of volunteering its services to the Government, subject to the call of the Governor shall, as soon as said company is accepted by the Governor, receive one dollar a day for every day he is called out to drill by the drill-master, or such officers as are authorized so to order. The payment of the above to be made weekly to the order of the drill-master, or the officer properly calling them out, and this shall continue till otherwise directed by the Selectmen."

It was also voted, "that every private and non-commissioned officer when called into actual service shall receive from the town such an amount as shall make his pay, including that received by him from the Government, fifteen dollars per month; that every private and non-commissioned officer, who has a family or any person dependent upon him for support, shall receive in addition to the above eight dollars per month to be paid in such a manner and to such person as the Selectmen of the town shall think best for the support of said family or dependent persons."

It was further voted, "that when the company has been organized and accepted by the Governor, each and every member shall be provided with a plain, substantial uniform, and before going into actual service with an army blanket and revolver at the expense of the town unless otherwise provided."

It was still further voted, "that the Selectmen be authorized to borrow what money the town may want to carry the foregoing votes into effect, to be paid in one, two and three years, and the Selectmen to give all necessary obligations binding the town to pay the same sums and interests that may accrue thereon. And it was finally voted, "to choose a committee of three to confer with North Brookfield in regard to the uniform, etc., and for the purchase of the same for the volunteers." This committee consisted of Emmons Twichell, J. S. Montague and Charles Fales.

At a subsequent meeting held on the 15th of June in the same year, at which also John E. Prouty acted as moderator, it was voted "that each member of the family of the volunteer militia be paid one dollar per week for every member of the family, the sum not to exceed twelve dollars per month for any one family and the Selectmen be authorized to borrow the money." It was also voted "that all members that the Committee uniform be paid two dollars and fifty cents per week for five weeks, to be left discretionary with the Selectmen and officers of the company, when to be paid, and to be paid to the officers of said company."

At a meeting held on the following November, at which George W. Johnson acted as moderator, the committee on uniforms reported that the uniforms had been furnished under a contract with Marshal & Duncan of North Brookfield, and that the following men had been supplied:

Sardus S. Sloan, captain.
Elisha F. Johnson, lieutenant.
Lyman Doane, lieutenant.
John W. Heath.
James E. Adams.
Shepard Brown,
Charles N. Holmes.
John H. Millman.
Warren A. Walker.
Herbert Chaffee.
Benjamin Stevens.
Eldridge Doane.
W. L. Blood, Sturbridge.
Sidney Hewitt, Sturbridge.
F. L. Benson, Bromfield.
L. G. Lamb, Southbridge.
H. C. Ball, Amherst.
F. H. Dickinson, Amherst
H. C. Albee.
George W. Burr.

Wady H. Cheever.
Wm. H. Ormsby.
Wm. H. Nichols.
Wm. H. Webber.
Ralph Preston.
James H. Belcher.
Everett A. Hebard.
Ferdinand Dexter.
Artemas D. Ward.
Frederick Bullard.
E. A. Rice.
James B. Freeman.
Alonzo W. Phillips.
Alexander Budreaux.
Wm. A. Belcher.
Richard Yeaton.
David Jenks.
John H. Price.
L. C. Moulton.
S. H. Bannister.
Edward F. Ware.
Amasa Bemis.

They also reported that the cost of equipment and drilling was fifteen hundred dollars

At a meeting held on the 2d of January, 1862, at which Austin H. Moulton acted as moderator, it was voted "that the Selectmen be authorised to pay to each volunteer not to exceed thirty-four in number, who may enlist or has enlisted under the last call of the President for three hundred thousand volunteers, the sum of one hundred dollars, to be paid to each volunteer upon his being mustered into the service of the United States, it being understood that those who have previously enlisted shall be entitled to the same bounty as those who may hereafter enlist, if they can be legally counted as belonging to our quota of thirty-four men which this town must raise under the call above mentioned." At a meeting held on the 12th of September, 1862, at which also George W. Johnson acted as moderator, it was voted "that one hundred and fifty dollars be paid to each man voluntarily as a part of the quota of the town under the last call for men for nine months' service whether enlisted before or after the first day of September, 1862."

The following is a list of the soldiers furnished by Brookfield in the War of the Rebellion, taken from the tablets on the interior walls of the town-house:

Eighth Regiment.

Austin L. Nichols.

Eleventh Regiment.

John H. Chamberlain.

Twelfth Regiment.

Charles C. Guppy.

Fifteenth Regiment.

Sardus S. Sloan.
Frederick Bullard.
Lyman Doane.
H. Eugene Carpenter.
George L. Avery.
Edwin H. Newton.
James E. Adams.
Charles H. Holmes.
Benjamin Stevens.
Artemas D. Ward.
John H. Johnson.
Reuben W. Adams.
Henry C. Alba.
Wm. J. Babbitt.
Sumner H. Bannister.
Francis A. Barnes.
James H. Belcher.
Andrew J. Benson.
Amasa Bemis.
Wm. A. Belcher.
Wady H. Cheever.
Ezekiel M. Cooper.
Amos Deane.
Sidney Hewett.
David Jenks.
George L. Marsh.
Harrison Moulton.
Lafayette C. Moulton.
James S. Nichols.
Wm. H. Nichols.
Oren O. Ormsby.
Joseph Pecot.
Alonzo W. Phillips.
Augustus W. Patten.
Ralph Preston.
John H. Prior.
John W. Raymor.
G. W. Allen.
Michael Rock.
Henry H. Slayton.
Harrison W. Stone.
Warren A. Walker.
Charles P. Webber.
Benjamin C. Wheelock.
Richard Yeaton.
Elias H. Woodward.
James B. Freeman.
Samuel E. Gilbert.
Otis H. Hamilton.
Everett A. Hebbard.
Richard Dowling.
Ellridge Doane.
Wm. H. Walker.

Seventeenth Regiment.

Wm. S. Pike.
John H. Copp.
Charles S. Hamilton.
Wm. E. Rice.
Francis A. Shaw.
Wm. T. Wilcott.
Emerson Wilcott.

Eighteenth Regiment.

Charles Riggs.

Twentieth Regiment.

Lewis McCrellis.

Twenty-first Regiment.

Samuel B. Rice.
Hubert Claffery.
George Ward.
Leonard J. Alexander.
George W. Burr.

Twenty-second Regiment.

John A. Plympton,
Gilbert Lombard.

Twenty-fourth Regiment.

Elbridge Howe,
George F. Sibley,
George A. Slayton,
John E. Turner,
Wm. H. Austin,
Lorenzo Doane,
Charles B. Carpenter,
Peter Delane.
Curtis Dickinson,
Wm. H. Feary,
Albert S. Howe,
Henry D. Rogers,
George N. Maynard,
Sylvester H. Stevens,
Frank P. Works,

Twenty-fifth Regiment.

Cyrus K. Webber,
Lyman E. Weeks,
Edwin C. Carpenter,
Wm. H. Webber,
Hugh Jameson,
Robert Kelley,
John Lyon,
John McCarthy.

Twenty-ninth Regiment.

Albert H. Prouty.

Thirty-first Regiment.

Benjamin O. Gay,
Julius W. Johnson.
Daniel W. Sherman.

Thirty-second Regiment.

Wm. Conroy,
George H. Bush.
James G. Adams.

Thirty-fourth Regiment.

Freeman Snow.
George A. Haraden.
Charles A. Porter.
John W. Russell.
Ormill Young.
Marcus W. Goodell.
Ezekiel P. Kempton.
Franklin L. Knox.
Freedom N. Upham.
Edward L. Drake.
Edwin N. Adams.
George K. Perkins.
John M. Putnam, Jr.
Loring B. Vinton.
Andrew F. Jackson.
Edwin C. Babcock.
Robert Killard.
Rufus S. Newton.
Jacob Watson.
Joseph E. Webber.
James R. Jorselyn.

Thirty-seventh Regiment.

Joseph D. Knights.

Forty-second Regiment.

Emmons E. Chapin.
Elmer H. French.
Wm. S. French.
Henry R. Gilmore.
Melvin E. Haraden.
Charles B. Heath.
Frederick A. Howe.
Oren B. Chaffee.
Edward Lackey.
Alvin N. Lamb.
Oliver P. Merritt.
Charles H. Newton.
Wm. A. Springer.
Enoch Spencer.
James Spencer.

Forty-fourth Regiment.

Wm. W. Howe.
Frederick A. Howe.

Fifty-fourth Regiment.

Francis W. Adams.
George Varney.
Henry O. Adams.
Charles Alden.
Hiram Bassett.
Joel Bartlett.
Jonas M. Bellows.
Simon Gager.
Hiram Gallup.
Osborn Gallup.
Nahum Gilbert.
Kinkland Hawes.
Charles F. Hobbs.
Michael McGillicoddy.
Charles F. Mullett.
Franklin H. Sawtelle.
Salem F. Adams.

Fifty-seventh Regiment.

Alexander Bedreaux. Louis Richell.

Fifty-ninth Regiment.

Thomas Gray. James Lord.
Sanford A. Sawyer.

Sixty-first Regiment.

Wm. Barron. John Gaul.

Second Heavy Artillery.

Charles W. Baker. Alexander B. Moran.
Dexter W. Trask. Daniel W. Smith.
Luke Kendrick. James D. Brown.
Oliver Rood. Benjamin H. Hatch.
Gilman Doeg. Hiram Hatch.
Andrew W. Ellis. Wm. H. Hatch.
Jonathan M. Ames. Michael McDonald.
Wm. A. Gilbert.

Third Heavy Artillery.

George S. Keeler.

Fourth Heavy Artillery.

Henry J. Bigelow. Lorenzo N. Fletcher.
Seneca B. Howland. George F. Fudge.
John W. Knight. Clark Hill.
Myron W. Sherman. James A. Hill.
Joshua B. Bellows. Nath^{l}. E. Merrill.
Wm. E. Cook. Anson Williams.
John D. Fiske.

Fourth Battery.

George H. Clark. Clement Davieux.
John J. Hynde.

Sixth Battery.

Charles A. Taylor. Dwight Sampson.

Tenth Battery.

John Nelson.

Third Battalion, Massachusetts Rifles.

Leonard F. Alexander.

Second Cavalry.

Wm. Henderson. James T. Phillips.

Third Cavalry.

Andrew Blair.

Fourth Cavalry.

Rufus E. Blackmer, Rinaldo R. Goff,
Joseph Thompson, John A. Josselyn,
George A. Garfield, Stephen H. Rollins.

Fifth Cavalry.

Lorenzo Hazard, Richard Hill,
Alfred Hazard, George Smith,
James Hazard, Austin Thomas.

Signal Corps.

John M. Howe.

First Artillery, U. S. A.

John Cogan.

Second Artillery, U. S. A.

Wm. Carroll.

Band U. S. A.

Wm. F. Herney.

Unassigned.

George Allen, Hartwell B. Martin.
Thomas Allen,

Navy.

Patrick Tiffany.

The following enlisted men were killed or died during the war:

John W. Heath, killed at Antietam September 17, 1862.
John H. Hillman.
Benjamin Davis.
Sheppard Brown.
Wm. L. Blood.
Elisha F. Johnson.
Alfred Russell.
James E. Sargent.
Ferdinand Dexter, killed at Ball's Bluff October 2, 1861.
John F. Butters, killed March 12, 1864.
Edward F. Ware, died September 23, 1862.
Edward W. Prouty, died July 2, 1862.
Wm. E. Vanever, died November 5, 1862.
Emery N. Robbins, died July 15, 1864.
Wm. A. Mullet, died May 6, 1864.
Charles Barnes, died May 6, 1864.
Frederick Davis, died March 17, 1863.
George Adams, died May 24, 1862.
Charles A. Lyon, died December 24, 1862.
Edwin R. Merritt, died December 15, 1862.
Charles E. Dickinson, died October 9, 1864.
Andrew J. Merritt, killed at Newbern March 14, 1862.
Salem D. Slayton, killed at Bermuda Hundred May 30, 1864.
Marcus E. Lyon, killed at Deep Run August 16, 1864.
Artemas Adams killed near Richmond October 13, 1864.
Henry W. Watson, killed at Darbytown October 13, 1864.
Owen Kough, killed in the Wilderness May 7, 1864.
James P. Coolidge, killed at Winchester September 19, 1864.
Joseph W. Webber, killed at Winchester, September 19, 1864.
Hosea L. Barnes, killed at Piedmont June 15, 1864.
Elijah C. Pearl, died December 8, 1864.
Francis T. Bartlett, died December 30, 1863.
Orlando F. Carpenter, died of wounds June 16, 1864.
James Claffey, killed at Cold Harbor June 3, 1864.
Lyman Hawley, killed at Gaines Mill June 27, 1862.
John F. Hobbs, died September 21, 1862.
George F. Haven, killed at Knoxville November 29, 1863.
Henry Fales, killed in the Wilderness May 6, 1864.
James B. Freeman, killed in the Wilderness May 7, 1864.
Harrison Moulton, died at Andersonville January 25, 1865.
Martin L. D. Leach, died September 16, 1865.
James C. McClure, died August 25, 1863.
Emerson Wolcott, died April 10, 1865.
George W. Sloan, died July 9, 1865.
Oliver F. Lakin, died October 10, 1864.
James Taylor, died March 25, 1865.
George R. Johnson, died April 9, 1864.
Jefferson Richards, died June 25, 1864.

Some of those in the above roll of the dead belonged to Brookfield, but enlisted elsewhere.

The expenditures of money by the town during the war were $29,874.91, of which the sum of $14,166.19 was re-imbursed by the State, as expended under the law for State aid.

But this sketch with the limited space assigned to it in these volumes, must be brought to a close. Besides the Orthodox, Unitarian and Baptist churches already referred to, there is a Methodist church, established in the early part of this century, and a Catholic church, established about the year 1867, of which Father Grace is pastor. Both enjoy a steady and prosperous growth. The town-house was built at a cost of about seventy thousand dollars, and there are two hotels, a high school, a public library, a Grand Army Post and a Masonic Lodge. The business of the town is not extensive, and is chiefly confined to the manufacture of boots and shoes, and bricks, the former by George H. Burt & Co., who employ about five hundred hands, and the latter by the Brookfield Press Brick Company. Under the last census of 1885 the population of the town was three thousand and thirteen, having increased to that number from two thousand six hundred and sixty, in 1875. The valuation of the town is about one million three hundred thousand dollars. At the last annual meeting the following appropriations were made to defray the expenses of the town for the ensuing year:

Fire Department	$1,250 00
Schools	5,700 00
Roads and Bridges	3,000 00
Poor	2,500 00
Memorial Day	100 00
Library	500 00
Town Dept	3,000 00
Contingent	1,600 00
Military Aid	460 00
Text Books	500 00
Cemeteries	60 00
Transportation of Scholars	100 00
Common	50 00
Water	15,000 00
State Tax	1,642 50
County Tax	976 00
Overlay and Sundries	603 91
	$37,042 41

The Merrick Public library, a valuable adjunct to the school system of the town and a means of improvement and cultivation to all its inhabitants, stands as a monument to the memory of two of its sons. Its foundation was laid in 1865, for the formation of a library association, with a capital of two hundred and ninety-five dollars, divided into fifty-nine shares at five dollars each, which were taken, five by one person, forty by twenty persons at two each, and the remainder by fourteen at one each. Additions to this capital were made by gifts of money and books, and about two hundred volumes which had belonged to another, then extinct association, were placed on its shelves. Mr. George Howe, of Boston, contributed one hundred dollars, and his brother, Jabez C. Howe, two hundred and fifty dollars as mementoes of their attachment to an early home. With these and other gifts the library prospered until 1867, when receiving a bequest under the will of Pliny Merrick, a native of the town, it was merged in the Merrick Public Library. Mr. Merrick said in his will: "Having always felt a strong attachment to the town of Brookfield, in which I was born, and where I spent the early years of my life, and where the remains of my parents are entombed; and wishing to do something to promote the well being and prosperity of the inhabitants of the town in all time to come, I do hereby to that end, and for that purpose, give and bequeath to the said town of Brookfield, the sum of ten thousand dollars to be preserved and maintained perpetually as a fund to be denominated the 'library fund.' The income and interest of which shall be appropriated to the purchase, binding and repair of books, to constitute a library for the free use of the inhabitants of the town and the visitors thereto, subject only to such rules and regulations as the town shall from time to time make and present, and I in like manner give and bequeath to said town all my books which I shall own at my decease, except law books, to constitute a part of said library. These two legacies of money and books are upon the condition that the town shall within nine months next after the probate allowance of this will, vote to accept the same upon and subject to the conditions herein contained. If the town should not so vote the said legacies are to be wholly void and of no force or effect."

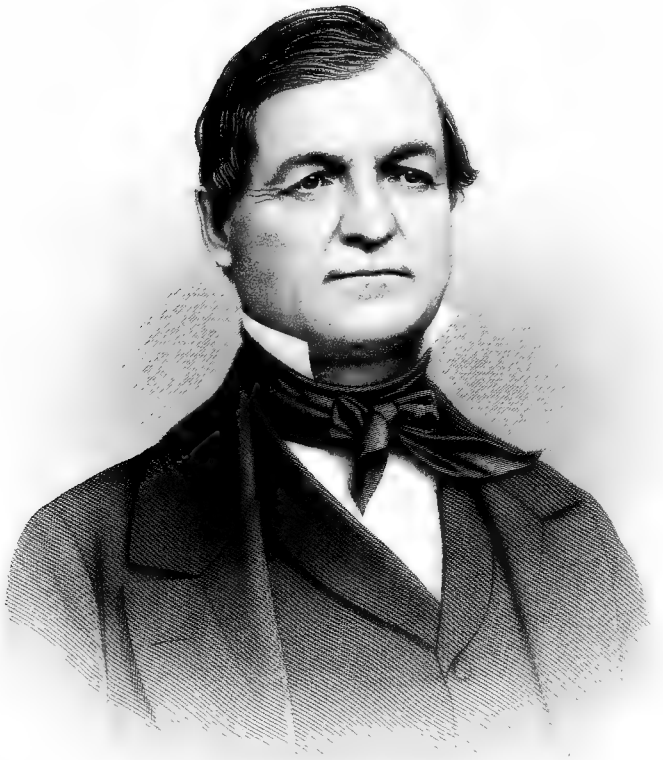
The legacies were accepted at the annual meeting of the town in April, 1867, and the library received ten thousand dollars and four hundred and fifty volumes, with one hundred and fifty magazines and unbound serials. The fund yields an income of about seven hundred and fifty dollars. This income is expended, as provided in the will, for the purchase, binding and repair of books, while other current expenses of the library are met by town appropriations.

The commodious and substantial building in which the library is now kept is called "Banister Memorial Hall," and was erected by William A. Banister, of New York, a native of the town, at a cost of about ten thousand dollars, on land presented to the town by Nancy S. R. Felton, widow of Oliver C. Felton, and was dedicated January 31, 1884. At that time the library contained seven thousand five hundred volumes. The present trustees of the institution are Washington Tufts, D. W. Hodgkins, L. H. R. Goss, H. V. Crosby, E. J. Irwin and C. F. Holt.

Judge Pliny Merrick, the benefactor and real founder of the library, was born in Brookfield, August 2, 1794, and died in Boston, February 1, 1867. He was the son of Pliny Merrick, a graduate at Harvard in 1776, and one of Brookfield's most prominent men. Judge Merrick graduated at Harvard in 1814 in the class with Martin Brimmer, Rev. Francis G. P. Greenwood, William H. Prescott and Rev. James Walker. He studied law with Levi Lincoln, and began practice in Worcester in 1817, subsequently practicing at Swansea and Taunton. In 1824 he was appointed county attorney, in 1832 attorney for the middle district, and in 1843 a judge of the old Common Pleas Court. In 1851 he was again appointed judge of the Common Pleas Court, and in 1853 a justice of the Supreme Judicial Court. He was also Representative from Worcester in 1827, and Senator in 1850. Besides the bequest to his native town, he made bequests to the City of Worcester for the establishment of schools of a high grade.

Among other distinguished men of Brookfield, the following may be mentioned. Jedediah Foster was born in Andover, October 10, 1726, and died October 17, 1779. He graduated at Harvard in 1744, and settled in Brookfield in the practice of law. He was a delegate to the Provincial Congress in 1774–75, and was an influential member. He was chosen councillor in 1774, and disapproved by General Gage, and re-chosen in 1775. He was judge of the Superior Court of Judicature from 1776 to his death, and had previously been probate judge and judge of the Worcester County Court of Common Pleas.

Dwight Foster, son of Jedediah, was born in Brookfield, December 7, 1757, and died in that town April 29, 1823. He graduated at Brown University



Aaron Kimball

in 1774 and practiced law in his native town. He was Sheriff and Common Pleas Judge of Worcester County, a member of the House and Senate in the General Court, member of Congress from 1793 to 1799, and United States Senator from 1800 to 1803. On the death of his father, in 1779, while a member of the State Convention for framing the State Constitution, he was chosen in his place.

Jabez Upham, son of Phinehas Upham, was born in Brookfield in 1764 and graduated at Harvard in 1785. He studied law with Dwight Foster and was admitted to the bar in 1788. He practiced a few years in Sturbridge, Mass., and Claremont, New Hampshire, and thence removed to Brookfield, where he died, November 8, 1811. He represented his native town in the General Court and the Worcester South District in Congress, resigning his seat in 1809.

Wm. B. Banister was born in Brookfield, November 8, 1773 and graduated at Dartmouth in 1797. He was a distinguished member of both the Worcester and Essex bars and died in Newburyport, where a considerable portion of his professional life was spent, July 1, 1853.

Amos Crosby was born in Brookfield in 1761 and graduated at Harvard in 1786. He was a preceptor in Leicester Academy and tutor at Harvard. He afterwards practiced law in Brookfield until his death in June, 1836.

Alfred D. Foster was born in Brookfield July 26, 1800, and graduated at Harvard in 1819. He studied law with S. M. Burnside, but after a few years' practice retired from active business. He was three years a member of the Executive Council, and a member of the Massachusetts Senate in 1848.

Daniel Gilbert, a native of Brookfield, graduated at Dartmouth in 1796 and was admitted to the bar in 1805. He died, March 11, 1851, at the age of seventy-six.

Lovell Walker was born in Brookfield in 1768 and graduated at Dartmouth in 1794. He practiced law in Templeton and Leominster, and was a member of the Senate in 1830 and 1831. He died March 25, 1840.

Among other natives of Brookfield who have distinguished themselves either at home or in wider fields of enterprise may be mentioned Joseph Dwight, Josiah Converse, Phinehas Upham, Thomas Hale, Oliver Crosby, Simeon Draper and Oliver C. Felton. These belonged to past generations and of the living it is not proposed to speak.

With these sketches this imperfect narrative must close. It is only necessary to say in conclusion that the writer has drawn freely from Temple's valuable "History of North Brookfield" as a source of supply of historical material, for which he desires to express the fullest acknowledgment and the sincerest thanks. That history being a town publication, he has esteemed it a sort of town record, and therefore free for public use.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

AARON KIMBALL.

Aaron Kimball was the son of Aaron and Silence (Bartlett) Kimball, and was born at North Brookfield, June 19, 1796. His paternal grandfather, Benjamin, came from Ipswich to Brookfield prior to 1755, and since that time the family name has been prominently associated with Brookfield and her interests.

He married Eliza Cooley of Long Meadow, by whom were the following children: Harriet Cooley, born, February 3, 1830, died February 6, 1860; Adeline Augusta, born October 1, 1832 d; Mary Ann, born November 15, 1834—died, 1884; Franklin Olcott, born October 26, 1838—died December 24, 1856.

June 21, 1853, he married Persis Stebbins of Wilbraham: the issue was: John Cone, born August 16, 1857.

Aaron Kimball began business at Brookfield as a country merchant, in 1821, with small capital, except force and perseverance. In 1830 he formed a partnership with J. P. Robinson, and commenced the manufacture of shoes at Brookfield. In 1851 they opened a shoe and leather store on Fulton Street, Boston, from whence they removed to the well-known warehouse on Hanover Street, opposite the American House.

For thirty-four years Mr. Kimball was the senior partner of the wholesale boot and shoe house of Kimball, Robinson and Co., Boston.

During the financial storms of this period all their business engagements were met with great promptness. The panic of 1837 especially tested Mr. Kimball's executive ability with great credit to himself.

He belonged to that school of men who did business on honor, and whose word was considered as good as their bond. He possessed sterling integrity, great firmness, a pure character, and was considered the leading business man of his day at Brookfield.

He retired from active business in 1864, and died at Brookfield, May 17, 1866.

JOHN PARMELEE ROBINSON.

Rev. John Robinson, the supposed ancestor of the subject of this sketch, was the well-known pastor of the Pilgrim Church. He became connected with that church at Scrooby soon after 1606 while it was under the ministration of Richard Clyfton. He was born in Lincolnshire in 1576, and entering Emanuel College in 1592 he took the degree of M.A. in 1600 and B.D. in 1607. He began his ministerial labors in Mendham, where on account of his puritan tendencies he was at length suspended from his functions. Retiring to Norwich, after preaching a short time to a small puritan congregation, he at last re-

nounced all communion with the church. Robinson afterwards said "that light broke in upon him by degrees, that he hesitated to outrun those of his puritan brethren who could still reconcile themselves to remain in the establishment." He was called even by an opponent of separatism "the most learned, polished and modest spirit that ever the sect enjoyed."

In 1608 he went with the church to Amsterdam where it remained a year and to Leyden in 1609. Mr. Clyfton having decided to remain at Amsterdam, Mr. Robinson was chosen pastor and at his house on Clock Alley in the rear of St. Peter's Church, in Leyden, his congregation probably met on the Sabbath. Here Robinson lived from the 5th of May, 1611, the date of the deed of the premises, until his death in 1625. The records of the church of St. Peter's show that he was buried under its pavement and that the sum of nine florins was paid for the right of burial. This sum, however, only secured a place of deposit for the term of seven years and it is therefore probable that at the end of that time either his coffin was removed to an unknown grave or his ashes were scattered in the burial of others.

Subsequent to the death of Mr. Robinson his widow and son Isaac came to New England and from this son the subject of this sketch was probably descended, the line of descent from John being Isaac, Thomas, David, David, Noah, Hezekiah and John Parmelee.

John Parmelee Robinson was the son of Hezekiah and Rebecca (Cooley) Robinson and was born in West Granville in the county Hampden, Massachusetts, April 24, 1809. Rebecca (Cooley) Robinson, his mother, was the daughter of Josiah Cooley, of Longmeadow, and descended through him and another Josiah and two Eliakims from Benjamin, who came from England about 1635 and not long after settled in Springfield. Benjamin Cooley is first mentioned in the history of Springfield as owning land at the "long meddowe" in 1645, a part of the town which was incorporated as a precinct in 1715 and a separate town in 1783. It is evident from the records that the Cooley family always retained their lands at the Longe Meddowe in Springfield and in Longmeadow after its incorporation. Mr. Cooley was one of the selectmen of Springfield as early as 1646, and occupied a position on the Board many years. At later dates he is called Ensign Benjamin Cooley and is spoken of as distinguishing himself in the Indian Wars.

The other children of Hezekiah Robinson were Josiah C., of Longmeadow, and Noah H., of Elmira, New York, both deceased, and Henry A. of Springfield and Emeline and Harriet R., both unmarried. The subject of this sketch attended school at West Granville and afterwards at the Westfield Seminary where a more thorough education was possible than the public schools of his native town could furnish. After leaving school he was in 1828 and a part of 1829 employed as teacher in West Granville, and for a short time afterwards in Longmeadow, the old home of his mother. At the age of twenty-one he removed to Brookfield where with Aaron Kimball he engaged in the manufacture of boots and shoes. With devoted labor and careful management the business of Kimball & Robinson after a solid foundation had been laid assumed large proportions, soon requiring more attention to the sale of goods in Boston than visits to that city twice in a week could furnish. In 1852 Mr. Robinson removed to Boston and there took up his permanent residence. Up to that time the Boston business had always been transacted by Mr. Robinson while Mr. Kimball gave his attention more particularly to the business of the factory. Mr. Robinson had occupied for the transaction of his business a part of the office of William C. Murdock in Fulton Street (that part of Boston then being the headquarters of the shoe and leather trade), who did a commission business in boots and shoes. This business Kimball & Robinson bought out in 1852 and for several years they carried on a large and increasing business at the old stand. During Mr. Robinson's connection with Mr. Kimball and afterwards in other business connections, his house may be said to have been the largest in their line of business in Boston. They not only sold their own goods but those manufactured by others in Brookfield, Medway, Hudson, Massachusetts, and Dover, New Hampshire, the manufacture being carried on on joint account and Mr. Robinson always making the purchase of leather.

After remaining in Fulton Street a few years Kimball & Robinson removed to Hanover Street and occupied a store opposite the American House. While there two trusted employees of the house were taken into partnership and the firm-name became Kimball, Robinson & Co. It so remained until December 1, 1864, when the partnership expired by limitation, and Mr. Robinson formed a new firm, associating with himself James Longley, Jr., under the name of Robinson & Longley. Mr. Longley had been brought up in the house and on the 24th of October, 1866, married Julia Frances, Mr. Robinson's daughter.

At the beginning of the War of the Rebellion Mr. Robinson's house, like other large boot and shoe concerns of that period, suffered heavily from losses at the South, but by shrewd management and persistent effort his firm not only successfully went through the financial storm, but assisted many others, as in the struggle of 1857. In 1865 Robinson & Longley removed to Pearl Street, where they continued in business until 1867, when they were succeeded by Loring & Reynolds, in whose concern Mr. Robinson and Mr. Longley were special partners. Mr. Kimball died in 1866, but Mr. Robinson continued his interest in the Brookfield factory until September, 1881, when he sold the property.

John P. Robinson

Francis Lord

Mr. Robinson died at North Conway, N. H., August 5, 1882. He married, February 18, 1835, Eliza A., daughter of Stephen and Fanny (Paige) Rice, of Hardwick, and had four children,—Frances Eliza, Julia Frances, John Cooley and Anna Eliza, all of whom died young except Julia Frances, the wife, now living, of James Longley, of Boston, as has been already mentioned. Stephen Rice, of Hardwick, the father of Mrs. Robinson, was descended, through Stephen, of Westboro', who married Dorothy Woods, of Marlboro', Beriah Rice, of Westboro', who married Mary Goodenow, of Marlboro', Thomas Rice, of Marlboro', who married Anna Rice, his cousin, Thomas Rice, of Sudbury, who married a wife Mary, from Edward Rice, born in England about 1594, who came to New England before 1639, and settled in Sudbury in that year.

During the residence of Mr. Robinson in Brookfield he was a leading man in the town, prominent in every good work, but, with the exception of the office of postmaster, which he held under the Whig administration inaugurated by the election of Zachary Taylor in 1848, he held no public office. Aside from his interest in the Unitarian Society, of which he was an active and useful member, and his interest in the general welfare of the town and the comfort and happiness of its people, he devoted his time and energies to his business, and neither sought nor desired public station.

After he came to Boston, he first associated himself with the church at the corner of Beach Street and Harrison Avenue, of which Rev. James I. T. Coolidge, then a Unitarian, was pastor, and later with that of Rev. Edward E. Hale, near his residence, which was at the corner of Washington Street and Chester Park. In the ministry at large, of which he was once an officer, he felt a special interest, and did much to sustain it and promote its usefulness.

Like other business men who, by the cultivation of all their powers, build up and maintain prosperous enterprises in business, Mr. Robinson looked on his school instruction as only the beginning of knowledge, and continued through life to build on the foundation laid in his boyhood, and educate himself in wider fields of knowledge than the demands of his daily vocation required. Possessed of an exceedingly genial temperament, of good common sense, an unerring judgment, an unswerving integrity, a capacity for honest and thorough investigation, and tastes inclined as his mind developed to literary pursuits, it would have been difficult to find a station in public or private life which he could not have creditably filled. For many years he was a director in the Eliot Insurance Company, and afterwards one of the organizers and a director of the Eliot Bank and its successor, the Eliot National Bank, until his death; and to his conservative prudence and sagacious insight these institutions owed a debt of gratitude which they were ever ready to acknowledge.

FRANCIS HOWE.

Francis Howe, whose portrait accompanies this sketch, was descended from John Howe, the first American ancestor. John Howe came from England and first settled in Watertown whence he removed to Sudbury where he was living in 1639, and made a freeman in 1640. In 1642 he was a selectman in that town. He was one of the petitioners for the grant constituting the town of Marlboro', and in 1657 removed to that place. The petition for the grant was presented to the General Court in May, 1656, and besides Mr. Howe, the petitioners were: Edmund Rice, William Ward, Thomas King, John Woods, Thomas Goodnow, John Ruddocke, Henry Rice, John Bent, Sr., John Maynard, Peter Bent and Edward Rice. In compliance with the petition a plantation known by the Indian name Whipsuppenicke, was granted and laid out containing 29,419 acres.

It is said that John Howe was the first white man to take up his residence on the grant. He built a house and there lived until his death in 1687. By a wife, Mary, whose death occurred not far from the time of his own, he had eleven children—John, 1640; Samuel, 1642; Sarah, 1644; Mary, 1646; Isaac, 1648; Josiah, Mary again, 1654; Thomas, 1656; Daniel, 1658; Alexander, 1661; and Eleazur, 1662. Josiah, one of the above sons, married March 18, 1671, Mary Haynes and had five children—Mary, 1672; Mary again, 1674; Josiah, 1678; Daniel, 1681; and Ruth, 1684. Josiah, one of these children, married June 14, 1706, Sarah Bigelow, and November 22, 1713, Mary Marble, and died September 20, 1766. His children were—Phinehas, 1707; Abraham, 1709; Rachel, 1710; Sarah, 1714; Mary, 1716; Josiah, 1720; Jacob, 1724. Abraham Howe, one of the above, settled in Brookfield, and married Martha Potter. His children were—Ephraim, born September 23, 1733; Abraham, 1735; Abner, 1736; Sarah, 1738; Rachel, 1741; Martha, 1744; Persis, 1749; Eli, 1752; and Abraham again, 1758. Ephraim, one of the children of Abraham, married in September, 1757, Sarah Gilbert of Brookfield, and had William born in 1759; Molly, 1761; Rachel, 1763; Sarah, 1766; Martha, 1768; Lucy, 1769; and Josiah, 1774. William Howe, one of the above children, born November 15, 1759, was a trader in Brookfield, and married November 2, 1780, Abigail, daughter of Jabez Crosby of Brookfield, and had Sally, 1782; Nancy, 1784; Jabez C., 1787; Otis, 1788; Otis again, 1790; William, 1792; George, 1795; Amos, 1797; Francis, 1799; Oliver, 1801; Charlotte Abigail, 1804; and Charlotte again, 1807. Jabez C. and George Howe were the late distinguished merchants of Boston, known as partners in the well-known house, of J. C. Howe and Co. Otis Howe was also a merchant in Boston, and the three daughters, Sally, Nancy, and Charlotte Abigail, married Darius Hovey and Cyrus Dean, of Brookfield, and Samuel Johnson of Boston.

All the children are now deceased. Mr. Hovey was the father of the late Charles F. Hovey and George Hovey of Boston.

Francis Howe, the subject of this sketch, married in September, 1824, Maria A., daughter of Ephraim Richards, of Enfield, and had eight children, three of whom died young and five of whom survived him. A daughter, Abbie J., married S. R. Pattison, an attorney of London, England, who has acquired some distinction as an author and scientist, and also as a philanthropist. Lucretia P., another daughter, married Wm. J. Pingree, of Boston, of the firm of Wm. J. Pingree & Brother, one of the leading dry goods commission houses in that city. Among the living children there are two other brothers—William, for many years a planter in Mississippi, and Frederick A. Howe, an esteemed and prosperous commission merchant in Boston. Albert R. Howe, another son, born January 3, 1840, died in Chicago, June 1, 1884. He was major of the 5th Massachusetts cavalry in the War of the Rebellion, and after the war settled with his brother, William, in the South and engaged in the business of cotton planting. He was a member of the 43d Congress from Mississippi, and afterwards until his death was a merchant in Chicago.

Francis Howe was educated in the schools of his native town, and began business in Enfield. As his business grew and his capacity for its management developed he found the field in which he operated too narrow for the full satisfaction of his active spirit, and he removed to Boston, where, for some years, he was engaged in the West India business as a member of the well-known firm of Pope & Howe. With the competence which he had acquired as the result of his successful business career in Boston, he returned to his native town, whose inland air was more congenial to him than he had found the harsher airs from the sea. In Brookfield, after his return, he was associated for some time with Chester W. Chapin, of Springfield, and Frank Morgan, of Palmer, in the ownership of a stage-line between Worcester and Hartford, and at the same time carried on a large and successful country store. He always felt a deep interest in State and national politics, and was an active and influential leader of the democratic party of the town. As the candidate of that party he represented the town in the house of representatives in 1841–43, and represented Worcester County in the Senate in 1846. Subsequent to the Kansas outrages and in consequence of the attitude concerning them assumed by the party to which he had always been warmly attached he became a member and one of the founders of the Republican party, and to that organization and its success he lent his aid and energies.

As a member of the Orthodox Congregational Church, with which he became connected in 1867, he was always generous in his benefactions, and in private charities his hand was always found open and his heart warm. In all the varied fields of labor into which he had entered he carried with him a sound judgment, good common sense, a firm will, unswerving integrity, a generous spirit and a determination to win success. It was said, by one who knew him, "he will be long remembered as a gentleman of kind and generous feelings, courteous manners and uncompromising integrity. The church, society and the community have suffered a serious loss and his death will be severely felt by a large circle of friends and relatives." Mr. Howe died in Brookfield January 4, 1879, leaving, besides the children above mentioned, a widow, who is still a resident of that town.

LUTHER STOWELL.

Luther Stowell was the son of Luther and Lucy (Richardson) Stowell and was born at Sturbridge December 22, 1799. He came to Brookfield with his parents when young and spent his life here. Many of his winters when a young man were devoted to school teaching. May 11, 1827, he married Sophia Barret, of Brookfield. Mr. Stowell was a man who gave close attention to his own pursuits, which were principally agricultural. He was esteemed a good citizen, represented his town as selectman and in 1840 and 1860 represented his district in the Legislature of the State. Mr. Stowell was a man of good judgment and in his business affairs was successful. He died at Brookfield August 5, 1865.

WILLIAM A. BANISTER.

William A. Banister was born at Brookfield, Mass., June 4th, 1807. He was the son of Seth and Dolly (Cutter) Banister, and belongs to the sixth generation bearing the name at Brookfield. His paternal grandfather, Seth, was a leading man in military affairs. In 1777 had served in the Revolutionary army nineteen months, the highest average in the third precinct; commanded a company in the service and rose to the rank of colonel. He married Marcy Warriner, of Brimfield. Their children were William Bostwick, born November 8, 1773, a benefactor of Newburyport; Liberty, born October 16, 1775; Seth, born January 4, 1778, was a captain in the War of 1812 and died at Brookfield September 7, 1857.

The issue of Seth and Dolly Banister was: Caroline C., died July 11, 1879; William A. the subject of this sketch; Eliza Ann, died 1828; Sarah, died young; and Seth W., born January 15, 1811, and died October 5, 1861.

William A. Banister spent his boyhood at Brookfield, and from there went to Boston. In 1831 he engaged himself at Charleston, S. C., as a salesman.

His close attention to his duties through three successive yellow fever seasons showed his devotion to business entrusted to him. Shortly afterwards the mercantile house of Banister & Ravenel was established for direct trade between Charleston and Europe, with Mr. Banister at its head. Mr. Meminger, after-

Luther Stowell

W. A. Barrett

Edwin Rice

wards Confederate Secretary of the Treasury, was a special partner in this house.

After this time Mr. Banister made annual business visits to Europe, and in 1838 was a passenger on the Great Western, the finest Atlantic voyage made by passenger steamer from America to England. He witnessed the demonstrations at the coronation of Queen Victoria in that year. In 1845 he moved to New York city, and was associated with several large importing and jobbing houses, taking rank with the first merchants of his day, and doing a business of several millions annually. He always showed the courage, capacity and high honor which most become a merchant. He retired from active business in 1859.

In 1861 he was South on business, and witnessed the bombardment of Fort Sumter and the surrender of the same on the afternoon of April 13th.

Mr. Banister has shown his interest in humanity by his works. He has assisted in educating his three nephews, sons of his brother, Seth W.; has given several thousand dollars to the home for aged men at Newburyport, a beautiful gate-way to the cemetery at Brookfield, in conjunction with Otis Hayden, Esq., and donated ten thousand dollars for founding a public library at Brookfield.

Of late years Mr. Banister has lived in comparative retirement, with New York City as his home.

EDWIN RICE.

Edmund Rice, the American ancestor of the subject of this sketch, came from Barkhamstead, in the County of Hertfordshire, in England, and settled in Sudbury, Massachusetts, in 1638 or 1639. He was a Selectman in 1644 and for some years afterwards, and deacon of the church in 1648. His son Thomas Rice also lived in Sudbury and by a wife Mary had thirteen children, one of whom was Peter, born October 24, 1658. Peter Rice, of Marlboro', married Rebecca, daughter of Abraham and Hannah (Ward) Howe, of Marlboro', and had eleven children, one of whom was Elisha, born December 2, 1690. Elisha Rice, of Brookfield, married Martha Rice October 6, 1720, and had seven children, one of whom was Elnathan. Elnathan Rice, of Brookfield, married Lucy Walker in October, 1754, and had six children, one of whom was Rufus, born February 7, 1764. Rufus Rice, of Brookfield, married Betsey Moore October 2, 1786, and had nine children, one of whom was Shepard, born September 20, 1790. Shepard Rice, of Brookfield, married Mahala Carpenter April 22, 1810, and had Elsie (1812), who married John E. Ainsworth, of Brimfield; Elliot (1814), who married Harriet Nickols; Edwin, April 11, 1817; Miriam, who married Sylvanus King, of Monson and Leprelet.

Edwin Rice, the son of Shepard, is the subject of this sketch. He received such an education as the schools of his native town were able to furnish supplemented by that which his native gifts fortunately enabled him to acquire. After leaving school, with the other boys in his neighborhood he naturally drifted into the shoe establishments of Brookfield, then extensive and flourishing, to learn the business of manufacturing shoes and to prepare himself for active life. He soon, however, found the field into which he had entered too narrow for his restless spirit and on the 20th of April, 1841, he went to Boston and engaged in the retail furniture business in partnership with David Walker. This enterprise proved unsuccessful and the end of six months found the concern insolvent. The creditors offered a settlement at a large discount on their indebtedness which Mr. Rice refused and after a year's hard work as Sheriff's keeper and in other occupations he liquidated the entire liabilities of the concern and acquired a reputation for industry and integrity which he has retained through life.

In 1845 he was appointed constable by Thomas A. Davis, the mayor of Boston, and held that officer's warrant not far from twenty-five years. His promptness in the despatch of business, his accurate and intelligent methods, and above all his thorough honesty in all his dealings made him a popular officer. Among the leading lawyers of Court Street, Sohier and Welch, Hubbard and Watts, Fiske and Rand, Whiting and Russell, Hutchins and Wheeler, Whitman and Davis, and other attorneys, too numerous to mention, entrusted him with their business, and his income from this source enabled him to make investments in real estate, in which he has found a profitable account. In 1851 he was commissioned by Governor Boutwell as coroner, and the business of that office, by no means insignificant, was added to his regular occupation as constable. This office he held about ten years, and he has since devoted his full time to the management of his real estate and other properties of which he has become possessed.

When Mr. Rice came to Boston, in 1841, he settled in East Boston, and during the forty-seven years which have since elapsed he has lived within fifty feet of his present residence in Saratoga Street. At that time the population of East Boston was about one thousand, and there are now living on the island only four families that were living there then.

Mr. Rice married March 5, 1838, Frances L. Muzzy, of Brookfield, by whom he had no children. His second wife was Abbie E. Brigham of Boston, daughter of Major Franklin Brigham, of Lancaster, whom he married August 13, 1878. He has an only child, Edwin Brigham Rice, who was born December 5, 1879.

Mr. Rice has never sought political preferment, and has declined all participation in the management of enterprises, in which he did not have a substantial interest. He is a large owner in the Quincy Mining Company, and as one of its directors makes an annual visit to its properties in Michigan. He is an enthusiastic Mason, an active member of Joseph Webb Lodge of Boston, and also a member of the National

Lancers. He is connected with the Unitarian Society of East Boston, having been brought up in a liberal faith. His father was active in the settlement of a Universalist church in Brookfield, and from Universalism to Unitarianism was an easy transition for the son.

Mr. Rice, at the age of seventy-one, is still active in mind and body, and with the enjoyment of a handsome competence, acquired by his own skill and energy and of a happy home, he has apparently many years yet before him of usefulness and content.

CHAPTER LXXX.

NORTH BROOKFIELD.

BY WILLIAM T. DAVIS.

NORTH BROOKFIELD is substantially the Second Precinct of Brookfield, which was incorporated March 28, 1750. The petitioners for a separate precinct in the northeasterly part of Brookfield having failed to secure an act of incorporation in 1749, presented a petition at the next session of the General Court in 1750, in which they stated as follows:

That your petitioners under our unhappy and remote situation from the place of public worship in said town having often petitioned the town for relief either by building a meeting-house at or near the centre of the town as it now lies or to set us off as a distinct parish as per our former petitions may appear; but being often denied our request which we thought most reasonable; the town at last made a grant to the inhabitants of the said part of the town that they with such as would join with them—they entering their names or sending them to the town clerk in writing within the space of three months from the date of the grant, should be set off as a distinct Parish—provided they and their possessions did not exceed one-third part of said town for quantity and quality as per the vote or grant of the town may appear; upon which vote or grant we agreed to build a handsome frame for the public worship of God; and in April last we preferred a petition to this Honored Court so agreeable (as we thought) to the town's vote that none would oppose it; but to our surprise we found such opposition from the town and some of our petitioners that caused us to desist the proceeding; and being willing to do anything reasonable to satisfy our disaffected brethren we covenanted and agreed for their satisfaction to be at the cost of a committee of uninterested worthy gentlemen mutually chosen who have been upon the spot and heard the pleas and viewed the proposed parish and have returned their judgment that the house stands just and reasonable to accommodate them as well as ourselves as per their return and the covenants we entered into may appear. Therefore your petitioners pray that this Honored Court will incorporate us who have returned our names to the town clerk agreeable to the vote of the town into a distinct Parish and invest us with parish privileges; granting also a liberty of others joyneing with us (not to exceed one-third part of the town as abovesaid) for the space of two years or eighteen months or as this Honored Court shall think meet; And your petitioners further pray that one-third part of the lands in said town sequestered to ministry and school use or the incomes thereof may be set over and secured to us; and also that the town of Brookfield abate or reimburse to your petitioners and such as join with them their proportion of a tax lately assessed on our polls and estates for the settlement and ordination charges of the Rev. Mr. Elisha Harding and the repairs of the old meeting-house amounting in the whole to about twelve hundred pounds old tenor currency more or less. And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.

This petition was signed by Thomas Hale, Wm. Ayres, Ebenezer Witt and fifty-four others, and the record of the General Court contains the following order:

That the prayer of the petitioners be so far granted as that they with their families and estates, together with such persons and their estates who shall within three months from this time signify that desire therefor under their hands to the clerk of the town of Brookfield, be and they hereby are set off a Distinct Parish and are endowed with all the privileges and subjected to all the duties which the other inhabitants of Parishes are by the laws of the Province endowed with or subjected to—Provided their possessions do not exceed one-third part of the said town of Brookfield for quantity and quality.

THOMAS HUBBARD, *Speaker pro tempore.*

In Council March 29, 1756, Read and Concurred.

SAMUEL HOLBROOK, *Dep. Secy.*

Consented to

S. PHIPPS.

After the incorporation of the Second Precinct the Second Parish was organized at the house of Jabez Ayres, Monday, May 21, 1750, by the choice of Capt. Wm. Ayres moderator, Capt. Wm. Ayres precinct clerk and Capt. Wm. Ayres, Capt. Ebenezer Witt, Samuel Gould, Noah Barns and Benjamin Adams precinct committee. Thomas Bartlett was chosen treasurer, Joseph Stone collector, and Wm. Ayres, Samuel Gould, Wm. Witt, Jason Bigelow and Moses Ayres were made assessors. The frame of a meeting-house was reared April 5, 1749, before the act of incorporation had been secured, and, though occupied, it was not completed for some years. Rev. Eli Forbush or, as he afterwards called himself, Rev. Eli Forbes, was invited to settle as pastor, and was ordained June 3, 1752. Mr. Forbes was born in Westborough in 1726, and graduated at Harvard in 1751. During his collegiate career he enlisted in the army to engage in the French war, but returned to Cambridge, and graduated seven years after he entered as freshman. During his pastorate he was for a time an Indian missionary, and established a church and school among the Oneidas. He was dismissed at his own request March 1, 1775, in consequence of certain indignities resulting from an undeserved suspicion of his disloyalty to the patriot cause. He was installed over the First Church in Gloucester June 5, 1776, and died in his pastorate in that town December 15, 1804.

The next settled minister was Rev. Joseph Appleton, of Ipswich, who was ordained October 3, 1776, and died in the pastorate July 25, 1795. Mr. Appleton came from a good stock. He was descended from Samuel Appleton, who was born in Little Waldingfield, County of Suffolk, England, in 1586, and was the seventh in descent from John Apulton, of Great Waldingfield, who was living in 1396. Samuel Appleton came to New England about 1635, and settled in Ipswich, where he had a grant of lands. He married Mary Everard, who came to New England with her husband and probably her children—John, Samuel, Sarah, Judith and Martha. Samuel, the second son, was born at Little Waldingfield in 1624, and during the career of Andros, in New England, he took a definite and influential stand against him. He married

Hannah Paine, and had Hannah, Judith and Samuel. By a second wife, Mary Oliver, whom he married December 8, 1656, he had John, Isaac, Oliver and Joannah. Isaac Appleton, one of the above children, born in 1664, married Priscilla Baker, and had Priscilla, Mary, Isaac, Elizabeth, Martha and Rebecca. Isaac Appleton, one of the above, born in Ipswich in 1704, married Elizabeth Sawyer, of Wells, in the State of Maine, and had Isaac, Francis, Elizabeth, Samuel, Thomas, John, Daniel, William, Mary and Joseph. Joseph, the youngest child, graduated at Brown University in 1772, and was settled in North Brookfield soon after he had completed his studies for the ministry. He married Mary Hook and had the following children, all of whom were born in Brookfield—Phineas, born in 1779, who died in 1800; Joseph, born in 1781, and died in 1793; Abigail Ellery, born in 1784; William, Sarah Hook and Mary Ann. William, the youngest son, was born in that part of Brookfield which is now North Brookfield, November 16, 1786, and died in Brookline, Mass., February 15, 1862. He came to Boston in 1807, and after a short career of preparation for mercantile pursuits he advanced step by step until he occupied a place in the front rank of Boston merchants. He was the president of the Branch Bank of the United States from 1832 to 1836 and a member of Congress from 1851 to 1855, and in 1861–62. He was also president of the Provident Association, and was a large benefactor of the Massachusetts General Hospital. He was a benefactor also of his native town, and as a memorial of him therefore, as well as of his father, this sketch has been introduced into this narrative. On the 16th of March, 1859, he gave to the church and parish, over which his father had ministered, a considerable number of books and the sum of $5000 for the purpose of establishing a Parish Library. He provided that the sum of $2000 should be kept as a permanent fund, and that the remainder, with the income of the fund, could be expended in the purchase of books and paying the current expenses of the library. The parish accepted the gift, and voted that the library should be called "The Appleton Library." It was also voted that the pastor for the time being and four other persons, chosen by the parish, should compose a board of trustees to have the library in charge. The original board consisted of Rev. Dr. Thomas Snell, the successor of Rev. Joseph Appleton, Rev. Christopher Cushing, Charles Adams, Jr., Dr. Joshua Porter, Bonum Nye and Gideon B. Dewing. The chapel was enlarged to receive the library, and, at the present time, there are nearly five thousand volumes on its shelves.

Rev. Thomas Snell, the successor of Mr. Appleton, was ordained June 27, 1798, and continued as sole pastor until September 17, 1851, and senior pastor afterwards until his death, May 4, 1862. His salary, which was objected to by some at the time of his settlement as too large, never during the sixty-four years of his pastorate exceeded five hundred dollars. Dr. Snell was an early and earnest advocate of the establishment of Amherst College, and in 1828 received from that institution the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was born in Cummington, Mass., November 21, 1774, and graduated at Dartmouth in 1795. He taught an academy at Haverhill one year before going to Brookfield and was licensed to preach by the Tolland Association October 3, 1797. He delivered an oration at Brookfield July 5, 1813; a sermon on the completion of his fortieth year in the ministry in 1838, with a short history of the town; a sermon on the fiftieth anniversary of his ordination in 1848; an historical address containing a sketch of North Brookfield in 1850, and another containing a sketch of his own church in 1852. During his pastorate a new meeting-house was built in 1823 and dedicated January 1, 1824. The house was remodeled in 1842, lengthened twenty feet in 1853 and re-dedicated January 18, 1854, and again remodeled in 1874.

Rev. Christopher Cushing was installed as colleague with Dr. Snell September 17, 1851, and after his death continued as sole pastor until his dismissal, September 17, 1868. Mr. Cushing was born in South Scituate (now Norwell), Mass., and after graduating at Yale in 1844, entered the Andover Theological Seminary, from which he graduated in 1847. He became secretary of the American Congregational Union in May, 1867, sixteen months before his dismissal. He received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Amherst College in 1871 and died in Cambridge October 23, 1881.

The successor of Mr. Cushing was Rev. Gabriel H. De Bevoise, who was installed September 17, 1868, and dismissed in 1880. After leaving North Brookfield he was installed at Leominster in 1881.

Rev. Sedgwick P. Wilder, born at Newfane, Vt., May 28, 1847, graduated at Yale Theological Seminary in 1875 and was installed June 24, 1880.

No other religious society existed in North Brookfield before its incorporation as a town. The Congregational Church was the nucleus of the town, and in order to make its sketch complete it must necessarily include that part of its history which lies back of the incorporation. The act incorporating the town was passed February 28, 1812. At a meeting of the parish held in 1810 it was voted to petition the Legislature for an act of separation and a committee was chosen for the purpose consisting of Daniel Gilbert, Jason Bigelow, Luke Potter, Aaron Forbes and Jacob Kittredge. Under the direction of this committee the following petition was drawn up and presented:

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled:

The Inhabitants of the Second Precinct in Brookfield humbly pray that they may be set off from the other precincts in said town, and be incorporated into a Township by the name of North Brookfield; and that the territorial limits of such incorporation may be the same as these, & hereby the said Precinct is now designated.

And the said Inhabitants would beg leave further to state that from the extensive limits of said town, it being separated into three distinct precincts, together with the necessary mode of transacting the business of the same by annual rotation in each Precinct, they not only find the

distance of travel burdensome, but in considering the transacting of their parochial concerns a two-fold labor and expense; That the officers of said town are of necessity distant from the centre, and that from the number of its inhabitants and the multiplicity of the business of the said town the term of one day insufficient for transacting the same.

This petition not meeting with success, another was presented to the Legislature April 15, 1811, which was signed by Jason Bigelow, Wm. Ayres (2d), Ezra Batcheller, Luke Potter, Daniel Gilbert, Hugh Cunningham and Amos Bond, committee. As a result of this second effort, the following act of incorporation was passed February 28, 1812:

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

SECT. 1. *Be it enacted*, etc. That all that part of the town of Brookfield which has been heretofore called and known by the name of the Second or North Parish (excepting that part of said territory now lying south of the post-road leading from Worcester through Spencer to Springfield), together with the inhabitants thereon, be, and the same is hereby incorporated into a separate town by the name of NORTH BROOKFIELD. And the said town of North Brookfield is hereby vested with all the powers and privileges, and shall also be subject to all the duties to which other corporate towns are entitled and subjected by the constitution and laws of this Commonwealth.

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That the inhabitants of the said town of North Brookfield shall be entitled to hold such proportion of all the personal property now belonging to and owned in common by the inhabitants of the town of Brookfield, as the property of the said inhabitants of North Brookfield bears to the property of all the inhabitants of the town of Brookfield, according to the last valuation thereof.

SECT. 3. *Be it further enacted*, That the inhabitants of the said town of North Brookfield shall be holden to pay all arrears of taxes due from them, together with their proportion (to be ascertained as aforesaid) of all the debts now due and owing from the said town of Brookfield, or which may be hereafter found due and owing by reason of any contract or other matter and thing heretofore entered into, or now existing.

SECT. 4. *Be it further enacted*, That the said town of North Brookfield shall be holden to support their proportion of the present poor of the town of Brookfield, which proportion shall be ascertained by the present valuation of the town; and all persons who may hereafter become chargeable, as paupers, to the town of Brookfield and North Brookfield, shall be considered as belonging to that town, on the territory of which they had their settlement at the time of passing this act, and shall in future be chargeable to that town only.

SECT. 5. *Be it further enacted*, That the said town of North Brookfield shall be holden to pay their proportion of all State, town and county taxes assessed on the inhabitants of the said town of Brookfield, until a new valuation shall be made of the said Towns. *Provided*, That the said town of North Brookfield shall be holden, until the further order of the Legislature, to pay to the town of Brookfield such proportion of any of the expenses of maintaining the bridges and causeways over the rivers in the town of Brookfield, as a committee of the Court of Sessions for the county of Worcester shall determine; and said Court of Sessions are hereby authorized, on application of either of the inhabitants of Brookfield or North Brookfield, from time to time, to appoint a committee for the above purpose, whose report, made to and accepted by said court, shall be binding on the said towns.

SECT. 6. *Be it further enacted*, That any Justice of the Peace for the county of Worcester, upon application therefor, is hereby authorized to issue his warrant, directed to any freeholder in the said town of North Brookfield, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants thereof to meet at such time and place as shall be appointed in said warrant, for the choice of such officers as towns are by law required to choose at their annual town-meetings.

February 20, 1818, the Legislature passed an act to provide for the repeal of the fifth section of the above act, as follows:

Be it enacted, that Austin Flint, of Leicester, Nathaniel Jones, of Barre, and Joseph Cummings, of Ware, are hereby appointed a committee to hear and consider the claim of Brookfield on the one part, and of North Brookfield on the other; and finally to determine whether the town of North Brookfield ought in future to pay any part of the expenses of maintaining the bridges and causeways in the town of Brookfield. . . .

SECT. 2. *Be it further enacted*, That from and after the time the report of said committee, shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the said fifth Section of said Act incorporating the town of North Brookfield, shall be repealed; and the duties and liabilities of said North Brookfield, resulting from the said section, shall altogether cease. . . .

The first town-meeting was held on Tuesday, March 10, 1812, and Daniel Gilbert was chosen moderator, and Moses Bond town clerk. The destruction by fire of the town records renders it impossible to either present in this narrative a list of selectmen and moderators of town-meetings and other officers or to make such extracts as would be desirable in portraying the life of the town. The first town-house was built in 1833. Before that time town-meetings had been held in the Congregational Church, as was the universal custom in the early days of New England towns, when the town and the parish were one and the same. Indeed, the meeting-house derives its name from the fact that it was the general meeting-place of the people. The first town-house in North Brookfield was not built by the town, but was owned by a company called the North Brookfield Town-House Company, and occupied by the parish and the town for town-meetings, schools and other purposes. This house was burned in the winter of 1846, and in 1847 a town-house was built by the town which was burned October 14, 1862, with all the records of the town and the books of the North Brookfield Savings Bank, whose treasurer, Hiram Knight, was also the clerk of the town. In 1863 the present building was erected at a cost of about twenty thousand dollars.

Though we are unable to furnish a list of town officers and thus show who, in the different generations, have been the men to whom the municipal interests have been confided, the following list of representatives to the General Court, covering for the most part a period when offices sought the men and not men the offices, will, to a considerable extent, make up the deficiency. It is taken from the State Register and the manual of the General Court, and is believed to be correct,

The following persons have represented North Brookfield in the General Court wholly or in part since its incorporation in 1812:

1813. Thomas Hale.
1814. None.
1815. None.
1816. None.
1817. Thomas Hale.
1818. None.
1819. None.
1820. Daniel Gilbert.
1821. None.
1822. None.
1823. Charles Henshaw.
1824. None.
1825. None.
1826. None.
1827. Eli Forbes.
1828. Wm. Adams.
1829. Wm. Adams.
1830. None.
1831. Tyler Batcheller.
1832. John Bigelow.
1833. Jonathan Cary.
1834. Eli Forbes.
1835. Tyler Batcheller.
Oliver Ward.
1836. Wm. Adams.
Joseph A. Moore.
1837. Kittredge Hill.
1838. Chauncey Edmunds.
Pliny Nye.
1839. Joseph A. Moore.
Freeman Walker.
1840. Freeman Walker.

1841. Ezra Batcheller.
1842. None.
1843. None.
1844. Hiram Edson.
1845. None.
1847. None.
1848. Amasa Walker.
1849. Amasa Walker.
1850. Charles Adams, Jr.
1851. Charles Adams, Jr.
1852. Charles Adams, Jr.
1853. John Hill.
1854. None.
1855. A. L. Poland.
1856. Levi Adams.
1857. Warren Tyler.

By an amendment of the Constitution adopted by the Legislatures of 1856 and 1857, and ratified by the people May 1, 1857, it was provided that a census of the legal voters in the Commonwealth on the 1st of May, 1857, should be taken and returned to the Secretary of the Commonwealth on or before the last day of June, on the basis of which the Legislature should provide for the creation of representative districts. Under this arrangement North Brookfield and Brookfield constituted the twelfth Worcester Representative District, and were represented as follows:

1858. Amasa Walker, of North Brookfield.
1859. Luther Stowell, of Brookfield.
1860. J. H. Jenks, of North Brookfield.
1861. Charles Fales, of Brookfield.
1862. Charles Adams, Jr., of North Brookfield.
1864. Edward J. Russell, of North Brookfield.
1866. Josiah F. Hebard, of North Brookfield.

Under the appointment of 1866, based on the census of 1865, the towns of Brookfield, North Brookfield, West Brookfield, Sturbridge and Warren constituted the Eighteenth Worcester District, and were represented during the ten succeeding years as follows:

1867. James S. Montague, of Brookfield.
Charles E. Smith, of West Brookfield.
1868. Amasa C. Moore, of Sturbridge.
Joseph B Lombard, of Warren.
1869. Ezra Batcheller, of North Brookfield.
Daniel W. Knight, of Brookfield.
1870. Benjamin A. Tripp, of Warren.
John Harvey Moore, of Warren.
1871. Martin L Richardson, of Sturbridge.
George S. Duell, of Brookfield.
1872. Daniel W. Knight, of North Brookfield.
Simon H. Sibley, of Warren.
1873. Noah D. Ladd, of Sturbridge.
Wm. B. Stone, of West Brookfield.
1874. Warren Tyler, of North Brookfield.
Stillman Butterworth, of Brookfield.
1875. Charles B. Sanford, of West Brookfield.
George T. Lincoln, of Sturbridge.
1876. Charles Fuller, of S urbridge.
John Wetherbee, of Warren.

Under the apportionment of 1876, based on the census of 1875, the same towns constituted the Twelfth Worcester District, and were represented as follows:

1877. Wm. H. Montague, of North Brookfield.
George W. Johnson, of Brookfield.
1878. George C. Lincoln, of North Brookfield.
Alvin B. Chamberlain, of Sturbridge.
1879. Theodore C. Bates, of North Brookfield.
Joseph Smith, of Warren.
1880. George W. Johnson, of Brookfield.
George N. Bacon, of Sturbridge.
1881. George A. Parratt, of West Brookfield.
George M. Newton, of Warren (died).
Lucius M. Gilbert, of Warren (vacancy).
1882. Hiram Knight, of North Brookfield.
David W. Hodgkins, of Brookfield.
1883. Emory L. Bates, of Sturbridge.
Horace W. Bush, of West Brookfield.
1884. Alden Batcheller, of North Brookfield.
Joseph W. Hastings, of Warren.
1885. Edwin D. Goodell, of Brookfield.
David B. Wright, of Sturbridge.
1886. Edwin Wilbur, of West Brookfield.
Marcus Burroughs, of Warren.

Under the apportionment of 1886, based on the census of 1885, Brookfield, North Brookfield, West Brookfield, New Braintree, Oakham, Sturbridge and Warren constituted the Fifth Worcester District, and have been represented as follows:

1887. Edwin D. Goodell, of Brookfield.
Samuel Clark, of North Brookfield.
1888. George H. Coolidge, of West Brookfield.
Henry D. Haynes, of Sturbridge.
Chosen for 1889. George Bliss, of Warren.
John B. Gould, of Warren.

The following residents of North Brookfield have held other State offices since its incorporation:

Amasa Walker, Senator, 1850; Secretary of the Commonwealth, 1851–52.
Freeman Walker, Senator, 1852, '53, '61.
Charles Adams, Jr., Senator, 1865–67, '78; State Treasurer, 1871–75.
Theodore C. Bates, Senator, 1883.

In 1854 the boundary line between North Brookfield and Brookfield was changed by the following act, passed April 15th in that year:

An act to set off a part of the town of North Brookfield and annex the same to the town of Brookfield. Be it enacted, &c., as follows:

Section 1. So much of the town of North Brookfield in the county of Worcester as lies southerly of a line beginning at a stone monument at the old post-road leading to Brookfield, a little northwesterly of what is called Wolcott Mill, and running thence south seventy-seven degrees and thirty minutes east three hundred and seventy-five rods to a stone monument as now established in the line of Brookfield and North Brookfield on the easterly side of the Stevens Pond, so called, with all the inhabitants and estates thereon, is hereby set off from the town of North Brookfield and annexed to the town of Brookfield; provided, however, that for the purpose of electing Representatives to the General Court to which the said town of North Brookfield is entitled until the next decennial census shall be taken in pursuance of the thirteenth article of amendment to the constitution, the said territory shall remain and continue to be a part of the town of North Brookfield, and the inhabitants resident therein shall be entitled to vote in the choice of such representatives, and shall be eligible to the office of representative in the town of North Brookfield in the same manner as if this Act had not been passed.

Section 2. The said inhabitants and estates so set off shall be liable to pay all taxes that have been legally assessed on them by the town of North Brookfield in the same manner as if this act had not been passed, and until the next general valuation of estates in this Commonwealth the town of Brookfield shall annually pay over to the said town of North Brookfield the proportion of any State or county tax which the said town of North Brookfield may have to pay upon the inhabitants or estates hereby set off.

Section 3. If any persons, who have heretofore gained a legal settlement in the town of North Brookfield by reason of a residence on the territory set off as aforesaid, or by having been proprietors thereof or who may derive such settlement from any such resident or proprietor shall stand in need of relief or support as paupers, they shall be relieved and supported by the said town of Brookfield in the same manner as if they had gained a legal settlement in that town.

Section 4. The selectmen of the town of Brookfield shall annually until the next decennial census, fourteen days at least before the second Monday of November, furnish to the selectmen of North Brookfield a correct list, so far as may be ascertained from the records of the town of Brookfield or any of its officers, of all persons resident on the territory hereby set off who shall be entitled to vote for representatives as aforesaid in North Brookfield.

Section 5. This Act shall take effect from and after its passage.

The part which North Brookfield took in the suppression of the Rebellion was what might have been expected in view of the character of its leading men. The spirit and energy displayed by these men, some

of whom were largely engaged in Southern trade, but whose patriotism controlled and suppressed every unworthy and selfish motive, deserve a commendatory reference in this narrative. A public meeting was held on the evening of the 19th of April, 1861, on the reception by telegraph of the news of the attack on the Sixth Regiment in Baltimore, "to see if North Brookfield will respond to the call of the President by raising a company of volunteers to offer their services to the government." The meeting was called to order by W. S. Phelps, who was chosen chairman, and it was addressed by J. E. Green, Freeman Walker and others. An enrollment list was opened for signatures, which was headed by Joseph C. Fretts and Charles Perry, whose example was soon followed by others. It is a singular fact that these two men, whose promptness to enlist in the cause of their country inspired the young men of the town to enter the service, should have both been killed at the battle of Antietam. After the adoption of appropriate resolutions the meeting was adjourned to the next evening of Saturday the 20th, and on that occasion the town hall was filled by citizens of North Brookfield and the adjoining towns. The enrollment of volunteers continued and the selectmen were requested to call a meeting of the town at the earliest practicable day. The meeting called by the selectmen was held on Monday, April 29th, and before that time the spirit of the town had been thoroughly aroused by the passage of troops on the railroad bound to the front. At this meeting it was voted that each volunteer who shall serve in the company now being raised in the town until mustered into the military service shall receive one dollar a day while engaged in drilling and when mustered in shall be supplied with a substantial uniform and a good revolver, and while engaged in active service his family shall receive eight dollars a month. Freeman Walker, John Hill and Augustus Smith were appointed a committee to procure the supplies voted by the town. At a subsequent meeting these gentlemen resigned and Charles Adams, Jr., J. F. Hebard and A. Woolworth were chosen in their place. On the 3d of June it was voted to pay State aid to the families of volunteers in accordance with an act of the Legislature which had just been passed. On the 3d of March, 1862, it was voted to pay State aid to families of volunteers to the amount the State promises to refund, and on the 3d of July it was voted to pay a bounty of one hundred dollars to each volunteer who shall enlist for three years and be credited to the quota of the town before the 1st of August, and on the 22d of August it was voted to pay the same bounty to volunteers for nine months' service. On the 8th of December, 1863, James Miller, Charles Adams, Jr., and T. M. Duncan were chosen to aid the selectmen in the work of obtaining recruits. On the 5th of April, 1864, the bounty to three years volunteers was increased to one hundred and twenty-five dollars, and on the 26th of June it was voted that a bounty of one hundred and twenty-five dollars be paid for one year's men, two hundred and twenty-five dollars for two years' men and three hundred and twenty dollars for three years' men. The amount of money appropriated and expended on account of the war was $34,825.55, of which the sum of $17,886.47 was expended in State aid and refunded by the State. The following list covers the various enlistments of Brookfield men, some of whom re-enlisted and whose names therefore appear more than once on the list:

Thomas S. Bates, three years.....1st Regiment, musician
Andrew Anderson, three years.....2d Regiment, unassigned
George Christy, three years.....2d Regiment, unassigned
Jonn Congdon, three years.....2d Regiment, unassigned
James Erwin, three years.. .....2d Regiment, unassigned
Frederick Fuller, three years.....2d Regiment, Co. K
Wm. Green, three years.....2d Regiment, Co. E
John H. Jones, three years.....2d Regiment, unassigned
Frederick Otto, three years..... .....2d Regiment, unassigned
George Ring, three years.....2d Regiment, Co. F
Wm. Rogers, three years..... .....2d Regiment, Co. C
Wm. Ryan, three years.....2d Regiment, Co. C
Charles Sanford, three years.....2d Regiment, unassigned
Peter Ward, three years.....2d Regiment, Co. F
John Waterman, three years..... .....2d Regiment, Co. D
Henry Williams, three years.....2d Regiment, unassigned
Jean Williams, three years.....2d Regiment, unassigned
Wm. Clark, three years.....11th Regiment, Co. I
George A. Bates, three years.....12th Regiment, musician
Christopher Kelley, three years.....12th Regiment, Co. I
John Miller, three years.....12th Regiment, Co. C
Alphonse W. Prouty (corp.), three years..13th Regiment, Co. F
Thomas Sullivan, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. H
Wm. J. Babbitt, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Francis A. Barnes, three years..... 15th Regiment, Co. F
Charles H. Bartlett (corp.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Henry R. Bliss, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Oliver Bliss, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
W. H. H. Brewer, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Theodore Cummings, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Amos Dean, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
C. M. Deland (corp.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
David M. Earle (sergt.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Henry G. Earle, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Elias B. Ellis, three years..... 15th Regiment, Co. E
Albert H. Foster (sergt.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Joseph Fretts (corp.), three years .....15th Regiment, Co. F
Wm. Graham, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
J. E. Greene (capt.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Stephen Harrington, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
G. W. A. Hill, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
John Howard, three years .....15th Regiment, Co. F
John A. Hughes, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
John H. Johnson (mus.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Amasa B. Kimball, three years..... ...15th Regiment, Co. F
Daniel W. Knight (1st lt.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Harrison S. Lamb, three years..... .....15th Regiment, Co. F
Jeremiah Lynch, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
George L. Marsh, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Henry H. Moulton, three years..... .... 15th Regiment, Co. F
Elijah Nichols, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
John R. Nichols (sergt.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
A. S. Pellett, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Charles Perry, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
J. W. Raymore, three years..... .....15th Regiment, Co. F
Edwin A. Rice, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Michael Rock, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
E. J. Russell (capt.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Henry E. Smith (2d lieut.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Benjamin Stevens (corp.), three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
H. W. Stone, three years..... .....15th Regiment, Co. F

Charles C. Torrey, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
George F. Tucker, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
F. A. Walker (Bt. Br. Gen.), three years..15th Regiment, Co. F
B. C. Wheelock, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Elias H. Woodward, three years.....15th Regiment, Co. F
Edward C. Mills, three years .....18th Regiment, Co. K
Charles Rosenburg, three years.....19th Regiment, Co. I
F. A. Barnes, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. E
C. M. Deland (1st lieut.), three years.....20th Regiment, Co. E [1]
Elias B. Ellis, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. E
August Freeman, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. B
Wm. F. Hill, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. I
H. H. Moulton, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. G
Michael Rock, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. K
Henry E. Smith (2d lieut.), three years...20th Regiment, ——
H. W. Stone, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. K
John L. Powers, three years.....22d Regiment, Co. G
Curtis Dickinson, three years.....24th Regiment, Co. I
Henry J. Page (corp.), three years.....24th Regiment, Co. I
Nathan Reynolds (corp.), three years.....24th Regiment, Co. I
Wm. Reynolds, three years.....24th Regiment, Co. I
Edwin M. Tucker (sergt.), three years.....24th Regiment, Co. I
Charles H. Ashby (mus.), three years.....25th Regiment, Co. H
Cutler Barnum, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. I
John Burns, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. E
George H. Couch, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. H
Nathan S. Dickinson, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. C
Wm. Dunn, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. H
N. H. Foster (major), three years.....25th Regiment, Co. H
James Henderson, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. I
Charles F. Hill, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. C
Albert T. Holman, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. C
Henry S. Johnson, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. H
Palmer P. Johnson (mus.), three years.....25th Regiment, Co. H
Stephen B. Kemp, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. H
John McCarthy, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. E
Timothy McCarthy, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. E
Josiah C. Meade (sergt.), three years.....25th Regiment, Co. G
David Mitchell, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. H
David Price, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. E
George C. Smith, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. H
John W. Gilmore, three years.....27th Regiment, Co. B
Addison Leach (mus.), three years.....27th Regiment, Co. B
Jason T. Stoddard, three years.....27th Regiment, Co. B
B. Donn, three years.....28th Regiment, unassigned
Alfred Lafleur, three years.....28th Regiment, unassigned
George L. Sherman, three years.....28th Regiment, Co. I
Frank Warren, three years.....28th Regiment, Co. C
E. W. Johnson, three years.....31st Regiment, Co. D
Julius W. Johnson, three years.....31st Regiment, Co. H
D. W. Sherman (sergt.), three years.....31st Regiment, Co. H
Edwin G. Babcock, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
James P. Coolidge, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. A
Charles E. Granger, three years.....34th Regiment, unassigned
T. P. Griffin, three years.....34th Regiment, musician
John L. Hibard, three years.....34th Regiment, musician
B. R. Holmes, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Andrew F. Jackson, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. F
George H. Perkins (2d lt.), three years.....34th Regiment, Co. A
Charles A. Porter, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. A
George S Prouty (corp.), three years.....34th Regiment, Co. C
John W. Russell, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. A
Asa Smith, three years.....34th Regiment, unassigned
R. W. Walker (1st Lt.), three years.....34th Regiment, Co. A
Leander Bell, three years.....36th Regiment, Co. D
Moses A. Cheever, three years.....36th Regiment, Co. E
James B. Cummings, three years.....36th Regiment, Co. K
Lyman H. Gilbert, three years.....36th Regiment, Co. E
Addison S. Hair, three years.....36th Regiment, Co. K
George W. Harwood (1st lt.), three years, 36th Regiment, Co. E
Wm. J. Huskill (sergt.), three years.....36th Regiment, Co. E
Frank L. Jenks, three years.....36th Regiment, Co. E
Moses P. Snell (capt.), three years.....36th Regiment, Co. E
A. M. Thompson, three years.....36th Regiment, Co. K

[1] Transferred from 15th Regiment.

Warren Tyler, three years.....36th Regiment
Joseph L. Walker, (corp.), three years.....36th Regiment, Co. E
J. B. Wheelock, three years.....36th Regiment, Co. E
Louis D. Winslow, three years.....36th Regiment, Co. H
F. S. Amidon (mus.), nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Harvey Allen, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
John Barstow, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Sylvander Bothwell (corp.), nine months...42d Regiment, Co. F
Warren S. Bragg, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Emerson Dane, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Freeman Doane, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
F. R. Doane, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Hubbard S. Doane, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
T. M. Duncan (1st lt.), nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Hiram Eaton, nine months .....42d Regiment, Co. F
Andrew J. Fisher, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
F. H. Fisher, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Leroy Glazier, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
James F. Harlow, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
J. F. Hibard, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Sumner Holmes (sergt), nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Willard M. Howe, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
James A. Knight, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
James Miller (corp.), nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Wm. H. Montague (sergt.), nine months....42d Regiment, Co. F
Charles Parkman, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Henry L. Parkman, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Samuel J. Pepper, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Frank A. Smith, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Melville W. Smith, nine months .....42d Regiment, Co. F
Edward A. Spooner (corp.), nine months...42d Regiment, Co. F
Elijah Stoddard, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Emerson Stoddard, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
George A. Tucker, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
John J. Upham, nine months.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Charles P. Barton, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
John F. Boyd (corp.), 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Abijah D. Cutler, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Henry B. Dewing (corp.), 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Edwin Doane, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Wm. B. Fay, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Warren Hanson, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
George R. Harris, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Edward Hunter, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Albert L. Stoddard, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Emerson Stoddard, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
E. H. Tucker, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Lyman Tucker, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Wm. H. Walker, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Sumner Walker, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Wm. H. Warren, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. G
Charles W. Knight, nine months.....44th Regiment, Co. B
Albert F. Potter (sergt.), nine months.....44th Regiment, Co B
Israel C. Earle, nine months.....46th Regiment, Co. G
Wm. B. Fay, nine months.....46th Regiment, Co. G
Marcellus Whitman, nine months .....53d Regiment, Co. F
Theophilus D. Freeman, three years .....54th Regiment, Co. F
Leander Bell (corp.), three years.....56th Regiment, Co. D
Wm. Barron, three years.....57th Regiment, Co. D
Wm. Bates, three years .....57th Regiment, Co. B
C. L. Brigham, three years.....57th Regiment, Co. B
James Burke, three years.....57th Regiment, Co. D
Patrick Crowley, three years.. .....57th Regiment, Co. B
H. W. Gould (corp.), three years.....57th Regiment, Co. I
John Gaul, three years.....57th Regiment, unassigned
Timothy Howard, three years.....57th Regiment, unassigned
D. H. Howard (corp.), three years.....57th Regiment, Co. B
Cornelius McCarthy, three years.....57th Regiment, Co. B
Warner Tyler (asst. sur.), three years.....57th Regiment
Thomas Atkinson, three years.....58th Regiment, Co. I
Archibald Boggs, three years.....58th Regiment, Co. I
Wm. Barron, three years.....59th Regiment, Co. D
James Burke, three years.....59th Regiment, Co. B
Patrick Crowley, three years.....59th Regiment, Co. B
Patrick Daley, three years.....59th Regiment, Co. B
John Gaul, three years.....59th Regiment, Co. F

D. H. Howard (corp.), three years.....59th Regiment, Co. B
Timothy Howard, three years.....59th Regiment, Co. B
Cornelius McCarthy, three years.....59th Regiment, Co. B
Michael McNamera, three years.....59th Regiment, Co. B
John Quigley, three years.....59th Regiment, Co. B
John F. Boyd (corp.), one year.....62d Regiment, Co. A
John R. Nichols (corp.), one year.....62d Regiment, Co. A
George H. Perkins (2d lt.).....127th (Colored) Regiment
Moses P. Snell (1st lt.).....39th (Colored) Regiment, Co. I
Dennis O'Brien, three years.....1st Cavalry, unassigned
Peter Cahill, three years.....3d Cavalry, unassigned
Henry O'Brien, three years.....3d Cavalry, unassigned
B. P. Wheeler, three years.....3d Cavalry, unassigned
Charles K. Amidon, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co. F
Samuel C. Flagg, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co. A
Daniel Kerrigan, three years.....4th Cavalry, unassigned
Asa R. Luce, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co. C
Samuel Nealon, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co. G
James O'Brien, three years.....4th Cavalry, unassigned
Eugene Passage, three years.....4th Cavalry, unassigned
N. M. Perkins, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co. E
William Pope, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co. C
John W. Raymone, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co. C
Henry H. Stone, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co. D
Peter St. Peter, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co. D
George A. Tucker, three years.....4th Cavalry, Co F
James W. Simmons (corp.), three years.....5th Cavalry, Co M
Daniel C. Brown, three years...1st Batt. Frontier Defence, Co. D
Charles L. Chapin, three years..1st Batt. Frontier Defence, Co. A
Charles Hartwell (corp.), 3 yrs., 1st Batt. Frontier Defence, Co. D
N. B. Maxwell, three years.....1st H. A., Co. E
Thomas Moran, three years.....1st H. A, Co. B
George R. Spooner, three years.....1st H. A., Co. I
Charles Anderson, three years.....2d H. A., Co. C
Wm. C. Bloom (corp.), three years.....2d H. A., Co. D
John Burton, three years.....2d H. A., Co. E
John Green, three years.....2d H. A., Co. D
Frank L. Jenks, three years.....2d H. A., Co. —
James H. Rowan, three years.....2d H. A., Co. I
Wm. A. Snow (sergt.), three years.....2d H. A., Co. —
Osborne Walker (corp.), three years.....2d H. A., Co. I
Nicholas Adams, three years.....3d H. A., Co. K
Otis G. Jones, three years.....3d H. A., Co. I
Edward J. Russell (capt), three years.....3d H. A., Co. —
Augustus Edwards, three years.....4th H. A., Co. E
Eugene Glazier, three years.....4th H. A., Co. E
Samuel W. Maxwell, three years.....4th H. A., Co. E
Edward H. Spooner, three years.....8th H. A., Co. D
Nathaniel H. Foster (major), three years.....12th H. A.
John Q. Adams (corp.).....Ninth Battery
Oliver Bliss.....Vet. Reserve Corps
Theodore Cummings.....Vet. Reserve Corps
John A. Henry.....Vet. Reserve Corps
Jeremiah Lynch.....Vet. Reserve Corps
Elijah Nichols.....Vet. Reserve Corps
Jason T. Stoddard (sergt.).....Vet. Reserve Corps
George F. Tucker.
Robert E. Beecher (lieut.-col.).....73d Ohio
Robert H. Clark.....1st Connecticut
William Clark.....35th New Jersey
John H. Jenks (sergt.).....14th New Hampshire
John H. Lamb.....9th Maine
David S. Moulton.....82d New York
Edwin A. Rice.....1st Connecticut H. A.

The following soldiers died in the service:

Henry R. Bliss, killed at Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862.
Thomas S. Bates, died in Washington, Feb. 6, 1864.
Wm. Bates, killed in the Wilderness, May 13, 1864.
James P. Coolidge, killed at Winchester, Sept. 19, 1864.
Wm. Clark, killed in Georgia, Dec. 10, 1864.
N. S. Dickinson, died of wounds, Aug. 18, 1864.
Peter Devlin, died at Nashville, June 5, 1865.
Joseph C. Fretts, killed at Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862.
Andrew J. Fisher, died Aug. 6, 1863.
John W. Gilmore, died at Newbern, April 13, 1862.
Lyman H. Gilbert, killed at Petershurg, Sept. 30, 1864.
Thomas Griffin, died at Salisbury, Dec. 7, 1864.
Albert T. Holman, died at Newbern, Sept. 23, 1862.
John A. Hughes, died May 16, 1863.
Wm. F. Hill, died in Virginia, Aug. 28, 1863.
James Henderson, died at Newbern, Oct. 3, 1864.
J. H. Jenks, killed at Cedar Creek, Oct. 19, 1864.
James A. Knight, died Aug. 10, 1863.
John F. Lamb, killed at Petersburg, June 29, 1864.
David S Moulton, killed at Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, 1862.
N. B. Maxwell, died at Andersonville, Aug 23, 1864.
Timothy McCarthy, died at Andersonville, Sept. 2, 1864.
Henry H. Moulton, died at Andersonville, Jan. 23, 1865.
Charles Perry, killed at Antietam, Sept. 17, 1862.
Albert F. Potter, died at Newbern, Jan. 28, 1863.
George S. Prouty, killed at Piedmont, June 2, 1864.
George L. Sherman, killed at Spottsylvania, May 12, 1864.
Lyman Tucker, died at Alexandria, Sept. 11, 1864.
Alvin M. Thompson, died at Andersonville, ——, 1864.
Louis D. Winslow, killed at Spottsylvania, May 12, 1864.

It has been stated, in an earlier part of this narrative, that the Congregational Church was the only church in the precinct at the time of its incorporation as a town. Not an inconsiderable number of its people were connected with a Baptist society in Brookfield; but to that organization outside of the limits of the town, no special reference will be made.

The foundation of the Methodist Episcopal Society seems to have been laid about the year 1829. From that time until 1833 Sabbath services were held, with some intermissions, in the Old Congregational Church. In the latter year, on the 30th of January, a new meeting-house was dedicated, and in 1834 North Brookfield was made a station under the charge of Rev. Henry Mayo. The society, for many years after 1846, held services in the town-hall and other available places until their present church was dedicated, May, 1861. The following list of preachers up to 1885 is given by Mr. Temple in his history:

James Shepard.....1841–42	E. S. Chase..... 1863
C. W. Ainsworth.....1843 44	Edwin S. Snow.....1864–65
Frederick Stewart.....1845	George Hewes 1866–67
Albert A. Cook.....1846	Gilbert R. Bent.....1868–69
George W. Weeks.....1847	L. P. Causey.....1870
E. F. Newell.....1847	Samuel A. Fuller.....1871
John Goodwin.....1848	W. A. Cheney.....1872–73
George Bowler 1849–50	E. H. Leeseman.....1873
John Goodwin.....1851	Reuben W. Harlow..... 1874
P. Wallingford.....1852–53	George E. Chapman.....1875–76
M. Leffingwell.....1854	J. M. Avann.....1877–79
W. J. Pomfret.....1855–57	John W. Fulton.....1880–81
J. W. Coolidge.....1858–59	J. S. Barrows.....1882–83
Daniel Atkins.....1860–61	E. R. Watson.....1883
N. F. Stevens.....1862	Porter R. Strattan.....1884–85

On the 29th of October, 1853, a second Congregational Society was formed, called the "Union Congregational Society." The church was organized June 7, 1854, and on that day Rev. Levi F. Waldo was installed. After his dismissal, June 13, 1856, the society remained without a pastor until the installation of Rev. William H. Beecher, June 3, 1857. Mr. Beecher remained until May 14, 1861. After a short supply of the pulpit by Rev. J. E. Tower, Rev. Luther Keene was installed in 1862, and continued in the pastorate until April 29, 1867. Rev. John Dodge supplied the pulpit about three years and a

half from December 2, 1867, and was followed in a supply by Rev. Charles E. Coolidge for about a year and a half. On Sept. 6, 1876, Rev. George W. Wilson was ordained, and remained until June 1, 1878. Rev. John W. Hird was installed March 28, 1879. The meeting-house of this society was built in 1854.

St. Joseph's Parish, the Catholic Society, began to hold services in June, 1851. Soon after that date North Brookfield became a mission church of that in Webster, and later of that in Ware, during which period it was under the charge of the pastors in those towns. While under the charge of Rev. William Moran, of Ware, the present church was begun in October, 1866, and completed in July, 1867, and placed under the charge of Rev. Edward Turpin. After the death of Father Turpin, at the close of a single year's service, Rev. Henry M. Smyth was placed in charge, whose pastorate also was terminated by death at the end of three years.

Rev. Michael Walsh followed, and remained thirteen years, until his death, when Rev. James P. Tuite was transferred from Clinton to North Brookfield. The society has a parsonage, with fifteen acres of land, a church and a cemetery of four acres, and is free from debt. Its membership numbers nearly twenty-three hundred.

The schools of North Brookfield have not been under the care of the old town of Brookfield since the incorporation of the Second Precinct, in 1750. In 1756 the town of Brookfield voted that the school-money raised in each of the three precincts should be expended within said precinct according to its pleasure. The Second Precinct, under this vote, assumed the right to levy and collect a tax within its own limits for the support of its own schools, and this right was always exercised during its life as a precinct. In 1760 the Legislature confirmed the right, and the precinct built its school-houses, appointed teachers, and raised money for the support of schools.

In 1791 the precinct was divided into seven school districts, and, until 1805, chose a School Committee to take charge of all the schools in the precinct. During the four years after that date each district chose its own committee, but in 1809 the old practice was resumed. It is believed that the districts as formed in 1791 continued until the final abandonment of the school district system, in 1869, except that in the mean time the central district had been divided into two, thus making eight instead of seven. On the abandonment of the district system, the school-houses which had been built at the expense of the districts were appraised at ten thousand dollars, and that sum was raised by tax, and each taxpayer credited with his due share. According to the last report of the school committee there were, at the close of the last year, nineteen schools in the town, including the high school, which was opened August 19, 1857, under the care of O. W. Whitaker, a graduate of Middlebury College. The high school house, built in 1856–57, was burned May 14, 1878, and a new brick building was erected on the old site. For the year 1887–8 the sum of $8500 was appropriated for schools, in addition to the Dog Fund of $401.28 and the State Fund of $202.95.

The population of North Brookfield, in the early years of its municipal life, did not rapidly increase. In 1820 it was 1095 and in 1840 had only reached 1468. In 1875 it was 3749, in 1880 4459 and in 1885 4201. The advance in population was owing to the introduction and gradual enlargement of the manufacture of boots and shoes in the town. Oliver Ward, of Grafton, first began the business in 1810, and in his shop many of those who, in later years, carried on a large business, served their apprenticeship. Mr. Ward's business rapidly increased, but in the panic of 1837 was so extended and incurred such serious losses that he abandoned and never resumed it.

In the mean time, the well-known firm of T. & E. Batcheller, both of whose members, Tyler and Ezra, had been brought up by Mr. Ward, started in business. The business of this firm was begun in a small way by Tyler Batcheller in 1819, who in 1825 took his brother Ezra into partnership and established the firm above mentioned. In 1830 Freeman Walker was admitted into the firm as a partner and the firm-name was changed to T. & E. Batcheller & Walker. Mr. Walker, however, retired in 1834 and the firm resumed its old name. In 1852 Charles Adams, Jr., Alfred H. Batcheller, Wm. C. King and Hervey I. Batcheller were admitted as partners, and the firm's name was changed to T. & E. Batcheller & Co. In 1848 Tyler Batcheller removed to Boston to take charge of the business, for the transaction of which, in connection with their manufacture, a store had been opened; and in 1860 Mr. Adams retired, followed soon after by Hervey J. Batcheller, and by Mr. King in 1865. Losses in Southern trade during the war caused a temporary suspension of the firm, from which, after the payment of all its liabilities, it soon recovered, and during which Ezra Batcheller died, October 8, 1862. The present firm-name is E. & A. H. Batcheller, and by the employment of not far from one thousand hands the annual product of the concern is not far from two millions of dollars.

The Batcheller family is descended from Joseph Batcheller, who came to New England from Canterbury, England, in 1636, and settled in Wenham. By his wife, Elizabeth, he had Mark, John, Elizabeth and Hannah. John, the second child, married, in July, 1661, Mary Dennis; and second, in May, 1666, Sarah, daughter of Robert Goodale, of Salem. His children were Joseph, born in 1660; John, born in January, 1666–67; Mark, born in 1678; Elizabeth, Ebenezer, Hannah, Mary, Sarah and David. David, the last-mentioned child, married Susannah Whipple and had David, 1710; Susannah, 1712; Joseph, 1713; Nehemiah, 1716; Abraham, 1722; Amos, 1727; and Susannah again, 1731. Abraham, one of these chil-

dren, removed from Wenham, the old family home, to Westborough, and thence to Sutton, and married Sarah Newton. Her children were Abraham, 1752; Abner, 1755; Vashti, 1757; Joseph, 1759; Benjamin, 1762; Ezra, 1764; Sarah, 1766; and Amos, 1768. Ezra Batcheller, one of these children, moved from Sutton to Brookfield in 1802, and married, in 1789, Mary, daughter of Daniel Day; and second, in 1814, Widow Ann Mayo. His children were Willard, born in 1789, and died in North Brookfield in 1853; Daniel, born in 1791; Tyler, born in Sutton, December 20, 1793; Alden, born in 1796; Orra, born in 1799; and Ezra, born in 1801. Tyler Batcheller, one of the above sons, was the founder of the Batcheller business in North Brookfield. He married, April 6, 1819, Nancy Jenks, of North Brookfield; and second, October 8, 1829, Abigail J. Lane, of North Brookfield. His children were Mary Day, born September 12, 1821, who married Abel Harwood, of North Brookfield; Martha Ann, born December 7, 1823, who married Aaron D. Weld, of North Brookfield; Emeline, born December 22, 1826, who married Wm. C. King, of North Brookfield; and Hervey Jenks, who was born in 1828.

Ezra Batcheller, brother of Tyler and his partner, many years, born in Sutton July 21, 1801, married first, April 7, 1824, Relutia Parks, of North Brookfield, and second, March 25, 1851, Lutheria Cummings, of Ware. His children were Lucius Edwin, born July 6, 1825; Elizabeth Henry, born December 17, 1826; Alfred Hubbard, born July 23, 1830; George Ezra, born December 14, 1833; Mary Relutia, born October 16, 1835, and married Josiah W. Hubbard, of Boston; George Ezra, again, born December 6, 1838; Sarah Cheever, born October 3, 1844, and Frank Arthur, born October 15, 1852.

Among the corporations and institutions in North Brookfield may be mentioned the North Brookfield Savings Bank, the North Brookfield Free Public Library and the North Brookfield Railroad Company. The Savings Bank was incorporated March 3, 1854, and, according to its last report, its deposits were $519,427.02. Its officers at the same time were: S. S. Edmands, president; Bonum Nye, treasurer; and Bonum Nye, clerk.

The Free Library may date its origin May 17, 1879, when, at a town-meeting, it was voted to accept various sums of money for its establishment. These sums created a fund to which the past and present scholars of the high school and citizens generally subscribed five hundred dollars; William H. Montague, one hundred dollars; Theodore C. Bates, five hundred dollars, and Alfred H. Batcheller one thousand dollars, with which trustees, appointed by the town, organized the enterprise. The library, with a reading-room, was opened November 26, 1879. The town makes an appropriation annually for its maintenance, and its shelves now contain about four thousand volumes.

The railroad company was organized January 14, 1875, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars—ten thousand dollars of which was subscribed by individuals, and ninety thousand dollars by the town. The road was opened January 1, 1876, and a lease for ten years, which has been renewed for an additional term of fifty years, was made to the Boston and Albany Railroad Company, that company supplying the rolling stock. During the time of the first lease of ten years the company received under its lease $24,443.74, or, in other words, a dividend on its stock of an average of little less than two and a half per cent. per year.

In addition to Oliver Ward and the members of the Batcheller family, who have been prominent in the affairs of the town since its incorporation, may be mentioned: Hiram Ward, the firms of Johnson & Edson, and Dewing & Edmands, C. & D. Whiting, Whiting & Haskell, Whiting, Lowe & Co., Bond & Jenks, H. B. & J. N. Jenks, Woodis & Crawford, Jenks & Miller, Gulliver & Jenks, Gulliver, Duncan & Howe, Gulliver & Stone, P. K. Howe, Fullman, Livermore & Montague, Olmstead & R. Walker and A. & E. D. Batcheller, all of whom have engaged at various times in the manufacture of shoes for long or short periods. Nor must mention be omitted of Theodore C. Bates, Amasa Walker, Freeman Walker and Charles Adams, jr., all of whom have been not only prominent and useful citizens, but well known and influential in the walks of public life. Of Mr. Bates, who is still among the living, it is not proposed here to specially speak. It is sufficient to say that he is not only honored and esteemed among his neighbors and immediate friends, but has been deservedly the recipient of public honors whose measure, if his life and health be preserved, it is safe to predict, is not yet full.

Amasa Walker was born in Woodstock, Conn., May 4, 1799. He was descended from Augustine Walker, who was in Charlestown in 1641, and was the son of Walter and Priscilla (Carpenter) Walker, who removed while Amasa was yet an infant to the Second Precinct of Brookfield (now North Brookfield). He was educated in the common schools of North Brookfield, and in 1814, at the age of fifteen years, he entered a store in that town and afterwards one in South Brookfield, and finally the store of Moses Bond in North Brookfield. During most of the time from 1817 to 1820 he taught school, and in the latter year went into business in West Brookfield, continuing his interest until 1823. For a short time afterwards he was the agent of the Methuen Manufacturing Company, and in 1825 he removed to Boston, where he remained until 1840, a partner in the house of Carleton & Walker until 1829 and during the remainder of the time in business alone. In 1833 he delivered an oration before the Young Men's Society in Boston, in 1839 was president of the Boston Temperance Society, and in 1840 retired from business. In 1843 he returned to North Brookfield and in 1844 delivered a course of lectures at Oberlin

Amanda Walker

Tyler Batcheller

College. In 1848 he was a member of the Free Soil National Convention at Buffalo and was the successful candidate of that party for the State Legislature. In 1849 he was chosen to the Senate and in 1851 Secretary of State. In 1853 he was a member of the convention for revising the Constitution of the Commonwealth and in 1854 was chosen president of the North Brookfield Savings Bank at the time of its organization. In 1859 he delivered a course of lectures on political economy in Amherst College and in 1862 was chosen a Representative to Congress. In 1867 he received the degree of Doctor of Laws from Amherst and died at North Brookfield, October 29, 1875. He married, July 6, 1826, Emeline, daughter of Jonathan Carleton, of Boston, who was at that time his partner in business. On the 23d of June, 1834, he married Hannah Ambrose, of Concord, N. H., whose three children survived him.

Francis A. Walker, of Boston, is one of these children and was born in Boston, July 2, 1840. He removed with his father to North Brookfield in 1843 and was educated in its public schools preparatory to his admission to Amherst College in 1856, from which institution he graduated in 1860. He studied law with Charles Devens and George F. Hoar, then in partnership in Worcester, and in 1861 was made sergeant-major of the Fifteenth Massachusetts Regiment of Volunteers, under the command of Colonel Devens. On the 14th of September, 1861, he became assistant adjutant-general on the staff of General Darius N. Couch, and on the 23d of December, 1863, a colonel on the staff of the Second Army Corps. In 1865 he was breveted brigadier-general. He was wounded at Chancellorsville. captured at Ream's Station and confined in Libby Prison, and on his exchange left the service on account of impaired health. After his discharge he taught two years in the Williston Seminary, was then for a time connected with the editorial department of the *Springfield Republican*, and in 1870, after having had charge for a time of the Bureau of Statistics, was made Superintendent of the National Census of that year. He is now at the head of the Institute of Technology in Boston.

Freeman Walker was the brother of Amasa, and born in North Brookfield December 12, 1803. He was educated in the public schools of his native town, having, in addition, the advantages of one term in the Monson Academy. In the winter of 1822-23 he taught school in Western (now Warren), and in 1823 entered as clerk the store of Newell & Taintor. In the latter part of that year he went to Methuen to take charge of a store connected with the Methuen Manufacturing Company, of which his brother Amasa was agent. In 1826 he joined his brother in Boston, and became a clerk in his employ, in which position he continued until January 1, 1830, when he became a partner in the shoe manufacturing company of T. & E. Batcheller & Walker at North Brookfield. In 1834 he retired from this firm, and in 1835 began manufacturing shoes on his own account, and so continued until 1842. As moderator, selectman and overseer of the Poor he commanded the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and as Representative to the General Court in 1840 and 1841, and as Senator in 1852, 1853 and 1861 he had opportunities of a wider field of action, He married, June 3, 1830, Mary, daughter of Amos Bond, of North Brookfield, and died July 13, 1883.

Charles Adams, Jr., was descended from Henry Adams, who came from England and settled in Braintree. He was the son of Charles Adams, a physician in Antrim, N. H., and was born January 31, 1810. He received his education partly from the public schools and partly from private instruction under the care of Rev. John Bisbee, of Brookfield, and Rev. Josiah Clark, of Rutland. He went to North Brookfield in 1832, and entered the business office of T. & E. Batcheller, where he remained twenty years as book-keeper. In 1852 he became a partner in the firm and so continued until his retirement in 1860. Besides holding various town offices he was a Representative to the General Court in 1850–51–52 and 1862; a State Senator in 1865–68; a member of the Executive Council in 1867–68–69–70, and treasurer and receiver-general of the Commonwealth from 1871 to 1875 inclusive. He received the degree of Master of Arts from Dartmouth College in 1878, and died at North Brookfield April 19, 1886.

With these sketches, this narrative, short as it is, must be closed. The writer is aware of its imperfections, but they are such as must be attributed to the scantiness of material essential to its completion. As was stated by him in his sketch of Brookfield, he has been indebted in its preparation to Mr. Temple, the historian, who has so thoroughly gathered the harvest that little has been left to those coming after him but the satisfaction of entering his granaries and filching from his store.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

TYLER AND EZRA BATCHELLER.

The following account of this firm, and the men who were associated in its management, was prepared by Mr. Charles Adams, Jr., and was the last literary work of his life. It is printed, without alteration, from his manuscript.

Of all the men who have been citizens of this town since its incorporation, no one, probably, has done so much to promote its material growth and prosperity as Deacon Tyler Batcheller; and a history of the town, without a brief sketch, at least, of his active and useful career, would lack an essential element. He may truly be called the founder of the now large and flourishing central village of North Brookfield. He

was born, as will be seen in the genealogical record, December 20, 1793, in the town of Sutton, where he lived with his father till April, 1802, when the family removed to this town, which, however, was then the North Parish, or "Second Precinct in Brookfield;" his father purchasing of Solomon & Edmund Matthews, by deed, August 19, 1801, and for many years occupying the farm ever since known as the "Batcheller place," now (1885) owned by J. Winslow Bryant. At an early age, probably in his fifteenth year, he went to Grafton and learned the trade of shoemaking of Mr. Nathan Johnson. At the close of his apprenticeship there he returned to North Brookfield, and was employed in the establishment of Mr. Oliver Ward, who, in 1810, had commenced in this town the manufacture of "sale shoes," the first and only manufactory of the kind in the State, west of Grafton. In the family of Mr. Ward he found a pleasant and congenial home for about eight years.

In 1819 he commenced business on his own account, at the "Wetherbee house," so called, which stood on the spot now occupied by the house of Mrs. Erastus Hill. Having married, the same year, he resided there with his family; the back part of the house serving as his manufactory. At first his entire business consisted only in what shoes he could make with his own hands; soon, however, taking into his service one or two apprentices, and his brother Ezra, who had already learned the trade of Mr. Ward. The first shoes he made were chiefly of a low-priced quality, especially adapted to the Southern trade. These he packed in empty flour-barrels and consigned to Mr. Enoch Train, who in those days ran a line of sailing packets between Boston and Havana. On these small consignments a large per cent. of profit was realized. In 1821 he purchased the "Skerry house" and farm in the centre of what is now the main village of the town, expecting to enter into possession the first of the following April; but in February, 1822, his dwelling and shop at the Wetherbee place were totally destroyed by fire, and he at once removed his family to his new purchase, the "Skerry house," where he resumed and continued his business in an out-building on the premises, until 1824. In that year, having previously taken into his service several additional employés, he built a small two-story shop, which is now a part of the immense structure known far and wide as the "big shop," into which January 1, 1825, he removed his business, and at the same date took into partnership his brother Ezra, continuing the same business, though somewhat enlarged, under the firm of T. & E. Batcheller. From this time forward to the end of his life the two brothers were associated as partners through all the changes in their business; and in giving a history of it, their names cannot be dissociated. Tyler, the senior, attended to the purchase of stock and to all other business abroad; while Ezra was the efficient and popular superintendent, almost always at home, and at his post, giving direction to all matters pertaining to the manufactory. Harmonious in all their business relations and interests, as well as in all measures devised for the public weal, the act of one was the act of both; and in most matters their names were usually coupled, and they were familiarly spoken of as "the Deacon and Ezra."

They now added to their business the manufacture of "Batcheller's Retail Brogan," an article adapted to the New England trade, and kept for sale in all the stores in this and many of the neighboring towns; their main business, however, being the manufacture of goods for the Southern and Western States. The firm of T. & E. Batcheller continued, with a constantly increasing business, until January 1, 1830, when, by the admission of Freeman Walker, it was changed to "T. & E. Batcheller & Walker." The business having largely increased, the factory was now enlarged to three times its original size. In 1831 they introduced the manufacture of Russet Brogans, specially for the trade of the Southern States—the first that were made in Massachusetts. They soon became a leading article in the shoe trade and continued to be so for many years. Mr. Walker retired from the firm in 1834, and the firm resumed its former style of "T. & E. Batcheller." At this time the business had increased from its small beginnings to what was then considered very large; but the manufacture for an entire year then was probably no more than the product of a single week in the "big shop" at the present time. Nothing that could properly be called machinery had been introduced to prepare the stock for bottoming, none of which was done in the factory, but was put out and done by workmen in their small shops in this and most of the towns in the vicinity—in some instances the stock was carried to a distance of twenty to thirty miles.

The firm of T. & E. Batcheller continued until June 10, 1852, when Charles Adams, Jr., Alfred H. Batcheller, William C. King and Hervey J. Batcheller were admitted to the firm, and its style changed to T. & E. Batcheller & Co.; meanwhile a store had been established in Boston for the transaction of their business, and Tyler Batcheller had found it necessary, for greater convenience, to remove his residence to Boston the latter part of 1848. Mr. Adams retired from the firm January 1, 1860, the firm-name remaining the same, and Hervey J. Batcheller retired soon after. The business had then increased, from the day of small things, to nearly a million and a half of dollars annually. In April, 1861, the Southern Rebellion broke out, paralyzing for a while almost the whole business of the country. This firm suffered with the rest, and their business being very largely with the Southern States, their losses were proportionally large. A suspension was inevitable, and they were temporarily under the general financial cloud. But an arrangement, highly honorable to them, was soon made, and in a few months they were enabled

to pay, and did pay, every dollar of their indebtedness, principal and interest. But Tyler Batcheller, the founder and for years the sole proprietor and manager of the business, and the efficient senior partner of the firm from its beginning, did not live to see that fortunate consummation. The disappointment and anxiety caused by the apparent loss of a large fortune—the accumulations of a half-century of successful business—the inability to meet present pecuniary liabilities; the future darkened by the civil war in which the nation was then involved, the termination and result of which could not be anticipated by any human foresight;—in the midst of this accumulation of adverse and discouraging circumstances, and probably to some extent in consequence of them, his health failed, and his constitution, never robust, and which had begun to feel the effects of advancing years, seemed entirely to give way, and after a brief confinement to his house and bed, and without any clearly-defined disease he died, October 8, 1862, nearly sixty-nine years of age,—apparently of mere exhaustion of the vital powers, accelerated, probably, by mental care and anxiety. Thus ended a life distinguished for industry, energy, perseverance, integrity and usefulness. If his life had been spared but a few months longer he might have seen the cloud, which overhung their business at the time of his death, dispelled, all the pecuniary liabilities of the firm paid in full, an ample competency for himself and family retrieved from the wreck of the old business, and a most favorable prospect for a future business, which, although he did not live to see it, was more than realized by the surviving partners, of whom his brother Ezra was henceforward to the end of his life the able and efficient senior partner. Mr. King retired from the firm in 1865.

In the early years of Tyler Batcheller there were no special indications of the prominent positions he was destined to fill in the community, and in the business world. In boyhood he was noted for his mild and peaceful disposition; never zealously mingling with his contemporaries in their noisy and boisterous sports; then and always modest and unassuming in his deportment; improving to the best of his ability the very limited advantages afforded in those days for schooling: a very few weeks in the district school each winter being the extent of his school education—a defect which was ever a source of regret to him.

He was very early inured to habits of industry and economy, which he retained through life. The following incident exemplifies both traits. The first three years of his service with Mr. Ward were the last three years of his minority, and his stipulated wages went to his father; over and above which, during that time he earned and saved five hundred dollars—a large amount for those days—the interest on which, as he told the writer, was his self-restricted annual allowance for clothing for several years—until he went into business on his own account.

He united with what is now the First Congregational church in North Brookfield, June 8, 1817. In the spring of 1818, in connection with Joseph A. (afterward Deacon) Moore, he organized and superintended the first Sabbath-school in town, and for sixteen years he was a member of the supervising committee of the same.

September 15, 1820, he was elected a deacon, when he was twenty-seven years of age, and continued in that office twenty-eight years—until he removed his residence to Boston.

He was married April 6, 1819, to Miss Nancy Jenks, daughter of Mr. Nicholas Jenks, one of the early residents of the town. She was a most estimable lady and helpmeet, the mother of all his children. Her early and lamented death, in 1828, was a great loss to the whole community. She was born August, 1796, and died October 5, 1828, leaving four small children—three daughters and a son. He married for his second wife, October 8, 1829, Miss Abigail Jones Lane, daughter of Captain Samuel Lane, a very worthy young lady who had been an inmate of his family four years, and had the care of all his children, to whom she was now called to be a second mother; the oldest was only seven years old at the death of their mother. She lived to see the daughters all married, and survived her husband six years. She was born at Bedford, Mass., August 1, 1810, and died at Boston, March 10, 1877.

The "Skerry farm," which he purchased in 1821, covered a large portion of what is now the central village—the whole of the northeast quarter and part of the southeast, on no part of which was there any building except the old Skerry house in which he lived until 1836, when it was demolished, and a new house built on its site, and which was his home until he removed to Boston in 1848. It is now occupied as a part of the "Big Shop," and is the southwesterly portion of it. About 1825 the land on the streets by which the farm was bounded began to be wanted for building lots. In disposing of them Mr. Batcheller, with a view to the development and growth of the village, rather than to his individual interest, adopted the liberal policy of selling them at only about their value for agricultural purposes, to men of good character who would probably become permanent citizens, and to workmen whose services were wanted in or near his manufactory. The first sale was to his brother and partner, Ezra Batcheller, where Frank A. Smith now lives: and in a few years those streets were lined by neat residences owned and occupied by a very desirable class of citizens. When "Grove Street" was opened through his land, and real estate had largely increased in value, he was asked by several individuals at the same time to set a price on building-lots; he declined, giving as a reason that several of his interested friends had intimated to him that at the prices at which he had been parting with building-lots, he was doing less than justice to him-

self, and perhaps to them. He accordingly proposed to leave the price to be made by two disinterested men mutually agreed upon, and that he would abide by their decision. The proposition was accepted, and carried into effect.

In 1848 it became necessary, for the convenience of the extensive business of the firm, that he should remove to Boston, which he did in December of that year, and, as was said at his funeral, "he carried his religion with him." He attended meeting regularly at Park Street Church, and November 2, 1850, he and his wife united with that church, then under the pastoral care of Rev. A. L. Stone, now of San Francisco, Cal. September 17, 1857, he was elected a deacon of that church, and to the close of life remained an active and devoted officer. He was also for several years a member of the Prudential Committee of that society.

Mr. Batcheller was an original member of the Boston Board of Trade: was chosen a member of its Committee of Arbitration, and served on other important committees.

In removing his legal residence to Boston Mr. Batcheller did not forget the town of North Brookfield, where he had passed nearly a century of his life, —nor the church and society there with which he had been connected more than thirty years, as was shown by his frequent visits and acts of liberality and beneficence.

Ezra Batcheller, the junior member of the original firm, if less prominent before the public, was, equally with his brother, an efficient and essential factor in the growth and prosperity of the manufacturing establishment. And to his business tact and energy is largely due the prompt extrication of the concern from their temporary embarrassment in 1861. He was a large-hearted, public-spirited man, of earnest piety; and his memory is fragrant of good deeds and an honorable and useful life.

The present firm name is E. & A. H. Batcheller & Company; and this is the only boot and shoe manufactory now in operation in North Brookfield. In 1875, as appears from the census report, they gave employment to 927 males and 150 females, and manufactured goods of the value of $1,817,000. Their facilities for business have been considerably increased since that date.

HON. CHARLES ADAMS, JR., A.M.

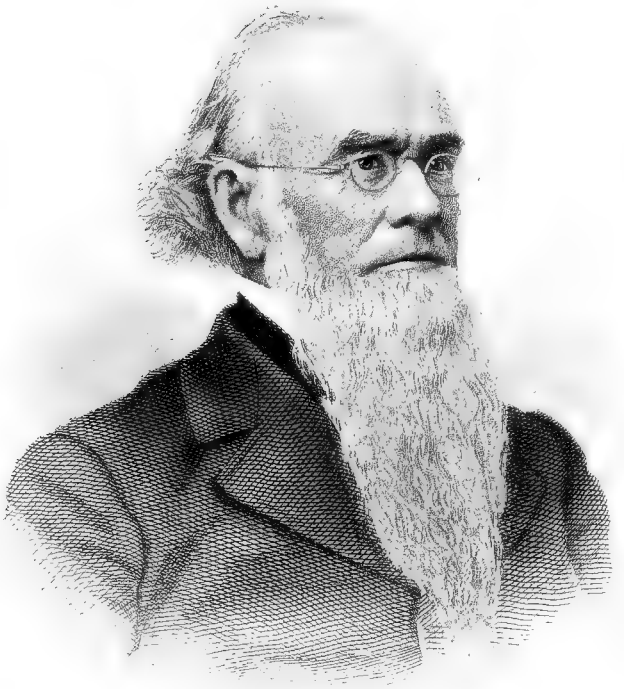
According to his own prepared family record, Mr. Adams is descended from Henry[1], who came from England and settled in Braintree; the line running through Edward[2] of Medfield, John[3] of Medfield, Abraham[4] of Brookfield, Jesse[5] of Brookfield, Charles, M.D.[6] of Antrim, N. H., and Oakham, Mass.

Charles, Jr.[7], was born at Antrim, in the part then known as Woodbury Village, now South Antrim, January 31, 1810, and died at North Brookfield, April 19, 1886. In addition to the advantages of the common schools, he attended a select school in Brookfield under Rev. John Bisbee, and studied eight months with Rev. Josiah Clark, of Rutland. This completed his school education. He served an apprenticeship of five years in a country store at Petersham, and was employed as clerk for a single year by J. B. Fairbanks, of Ware. He came to North Brookfield in 1832, and entered the employment of Messrs. Batcheller, shoe manufacturers, as book-keeper and accountant, which position he held for twenty years. In 1852 he became a member of the firm, and so continued until 1860, when he retired with a competence.

Mr. Adams was much in public life—having held by election most of more responsible town offices: was representative to the General Court for the years 1850, '51, '52 and '62; State Senator 1865, '66, 77 and '78; member of the Executive Council 1867, '68, '69 and '70; Treasurer and Receiver-General of the Commonwealth 1871, '72, '73, '74 and '75. He was also honored with special trusts; was commissioner of the Norwich and Worcester Railroad Sinking Fund; and for many years president of the North Brookfield Savings Bank. Perhaps it is enough to say, that in all these offices and trusts he fully met the expectation of his constituents for industry, ability, foresight, good judgment and integrity.

In manners, Mr. Adams had the dignity, without the preciseness, of a gentleman of the old school of official station. What was lacking in courtliness was more than made up by self-poise and an unaffected cordiality that won esteem, while it did not lessen respect. Always collected and maintaining a proper self-respect, he yet was at home equally in the kitchen of the farmers and the parlors of the educated. He saw a true manhood in whomsoever it existed, and yielded it due homage; he detected and did not conceal his contempt for mere pretence and outside show.

Though he often lamented his early disadvantages of schooling, yet he was, in the best sense, an educated man—not "self-made" as the popular phrase is, which implies the creating of one's surroundings and means. Rather, he subjected those surroundings to his will, and made them the means to develop and furnish his mind; and thus was educated and trained. He utilized whatever advantages were within his reach, whether at home or at school, behind the counter or in the counting-room; first as a subordinate and after as partner, owner and director. He was a learner, always and everywhere; seizing the opportunities, which both old and young so often throw away, to gain knowledge of men, and methods, and principles, and business, as well as books. And this early training, and the formation of habits of observation and inquiry and research, and this steady application to the work and duty of the hour, laid the foundation of the self-reliance and power of concentrated effort which fitted him for the higher duties and responsibilities of business life and official position. He succeeded because he had paid the full price of success.



Nat. Adams M.D.

Nor was his lack of school privileges apparent. He was well read in general and local history, as well as in political economy, the industrial sciences and finance. His memory was retentive, and was well stored with available knowledge. He was a good talker; and though commonly very practical in conversation, he yet possessed a mobile fancy and a vein of humor slightly imbued with satire that, combined and incited by refined instincts and pure thoughts and associations, made him a desirable acquisition to any social circle.

In the quiet life of a busy manufacturer, and even in the responsible station of a State official, there is little of incident and few turns of affairs to attract special notice and give interest to a biographical sketch. The startling situations, and conflicts, and triumphs which attach to military and professional life and make the reputation and renown of men of those classes and furnish the emphatic points in their biographies, are either wanting in legislative, and judicial and mercantile experience; or they are of strictly personal and temporary concern. They may have touched matters of success or popularity, vital in their day; but that day was a brief one, and results affected mainly the parties immediately interested.

While a member of the Legislature and the Executive Council, Mr. Adams gave his attention largely to matters of banking and finance, and questions growing out of the State's connection with the Troy and Greenfield, and the Boston, Hartford and Erie Railroads, and other corporations. He was chairman, or a member of the appropriate committees. To these committees is entrusted the shaping of the financial policy of the Commonwealth. And as several of his terms of service followed close upon the ending of the late Civil War, his sound views and practical good sense made his influence at that juncture of especial consequence. The reports from his pen are distinguished by a broad grasp, and able reasoning, and safe conclusions.

Mr. Adams did not claim to be a popular speaker, and attempted nothing in the line of oratory. He wrote out his intended remarks; and as he was a good reader, he made a favorable impression whenever he chose to appear before the public. He had himself and his theme well in hand; his points were clearly put; his evident mastery of his subject enlisted the hearer's attention, while his unaffected earnestness made a deep impression, if it did not carry conviction.

His style of writing was largely influenced by his leading pursuits. It was direct, unadorned, and what in Addisonian times would have been called didactic. He used Anglo-Saxon words and idioms; and the guiding thread of logic was always apparent in his sentences and consecutive sections. Having Scotch blood in his veins, it was only natural that he should have a love for Scottish history and literature. He became particularly fond of the poetry of Gray and Burns, and the poetry and romance of Sir Walter Scott. And the chance he had of going abroad in 1871, to complete the sale of State bonds in London, and which opportunity he embraced for extended travel in Scotland as well as on the Continent, intensified the early passion, and gave direction to his study and reflection in later years, after his retirement from office.

In a paper which he wrote in 1873, on "The Life and Times of Robert Burns," he tells us how he was first led into this attractive field. "In the year 1827, when I was in my seventeenth year, in a trade with another young man, to make the bargain even, I received a copy of 'Burns' Poems' in two small red-morocco bound volumes, without at the time knowing or caring who Robert Burns was. On opening the books I was delighted to find in them several songs which I had often heard sung by my mother—a descendant from clan McAllister—who was a fine singer —of course the finest I had then heard, and you will pardon me if I say the finest I have ever heard to this day (in *my* estimation). Some of her favorites, which I found in these volumes, were 'Bonnie Doon,' 'John Anderson my Jo,' 'Auld Lang Syne,' 'Highland Mary,' 'The Lea-Rig,' etc. And the reading of these songs in their peculiar dialect, naturally led my thoughts beyond the songs themselves and the singer, and awakened an interest in the author and his life and home; and thus insensibly I became an ardent admirer of Burns and Scotland." He then relates his visit to the Land of Burns in 1871, and gives expression to the thoughts inspired by the sight of the places and associations amid which the poet lived and wrote.

This paper, filling sixty-three closely-written pages of manuscript, reveals a trait of character which was prominent in all his life, viz., a tender and appreciative regard for his mother; and it furnishes a fair sample of his literary style. It is characterized by vivid descriptions of natural scenery and peasant life. He groups the hamlet, and its occupants and home-surroundings in a spirited picture, charming by its lights and shades, its mingling of the real and ideal, and all enveloped in the fitful sunshine and mists of the Ayr and Ayrshire. This paper, and a *diary* kept by him, and since written out in full, take rank above many modern published essays and books of travel.

Mr. Adams prepared and delivered an address at the semi-centennial of the Oakham Sabbath-School, May, 1868; an address at the centennial of Antrim, N. H., June 27, 1877, in response to the toast—"Scotch character: still marked by grit and grace;" an address delivered on Washington's birthday, 1874; and read a paper on North Brookfield family history before the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, February, 1884; and had partly completed a Sketch of the Life of Thomas Gray. But his principal literary work was the compilation of family biog-

raphies, comprising the leading Brookfield settlers, and filling ten large quarto volumes. These manuscript volumes contain historical matter, personal anecdotes and adventures, and family memorials of great value to genealogists, and are a monument of the author's patient research and discriminating judgment.

Both by nature and self-culture, Mr. Adams was a conservative man. But his was a conservatism that is an element of strength, and not of weakness; which was a consequent of deliberation and forecast, and not of timidity. He built on well-laid foundations and not on the sand. He made no more "haste" than "good speed." The meteor may outdazzle the evening star, but Jupiter remains king of the nightly heavens.

And this habit of mind fitted him for his work in the State treasurership and his other financial trusts. A wise conservatism always begets confidence, and, when joined with a clear head and habits of investigation, is the common antecedent of permanent success. This trait appeared as a factor in his daily life, in his friendships, in his views on education, on political and moral reforms, and on questions of theology and religion. He learned the Assembly's Shorter Catechism from his mother, and was accustomed to recommend it as a safe manual of Scripture doctrines to be taught to children. He was for fifteen years a member of Dr. Snell's Bible class. And he united with the Presbyterian Church because of its steadfast adherence to the old standards of faith and practice.

Mr. Adams was tender and strong in his social friendships, and his heart and purse were open to the calls of the needy and suffering. He bestowed his charities freely, but unostentatiously, on those who had a claim on his generosity and kindness. Many a widow and orphan will miss his timely help, and cherish and bless his memory.

He received the honorary degree of Master of Arts from Dartmouth College in 1878.

CHAPTER LXXXI.

WEST BROOKFIELD.

BY WILLIAM T. DAVIS.

THE town of West Brookfield should have been called Brookfield. It was the first place of settlement on the original grant; it held the first church, and holds the ancient burial-ground within its borders, and was made the First Precinct when the old town of Brookfield was divided into three. On the 28th of May, 1750, the Second Precinct was incorporated, including substantially the territory now included within the limits of North Brookfield, and on the 8th of May, 1754, the Third Precinct was incorporated (now Brookfield), leaving the west part (now West Brookfield) to retain the name and powers of the First Precinct. The steps taken to obtain the division of the town into precincts, and the several acts of incorporation, may be found stated in detail in the history of Brookfield in these volumes. A sketch of the church in the First Precinct up to the date of the incorporation of West Brookfield may also be found in that history; this narrative, therefore, will be confined chiefly to the career of the town since its incorporation.

In 1812 the town of North Brookfield was incorporated. The division of the remainder of the old town of Brookfield, after Warren or Western, as it was originally called, had been set off in 1741, and North Brookfield in 1812, was accomplished without contest and by general consent. At a town-meeting held on the 22d of November, 1847, at which Alanson Hamilton acted as moderator, it was voted "that the town choose a committee of two, one from each Parish, to present a petition to the next legislature to send out a disinterested committee to report to their body the terms upon which the town be divided, and that the town will abide said decision, provided that the town shall not disagree among themselves upon the terms of division previous to the first of January next, in which case said committee will petition the legislature to divide the town upon the terms agreed upon." The committee consisted of John M. Fiske and Francis Howe, the former from the First and the latter from the Third Precinct. A committee of twelve was also appointed, consisting of Baxter Ellis, Baxter Barnes, Nathaniel Lynde, Wm. Adams, Joseph Dane and Avery Keep, from the First Precinct; and Parley Blanchard, Elliott Prouty, Alfred Rice, Wm. J. Adams, Wm. Howe and Charles Flagg, from the Third Precinct, to consider terms and conditions of a division, and report to the town. At an adjourned meeting, held on the 27th of December, the committee made the following report, which was accepted:

The Committee chosen by the town of Brookfield to consider and agree upon an equitable division of said town into two distinct towns, in such manner and on such terms as shall subject each town to bear its just proportion of the burdens or expenses, and prevent liabilities of the whole undivided town, submit the following report:—Having duly considered all the facts and circumstances that we could bring to our minds, they are of the opinion that the town should be divided by the same line that divides the two ancient parishes, and the part lying west of said line, except Preston Howe's land, shall be incorporated as a new and distinct town, by the name of West Brookfield, with the following conditions or agreement, viz.:—If the County Commissioners shall order, either the road from Ware to West Brookfield depot, or the road from Fiskdale to South Brookfield depot, or both of them, to be made as they are now located, except a slight alteration may be made without additional expense within two years, each town shall pay an equal portion of the expense of making said road or roads, also of the present debts of the town, if any there be; West Brookfield shall relinquish and give up to Brookfield all their right or interest in the town farm, with all the personal property on or belonging thereto; Brookfield shall keep and support all the paupers who are now at the said establishment during their lives, West Brookfield paying to Brookfield fifty cents a week each for one-half the number of said paupers now at said alms-house during their lives. The names of the persons to be thus supported are as follows, and no other person, viz.:—Joseph Porter, Abigail Staples, Simeon

Johnson, David Snow, Eleanor Gilbert, Solon Phipps, Hannah Lawrence, Martha Richardson, Elizabeth Hobbs, Harriet Richards, Sally Forbes, Sally Parker, Huldah Wood, Mary Walker, Mary Ward, Esther Jennings, Sally Thomas, Abigail Paddock, John Lindley, William Richardson, Emily P. Morse and Orin Hamilton. Ruth Henshaw, insane, is to be supported by the town of Brookfield, and Harriet Candy to be supported in West Brookfield. All persons who may hereafter claim town aid are to be supported or assisted by the town in whose territorial limits they may have gained a settlement, by the laws of the commonwealth, prior to the division of said town. West Brookfield shall have the right to visit said alms-house, by an agent or committee, for the purpose of seeing that said paupers are well treated or taken care of. The expenses necessarily incurred by your committee they pray may be allowed, and that the town direct the Selectmen to give an order to Parley Blanchard, their chairman, for the sum of sixteen dollars for that purpose.

On the 4th of February the town voted to petition the Legislature for an act incorporating the new town substantially in accordance with the terms of the report, and on the 3d of March, 1848, the following act was passed:

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same as follows:

Sec. 1. All that part of the town of Brookfield, in the County of Worcester, which lies westerly of the line hereinafter described, is hereby incorporated into a separate town by the name of West Brookfield, and the said town of West Brookfield is hereby vested with all the powers, privileges, rights and immunities, and shall be subject to all the duties and requisitions to which other towns are entitled and subjected by the constitution and laws of the Commonwealth. The dividing line between the two towns shall be and the same is hereby established as follows: Beginning at the north end of said line at a town monument between Brookfield and North Brookfield; thence south eighteen and three-fourth degrees west thirty-one rods and twenty-two links to a stake and stones; thence south eighty-six degrees west twenty-four rods; thence north eighty-four and three-fourths degrees west ten rods and eighteen links; thence south fifty-six and three-fourths degrees west seventeen rods and five links; thence south fifty-four degrees west fifteen rods and twenty-three links; thence south sixty-nine and one-third degrees west fourteen rods and twenty-two links; thence south seven degrees west nineteen rods and seven links; thence south twenty-four and one-fourth degrees west nine rods and nine links; thence north fifty-six and one-fourth degrees west twelve rods; thence north fifty-two and three-fourths degrees west sixteen rods; thence south nine degrees west sixty-six rods and twenty links; thence south fifteen degrees west sixty-six rods and twenty links; thence south nine degrees west seventeen rods and seventeen links; thence south eighty-two and one-half degrees west fifteen rods and three links; thence south five and one-half degrees east fifty-nine rods and seven links; thence south fifty-nine degrees west eighteen rods and twelve links; thence south forty-three and one-half degrees west eight rods; thence south ten and one-half degrees east seven rods and four links; thence south thirty degrees east seven rods and four links; thence south fifty-three and one-half degrees east nine rods and thirteen links; thence south thirty-four degrees west twenty-six rods and thirteen links; thence south seventy-five and three-quarters degrees east nine rods and twenty links; thence south nine and one-fourth degrees west three rods; thence south seventy-four degrees east sixteen rods; thence south twenty and one-fourth degrees west one hundred and twenty-nine rods to the north bank of the river; thence southerly to the middle of the river; thence down the middle of the river to a point opposite the corner of land of Reuben Blair and the Brigham Farm, lying on the southerly side of said river; thence southerly to said corner; thence south thirty-three and one-fourth degrees west one hundred and eighty-five rods and fifteen links; thence north sixty-eight and three-fourths degrees west thirty-three rods and twenty links; thence south sixteen degrees west two hundred and thirty-six rods and twenty links; thence south sixty-seven and three-fourths degrees east thirty-two rods; thence south seven degrees west three rods; thence south seventy degrees east sixteen rods and eight links; thence south seventeen degrees west forty rods and two links; thence south eighty-four and three-fourths degrees west seven rods and fifteen links; thence south three and one-fourth degrees west twenty-six rods; thence south eighty-five and one-half degrees west twenty-five rods and thirteen links; thence north seventy and three-fourths degrees west twenty-eight rods and eighteen links; thence north eighty-six and one-half degrees west twenty-eight rods and five links; thence south twelve rods; thence south twenty-nine and one-half degrees west forty-four rods and fifteen links; thence south seventeen and one-half degrees west fifty-five rods and fourteen links; thence south seventy-five and one-half degrees east ninety rods; thence south thirteen and one-third degrees west eighty-eight rods and twenty-two links; thence north seventy-five degrees west sixty-one rods and twenty links; thence south nineteen and three-fourths degrees west eighty rods; thence south forty and one-half degrees east seventeen rods; thence north twenty-five degrees east twenty-three rods and fifteen links; thence south eighty degrees east fifty-four rods and ten links; thence south thirteen and one-third degrees west one hundred and twenty-seven rods and five links; thence north sixty-five degrees west sixty-eight rods and ten links; thence south sixty-two degrees west eleven rods and twelve links; thence north forty-nine degrees west five rods and nine links; thence north sixteen degrees west twelve rods; thence north sixty-one and one-half degrees west forty-two rods and twenty links, to a point on the town line between said Brookfield and Warren.

Section 2. The inhabitants of West Brookfield shall be holden to pay to the collector of Brookfield all arrears of taxes legally assessed on them in the said town of Brookfield before the passage of this act, and also shall be holden to pay their proportion of State and County taxes that may be assessed upon them previously to the taking of the next State valuation, said proportion to be ascertained and determined by the town valuation of the town of Brookfield next preceding the passage of this act; and the said town of West Brookfield shall be holden to pay one-half of the debts due and owing from the town of Brookfield at the time of the passage of this Act, and shall be entitled to receive one-half of all corporate personal property except as hereinafter provided and all assets now owned by said town of Brookfield; and the town of West Brookfield shall be entitled to receive one-half of the school fund belonging to or receivable by the town of Brookfield.

Sec. 3. The poor farm belonging to the town of Brookfield shall remain and continue to be the property of the town of Brookfield, together with all the personal property on or attached to said farm. And the said town of Brookfield shall support during their lives the following-named persons, provided the same shall continue to be paupers and require support to wit: Joseph Porter, Simeon Johnson, David Snow, Elenor Gilbert, Abigail Staples, Solon Phipps, Hannah Lawrence, Martha Richardson, Elizabeth Hobbs, Hannah Richards, Sally Forbes, Sally Parker, Huldah Wood, Mary Walker, Mary Ward, Esther Jennings, Sally Thomas, Abigail Paddock, John Lindley, Wm. Richardson and Emily P. Morse. And the said town of West Brookfield shall pay to the town of Brookfield the sum of twenty-five cents per week for the support of each of said persons respectively so long as they shall severally live, whether they shall continue paupers or otherwise. And the town of Brookfield shall hereafter support Ruth Henshaw, a pauper, and the town of West Brookfield shall support Harriett Casey, a pauper, so long as they shall respectively require support. The towns of Brookfield and West Brookfield shall be respectively liable for the support of all other persons who now do or hereafter shall stand in need of relief as paupers whose settlement was gained by or derived from a residence within their respective limits.

Sec. 4. If the County Commissioners shall, within two years, order the construction of the road which has been located from Ware to West Brookfield Depot, and the road which has been located from Fiskdale to South Brookfield Depot on either of said roads as the same are located or so altered as not to increase the expense, the towns of Brookfield and West Brookfield shall each pay one-half the expense of said road or roads.

Sec. 5. The town of West Brookfield shall continue to be a part of the town of Brookfield for the purpose of electing a Representative to the General Court, State officers, Senators, Representatives to Congress, and electors of President and Vice-President of the United States, until the next decennial census shall be taken in pursuance of the thirteenth article of amendment of the constitution; and all meetings for the choice of said officers shall be called by the selectmen of the town of Brookfield in like manner and in the same places as heretofore called; and the selectmen of West Brookfield shall make a true list of all persons in said town qualified to vote at every such election, and shall, ten days at least before the day of every such election, deliver the same to the selectmen of Brookfield, to be used by them in the same manner for such elections as if prepared by themselves.

Sec. 6. Any justice of the peace within and for the county of Worcester is hereby authorized to issue his warrant directed to any principal inhabitant of the town of West Brookfield, requiring him to notify and

warn the inhabitants thereof qualified to vote in town affairs to meet at the time and place therein appointed for the purpose of choosing all such town officers as towns are by law authorized and required to choose at their annual meetings; and such justice, or in his absence, such principal inhabitant shall preside till the choice of a moderator in said meeting.

In conformity with the provisions of the act of incorporation, Elisha Hammond, of West Brookfield, a justice of the peace, issued a warrant to George S. Duell, a principal inhabitant of West Brookfield, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town qualified to vote in town affairs to meet at the town hall in said town on Monday, the 27th of March, 1848, to choose town officers and raise such sums of money as might be needed for town affairs, and also to decide on the manner of calling meetings of the town. The town hall, so called, was the Congregational Church, which had in alternate years with the Congregational Church in the south part of the town been used for town meetings. The warrant was dated March 11th and was duly served by Mr. Duell, who made his return of service on the same. At the meeting Alanson Hamilton was chosen moderator, and a prayer was offered by Rev. Leonard S. Parker, then pastor of the Congregational Church in West Brookfield. The following town officers were chosen for the year: Selectmen, Alanson Hamilton, Eli Chamberlain, Baxter Barnes, Mandley Peirce, Bramin Sibley; Town Clerk—Jacob Dupee; Assessors—Alanson Hamilton, William Cowee, William R. Thomas; Treasurer—Lucius Tomblin; Overseers of the Poor—Jesse Bliss, Seth Crabtree and Avery Keep; Visiting School Committee—Leonard S. Parker, William Curtis and William R. Thomas; Fence-Viewers—Nathaniel Lynde, Joseph A. Sprague and John M. Fiske; Measurers of Wood and Bark—Lucius Tomblin, William Cowee and T. Lindsey; Measurers of Leather—H. Brown, B. T. Leland and Joseph A. Sprague; Sealer of Weights and Measures—William Barrett; Surveyors of Highways—Horace F. Watson, Bostwick Gilbert, Linus Banister, William Barrett, Augustus Makepeace, Seth Crabtree, Warren Blair, Bramin Sibley, Mandley Peirce and Aretas D. Gilbert; Surveyors of Lumber—George H. Gilbert, Lucius Tomblin, Senate Johnson; Fire-Wards—Avery Keep, J. M. Fiske, H. Brown, G. Crowell, A. C. Gleason and G. W. Lincoln; Field-Drivers—I. Lincoln, G. Crowell, E. W. Coombs, Joseph A. Sprague, J. M. Fiske, Arad Gilbert, C. T. Cooke and Avery Keep.

It was voted to put out the collection of taxes to the lowest bidder, and George S. Duell took the collection for one and a quarter per cent. George S. Duell and Charles Cutter were chosen constables, and it was voted that warrants for town-meetings should be posted at least seven days at the Congregational Church and at the school-house near the house of William Adams.

Josiah Henshaw, Nathaniel Lynde and Isaac Gilbert were chosen a committee to ascertain the financial condition of the town and report at an adjourned meeting on the 17th of April. At the adjourned meeting the committee reported that the outstanding orders of the two towns amounted to $750. Due on account of schools, $80; due on account of tax abatements, $50; due on account of poor, $153.52; due on account of contingent expenses, $100.48—$1,134. Assets deducted, $434.45—amount of indebtedness, $699.55, one-half of which is West Brookfield's share: $350.

The committee recommended appropriations which were made as follows: One-half of indebtness of the two towns, $350; schools, $900; roads, $300; contingent and tax discount, $225; poor, $450—total appropriations, $2,225.

It was also voted that the sum of six hundred dollars be worked out on the roads as a labor tax. The following is a list of the selectmen of the town since its incorporation, chosen in the years set against their names:

1848. Alanson Hamilton.
Eli Chamberlain.
Baxter Barnes.
Mandley Peirce.
Bramin Sibley.
1849. Same.
1850. Baxter Ellis.
Ebenezer Fairbanks.
Willard Gilbert.
Benj. W. Leland.
Daniel C. Snow
1851. Willard Gilbert.
Aretas D. Gilbert.
Adolphus Hamilton.
Horace G. Rawson.
William Cowee.
1852. Hammond Brown.
Seth Crabtree.
Joshua Ross.
Horace G. Rawson.
Abijah Cutler.
1853. Horace G. Rawson.
Mandley Peirce.
Chandler Giddings.
Joseph W. Woods.
Joseph Dane, Jr.
1854. Chandler Giddings.
Joseph W. Woods.
Joseph Dane, Jr.
Bramin Sibley.
John R. Snow.
1855. George H. Gilbert.
Moses Hall.
George Gault.
Cheney Dane.
Chandler Giddings.
1856. Hammond Brown.
Moses Hall.
Bramin Sibley.
David B. Gleason.
Charles E. Smith.
1857. Alanson Hamilton.
Wm. B. Stone.
Ebenezer B. Lynde.
Charles E. Smith.
George A. Barnes.
1858. Alanson Hamilton.
Wm. B. Stone.
George A. Barnes.
William Paige.
Warren A. Blair.
1859. Wm. B. Stone.
William Adams, Jr.
Warren A. Blair.
Raymond Cummings.
Francis H. Barnes.
1860. Josiah Henshaw.
Raymond Cummings.
Henry P. Barrett.
Francis H. Barnes.
Amos C. Allen.
1861. Raymond Cummings.
Amos C. Allen.
Augustus Makepeace.
William Foster.
E. W. Coombs.
1862. Raymond Cummings.
Amos C. Allen.
Augustus Makepeace.
E. W. Coombs.
William Foster.
1863. Hammond Brown.
Amos C. Allen.
Abner C. Gleason.
Daniel Allen.
H. L. Banister.
1864. Hammond Brown.
Amos C. Allen.
Abner C. Gleason.
Daniel Allen.
Zebulon E. Cary.
1865. Amos C Allen.
Abner C. Gleason.
Sanford Adams.
Zebulon E. Cary.
David S. Lawrence.
1866. Amos C. Allen.
Sanford Adams.
David S. Lawrence.
O. A. Davis.
R. K. Makepeace.
1867. George Crowell.
Daniel Allen.
L. H. Chamberlain.
Warren Dane.
Wm. H. Barnes.
1868. George Crowell.
Daniel Allen.
L. H. Chamberlain.
1869. Benjamin Aiken.

O. P. Maynard.
Wm. B. Stone.
1870. B. P. Aiken.
Wm. B. Stone.
Raymond Cummings.
1871. Same.
1872. Raymond Cummings.
John B. Tomblin.
George A. Parratt.
1873. Raymond Cummings.
H. G. Rawson.
Edward McEvoy.
1874. Same.
1875. Same.
1876. B. P. Aiken.
B. K. Makepeace.
Wm. H. Allen.
1877. Edward McEvoy.
Wm. H. Allen.
Raymond Cummings.
J. G. Bruce.
C. H. Fairbanks.
1878. Raymond Cummings, Jr.
Edward McEvoy.
W. A. Blair.
1879. W. A. Blair.
Edward McEvoy.
R. K. Makepeace.
1880. W. A. Blair.
Edward McEvoy.
Royal K. Makepeace.
1881. E. W. Coombs.
Edward McEvoy.
R. K. Makepeace.
1882. R. K. Makepeace.
Philip M. Butler.
Joseph Eaton.
Edward McEvoy.
E. W. Coombs.
1883. Philip M. Butler.
E. W. Coombs.
Edward McEvoy.
Amos C. Allen.
Charles H. Allen.
1884. E. W. Coombs.
Charles H. Allen.
Charles B. Henshaw.
1885. E. W. Coombs.
Charles H. Allen.
John T. Gulliver.
1886. E. W. Coombs.
George A. Parratt.
J. T. Gulliver.
1887. Sanford Adams.
Amos C. Allen.
G. H. Coolidge.
1888. Sanford Adams.
George H. Brown.
G. H. Coolidge.

The moderators at annual meetings have been :

Alanson Hamilton..... 1849–50	L. Fullam.....1868–69
Hammond Brown.....1851–54	Lyman H. Chamberlain.....1870
George W. Lincoln.....1855–58	L. Fullam.....1871–72
D. S. Merrell.....1859	Lyman H. Chamberlain....1873–78
Josiah Henshaw..... 1860	L. Fullam.....1879–80
George W. Lincoln.....1861–62	Lyman H. Chamberlain.....1881–83
Josiah Henshaw.....1863	Ebenezer B. Lynde.....1884–85
Hammond Brown.....1864–66	George H. Coolidge.....1886–88
Lyman H. Chamberlain.....1867	

Jacob Dupee served as clerk from 1848 to 1857, inclusive; E. Hutchins Blair, from 1858 to 1879, inclusive, and in 1880 H. W. Bush, the present clerk, was chosen. Lucius Tomblin served as treasurer from 1848 to 1851, inclusive; Oliver S. Cook, from 1852 to 1856, inclusive; Hammond Brown, from 1857 to 1859, inclusive; E. H. C. Blair, from 1860 to 1866, inclusive; A. C. Gleason for the year 1867, and E. H. C. Blair from 1868 until his death, in May, 1887. George H. Fales was then appointed to fill the vacancy and was chosen by the town at the annual meeting in 1888.

While presenting lists of the most prominent officers of the town, it will not be out of place to include in this narrative the names of those who have represented the town in the General Court. In the act of incorporation it was provided that for the purpose of choosing these, West Brookfield should form a part of Brookfield until the next State census in 1850. In 1848 the two towns chose no representative and in November, 1849, Oliver C. Felton, of Brookfield, was chosen to represent them. Those chosen in West Brookfield at the election in the following years were: Chosen in 1850, William Curtts; 1851, Horace J. Rawson; 1852, none; 1853, Baxter Barnes; 1854, William R. Thomas; 1855, none; 1856, John M. Fales.

The Legislatures of 1856 and 1857 adopted the Twenty-first Amendment to the Constitution, which was approved by the people May 1, 1857, providing that a census of the legal voters of each city and town should be taken on the first day of May, 1857, and returned to the Secretary of the Commonwealth on or before the last day of June, and a census of the inhabitants of each city and town in 1865, and every tenth year thereafter, including the legal voters. The amendment also provided that the House of Representatives should thereafter consist of two hundred and forty members, who shall be apportioned by the Legislature, at its first session after the return of the census, to the several counties of the Commonwealth, according to their relative numbers of legal voters and the apportionment certified to the mayor and aldermen of the city of Boston and to the county commissioners of other counties than Suffolk, who shall, on the first Tuesday after the receipt of the apportionments, divide their counties into representative districts and assign to each its number of representatives. Under the apportionment of 1857 the towns of Warren, West Brookfield and New Braintree constituted the Eleventh District of Worcester County and were entitled to one Representative. The following is a list of the Representatives chosen to represent that district in the nine succeeding years:

Chosen in 1857, Samuel E. Blair, of Warren; 1858, Nelson Carpenter, of Warren; 1859, George Crowell, of West Brookfield; 1860, Joseph Rawson, of West Brookfield; 1861, Lucius J. Knowles, of Warren; 1862, Sexton P. Martin, of New Braintree; 1863, John M. Fales, of West Brookfield; 1864, Lucius J. Knowles, of Warren; 1865, Nathan Richardson, of Warren.

Under the apportionment of 1866, based on the census of 1865, the towns of Sturbridge, Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield and Warren constituted the Eighteenth Worcester District and the following were chosen to represent that district in the ten succeeding years:

Chosen in 1866, James S. Montague, of Brookfield, Charles E. Smith, of West Brookfield; 1867, Amasa C. Morse, of Sturbridge, Joseph B. Lombard, of Warren; 1868, Ezra Batcheller, of North Brookfield, Daniel W. Knight, of Brookfield; 1869, Benjamin A. Tripp, of Warren, John Harvey Moore, of Warren; 1870, Martin L. Richardson, of Sturbridge, George S. Duell, of Brookfield; 1871, Daniel W. Knight, of Brookfield, Simon H. Sibley, of Warren; 1872, Noah D. Ladd, of Sturbridge, William B. Stone, of West Brookfield; 1873, Warren Tyler, of North Brookfield, Stillman Butterworth, of Brookfield; 1874, Charles B. Sanford, of West Brookfield, George T. Lincoln, of Sturbridge; 1875, Charles Fuller, of Sturbridge, John Wetherbee, of Warren.

Under the apportionment of 1876 the same towns constituted the Twelfth Worcester District and were represented as follows during the ten succeeding years:

Chosen in 1876, William H. Montague, of North Brookfield, George W. Johnson, of Brookfield; 1877, George C. Lincoln, of North Brookfield, Alvin B. Chamberlain, of Sturbridge; 1878, Theodore C. Bates, of North Brookfield, Joseph Smith, of Warren; 1879, George W. Johnson, of Brookfield, George N. Bacon, of Sturbridge; 1880, George A. Parratt, of West Brookfield, George M. Newton, of Warren, died (Lucien M. Gilbert, of Warren, filled vacancy); 1881, Hiram Knight, of North Brookfield, David W. Hodgkins, of Brookfield; 1882, Emory L. Bates, of Sturbridge, Horace W. Bush, of West Brookfield; 1883, Allen Batcheller, of North Brookfield, Joseph W. Hastings, of Warren; 1884, Edwin D. Goodell, of Brookfield, David B. Wright, of Sturbridge; 1885, Edwin Wilbur, of West Brookfield, Marcus Burroughs, of Warren.

Under the apportionment of 1886 the towns of Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield, New Braintree, Oakham, Sturbridge and Warren constituted the Fifth Worcester District and the following Representatives have been chosen to represent it:

Chosen in 1886, Edwin D. Goodell, of Brookfield, Samuel Clark, of North Brookfield; 1887, George H. Coolidge, of West Brookfield, Henry D. Haynes, of Sturbridge; 1888, George Bliss, of Warren, John B. Gould, of Warren.

In the early life of West Brookfield little occurred to arrest the attention of the historian or interest the reader. Its current flowed with gentle tide, bearing satisfactory prosperity to its enterprises and peace and happiness to its people. Its real history lies back of its incorporation far in the past and is owned in common with its sister towns. Brookfield, though the Third Precinct, inherits the name and records of the original town, while West Brookfield, really the mother instead of sister of the towns at the north and south, and holding within its borders the ancient landmarks of Quabaug, has scarcely passed the fortieth year of its municipal age. It would be a fitting acknowledgment of its historic record to place in its keeping the ancient archives and christen it anew with the name which rightfully belongs to it. South Brookfield is the title which Brookfield often bears in the records, and to an impartial eye it seems more applicable to-day to the town from which West Brookfield was separated in 1848.

As owners in common of the memories of the good old town, the citizens of the three towns of Brookfield, North Brookfield and West Brookfield celebrated the anniversary of our national independence on Saturday, the 3d of July, 1858. The purpose of the celebration was a double one,—both to celebrate the event which the day commemorated and, as stated by the committee in their circular, sent to the sons of the three towns, to make preliminary arrangements for the two hundredth anniversary of the settlement of the town, which would occur in 1860. The circular was signed by Aaron Kimball, Francis Howe, Lewis Abbott, S. W. Banister, Perley Stevens, Luther Stowell, Oliver C. Felton, Calvin Jennings, Otis Hayden, Emmons Twichell and Alfred Rice, of Brookfield; Amasa Walker, Daniel Whitney, Hiram Edson, Charles Duncan, William Adams, George H. Lowe, Royal Pickard, Ezra Batchellor, Lysander Brewer, James H. Hill and Bonum Nye, of North Brookfield, and Alanson Hamilton, Nathaniel Lynde, Ebenezer Merriam, John M. Fales, Augustus Makepeace, Ebenezer Fairbanks, David A. Gleason, David L. Merrill, Raymond Cummings, George W. Lincoln and Warren A. Blair, of West Brookfield. At that time the population of the three towns, in the order here given, was 2007, 2307 and 1363 respectively. A dinner was held in a tent pitched on the Common in Brookfield and nine hundred guests were seated at the tables. A procession, under the Chief Marshal George D. Clapp, with Tyler Hosman and Henry L. Mellen as his aids, contained four divisions in the following order and marched through the principal streets to the tent:

First Division.

Bonds Cornet Band, 20 pieces,
Cataract Engine Company, of Brookfield, Capt. A. H. Moulton.
Committee of Brookfield.
Speakers and guests.
Citizens.

Second Division.

American Engine Company, of West Brookfield, Capt. C. B. Sanford.
Committee of West Brookfield.
West Brookfield Glee Club.
Citizens.

Third Division.

Committee of North Brookfield.
President, Vice-President, Chaplain.
Guests.
Citizens.

Fourth Division.

Bay State Engine Co., East Brookfield, Capt. C. K. Willard.
Challenge Engine Co. (Juvenile), East Brookfield, Capt. E. J. Nichols.
Guests and Citizens.

Hon. Amasa Walker, of North Brookfield, presided, assisted by the following vice-presidents: Hon. Francis Howe, Hon. Oliver C. Felton, Abraham Skinner and Aaron Kimball, of Brookfield; Hon. Alanson Hamilton, Nathaniel Lynde and Ebenezer Merriam, of West Brookfield, and Colonel Wm. Adams and Pliny Nye, of North Brookfield. D. L. Morrill, of West Brookfield, was toast-master. The speakers, besides the president, were Hon. Pliny Merrick, Hon. Dwight Foster, George Howe, of Boston, Wm. Howe, of Brookfield, Henry Upham, of Boston, Rev. C. Cushing, of North Brookfield, and Dr. Hitchcock, of Newton.

On the 15th of March, 1860, the following circular was issued, preliminary to the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the settlement of the town. The original grant was made May 31, 1860, but for some reason it was thought expedient to celebrate the event on the 4th of July.

BROOKFIELD, March 15, 1860.

Dear Sir: The present year marks the two hundredth Anniversary of the settlement of the town, and it is thought desirable and proper that the event should be commemorated in a suitable manner

A general meeting of the citizens of the several towns, into which the ancient town of Brookfield has been divided, has been held, and the undersigned appointed a Committee to make arrangements for the occasion and invite the attendance of all who may feel an interest in it.

We, therefore, respectfully extend to you an invitation to be present on the Fourth of July next, the day fixed upon, as on the whole the most eligible and convenient.

The Committee are especially desirous that all who originated in, or have been residents of this place, should join in this Celebration.

The Sons and Daughters of Brookfield are scattered far and wide in all the States in the Union; but the Committee trust they will be happy to come together on an occasion so fraught with interesting associations and reminiscences.

The first settlement having been made in that part of the old town now incorporated as West Brookfield, and the site of the first Meeting-House, the old garrison which stood successfully the Indian Siege of 1675, the Gilbert Fort and the first Grave Yard being also in that section, the Committee have decided to hold the proposed celebration in that town. Rev. Lyman Whiting, of Providence, R. I., has been invited to deliver the address, and every effort will be made to give interest to the occasion.

A large tent will be erected upon the Common, in which the services will be held and the dinner be provided.

Tickets to the Tent and Dinner, one dollar.

We have the honor to be,
Respectfully Yr obt servants,

Aaron Kimball.	Francis Howe.
O. C. Felton.	Emmons Twichell.
Luther Stowell.	A. H. Moulton.
George W. Johnson.	H. L. Mellen.
George Forbes.	Pliny Doane.
Wm. Adams.	Ezra Batcheller.
Charles Adams, Jr.	Hiram Carruth.
Pliny Nye.	Amasa Walker.
Bonum Nye.	E. D. Batcheller.
T. M. Duncan.	G. B. Dewing.
Alanson Hamilton.	Nathaniel Lynde.
Alfred White.	Josiah Henshaw.
Baxter Barnes.	Raymond Cummings.
Charles E. Smith.	John M. Fales.
L. H. Thompson.	S. N. White.
G. W. Lincoln.	

The celebration was carried out in accordance with the plans of the committee. The streets and houses were decorated, and Wednesday, the 4th of July, will long be remembered by the sons and daughters of the ancient settlement. At nine o'clock the citizens of West Brookfield, under escort of the Oakham Band, proceeded to Foster's Hill, the site of the first church and fortification, and there met the citizens of Brookfield and North Brookfield, attended by the Brookfield Cornet Band, and marched to the Common. There a formal procession was organized under Chief Marshal S. D. Cooke and marched to the old burial-ground, and thence to the tent on the east end of the Common, where the tables, set for twelve hundred, were completely filled. Hon. Amasa Walker acted as president of the day, and called on Rev. Dr. Joseph Vaill, of Palmer, to invoke the divine blessing. After the dinner Mr. Walker addressed the assembly and Rev. Lyman Whiting, of Providence, followed with an historical address of nearly two hours in length. After the address speeches were made by Rev. C. Cushing, of North Brookfield, Dr. Eliakim Phelps, of Philadelphia, a former pastor of the First Precinct Church, N. B. Chamberlain, of Boston, Rev. Mr. Burr, of Brookfield, Rev. C. M. Cordley, of West Brookfield, T. M. Duncan, of North Brookfield, Rev. W. H. Beecher, of North Brookfield, Wm. B. Draper, of New York, Dr. John Homans, of Boston, Dr. Jabez B. Upham, of Boston, Rev. Hubbard Winslow, of Brooklyn, Judge Danforth, of New York, and Josiah Cary, of St. Charles, Missouri.

But the memories of the early settlers of Brookfield were destined to be soon revived by events less joyous and peaceful. The hill-sides and plains of this ancient settlement, so accustomed to scenes of warfare in their earlier days, within a year after the celebration again witnessed preparations for hostile strife. Since the grant of 1660 no generation had passed away without learning something of the horrors of war. They had fought for years with the Indian hordes at their doors; they had fought for independence; they had fought to assert the rights of an infant nation against an insolent foe; they were now to take up arms to preserve a Union which had been dearly purchased in Revolutionary days.

During the War of the Rebellion West Brookfield was not behind other towns in the Commonwealth in patriotic endeavors to sustain the government and fill the ranks of the army. At a town-meeting held April 29, 1861, at which George W. Lincoln was chosen moderator, it was voted to pay each volunteer twenty dollars when mustered and furnish each with a revolver. The town also pledged itself to properly support families of soldiers in the service, and passed the necessary votes to enable the selectmen to borrow money for the purpose. When nine-months' men were called for, a bounty of one hundred and fifty dollars was paid to each volunteer credited to the quota of the town, and in 1864 one hundred and twenty-five dollars in gold was paid to the men enlisting on its quota for three years or the war.

The following list of soldiers enlisting in the town, taken chiefly from the town's Rebellion Record, but enlarged and corrected by the Adjutant-General's Roll, is as nearly accurate as it is possible to make it:

Thomas Reese, three years.....2d Regiment, Co. H
J. H. W. Bartlett, three years.....2d Regiment, Co. F
Simon Curley, three years.....9th Regiment, Co. H
Joseph W. Cutler, three years.....10th Regiment, Co. F
Caleb C. Brock, three years.....11th Regiment
Franklin W. Fellows, three years.....12th Regiment, Co. I
John Mundell, three years.....12th Regiment, Co. H
Perez B. Sampson, three years.....12th Regiment, Co. K
George W. Shaw, Jr., three years.....12th Regiment
Julius A. Amsden, three years.....12th Regiment, Co. F
Albert Lynde, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. B
Jabez A. Blackmer, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. K
Bernard R. Gilbert, three years.....13th Regiment
Lyman W. Gilbert, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. D
Wm. L. Adams, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. F
Emerson H. Bullard, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. F
Albert W. Livermore, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. F
C. W. Marsh, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. F
A. N. Potter, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. F
Justus C. Wellington, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. F
Wm. A. Mullet, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. F
Edward U. Prouty, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. F
C. S. Lowe, three years.....13th Regiment, Co. F
Henry C. Read, three years.....17th Regiment, Co. G
George W. Temple, three years.....17th Regiment, Co. G
Charles Riggs, three years.....18th Regiment, Co. G

L. B. Bliss, three years.....19th Regiment, Co. C
John Mann, three years.....19th Regiment, Co. G
Lewis McCrellis, three years.....19th Regiment, Co. G
Wm. Daggett, three years.....19th Regiment, Co. I
Martin J. Gilbert, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. K
Isaac M. Sampson, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. K
Benjamin F. Sampson, three years.....20th Regiment, Co. K
Samuel B. Rice, three years.....21st Regiment, Co. B
Joseph P. Adams, three years.....21st Regiment, Co. C
Edwin T. Brown, three years.....21st Regiment, Co. C
C. C. Buck, three years.....21st Regiment, Co. C
Eli Tyler, three years.....21st Regiment, Co. C
Leonard F. Alexander, three years.....21st Regiment, Co. F
John L. Powers, three years.....22d Regiment, Co. G
John F. Hastings, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. C
E. P. Buck, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. D
F. E. Buck three years.....25th Regiment, Co. D
Albert Peck, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. C
George E. Howe, three years.....25th Regiment, Co. C
Frank Warren, three years.....28th Regiment
George Day, three years.....32d Regiment, Co. A
Joseph W. Adams, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
George E. Adams, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Charles H. Allen, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Eldridge B. Ainsworth, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Pliny F. Barr, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Azor W. Barlow, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Edwin W. Barlow, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Daniel Boyle, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Lorenzo Chickering, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Edward L. Drake, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Ephraim Carey, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
John E. Farley, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Harvey Gilbert, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
George H. Gilbert, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
John McCloskey, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
James Mundell, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
James M. Pratt, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Henry L. Ross, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Harvey E. Truesdell, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Daniel C. Spear, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Abner Wilcut, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Alfred D Washburn, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Charles Thompson, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. D
Sylvanus T. Barlow, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Dennis M. Smith, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
Charles E. Cutler, three years.....34th Regiment, Co. I
George Jennings, three years.....36th Regiment
Augustus J. Amsden, three years.....39th Regiment, Co. E
Horace W. Bush, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. E
Herman A. Gilbert, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Thadeus C. Merritt, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. E
Wm. H. Barnes, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Abijah D. Cutler, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Ralph A. Dupee, 100 days.....42d Regiment, Co. F
Wm H. Lombard, 100 days.....46th Regiment, Co. G
S. Waldo Allen, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. F
Joseph E. Bailey, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. F
D. Wilson Barlow, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. F
Edward M. Crane, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. F
Patrick J. Dillon, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. F
Wm. A. Hitchcock, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. F
D. W. R. Hinckley, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. F
Wm. A. Sprague, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co F
Wm. R. Thomas, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. I
Wm. G Lawrence, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. I
Samuel D. Richards, nine months.....51st Regiment, Co. I
S. F. Reach, one year.....54th Regiment, Co. F
Marial Mallet, three years.....57th Regiment, Co. G
Lewis Bovier, three years.....57th Regiment
John Mantell, three years.....58th Regiment
Orin Eddy, 100 days.....60th Regiment, Co. F
Cornelius McQuirk, one year.....61st Regiment, Co. A
George H. Nichols, one year.....61st Regiment, Co. H
Joseph Dealey, one year.....61st Regiment, Co. H
Isaac N. Prouty, one year.....1st Cavalry, Co. F
Edmond Metler, one year.....2d Cavalry, Co. K
Peter Floyd, one year.....2d Cavalry, Co. G
Andrew J. Emery, one year.....2d Cavalry, Co. A
Martin Fallon, one year.....3d Cavalry, Co. B
Patrick G. Dillon, one year.....3d Cavalry, Co. D
Albert Barney, one year.....4th Cavalry
Rufus E. Blackmer, one year.....4th Cavalry
Jabez A. Blackmer, one year.....4th Cavalry, Co. F
Jacob Coombs, one year.....4th Cavalry, Co. D
Isaac M. Jones, one year.....4th Cavalry, Co. E
Patrick Odell, one year.....4th Cavalry, Co. D
Calvin H. Root, one year.....4th Cavalry, Co. F
Ira T. Sibley, one year.....4th Cavalry, Co. D
Lucius Truesdell, one year.....4th Cavalry
Daniel Lawler, one year.....4th Cavalry
George E. Wellman, one year.....4th Cavalry, Co. F
Amos S. Jackson, one year.....5th Cavalry, Co. I
James Dillon, one year.....2d H. A.
John Dillon, one year.....2d H. A.
John W. Ward, one year.....2d H. A.
Wm. Seward, one year.....2d H. A.
Daniel Muller, one year.....2d H. A.
Daniel Buckley, one year.....2d H. A.
Jerome Hamilton, one year.....2d H. A.
Wm. P. Howe, one year.....3d H. A.
Pliny Cooper, one year.....3d H. A.
James Collins, one year.....3d H. A.
Charles A. Tyler, one year.....6th Bat.
Anthony Collum, one year.....4th Bat.
Charles A. Gleason.
Michael Joyce.
William Hall.
Oliver Santon.
Moses Renier.....Unattached H. A.
Eden Woodbury.....Unattached H. A.
George McFarlan.
Frederick A. Varnum.....Unattached H. A.
Albert H. Tirrell.
Samuel Twigg.....Frontier Cav.
Frederick Rand.....Frontier Cav.
Lyman B. Bliss.....Vet. Reserve

The following soldiers were either killed or died while in the service:

Simon Curley, killed June 23, 1863.
Wm. L. Adams, wounded at Antietam September 17, 1862, and died November 7th.
Emerson H. Bullard, died June 15, 1862.
Albert W. Livermore, died January 8, 1863.
Justus A. Wellington, killed in October, 1863.
Wm. A. Mullet, wounded at Spottsylvania, and died May 23, 1864.
Edwin T. Brown, wounded at Petersburg, and July 27, 1864.
Leonard F. Alexander, killed June 2, 1864.
George E Adams, killed at Newmarket, Va., May 15, 1864.
Edwin W. Barlow, killed at Snicker's Gap July 18, 1864.
Daniel Boyle, died in Danville Prison in 1865.
Lorenzo Chickering, wounded at Winchester September, 1864, and died September 20th.
Harvey Gilbert, killed June 5, 1864.
George H. Gilbert, wounded at Petersburg April 2, 1865, and died May 4th.
Harvey E. Truesdell, died in hospital March 7, 1864.
Alfred D. Washburn, died in hospital June 3, 1864.
S. Waldo Allen, died July 12, 1863.
John Mundell, killed at Fredericksburg May 8, 1864.
Daniel Lawler, killed October 24, 1864.
George E. Howe, killed at Petersburg, May 6, 1864.
Charles E. Cutler, died in U. S. Hospital at Baltimore, July 30, 1864.
Lewis Bovier, died July 20, 1865.
Moses Renier, died February 23, 1865.
Herman A. Gilbert, died at Alexandria, September 23, 1864.

An important event in the history of the town was the establishment of a public library. No town can have a complete educational system without such an institution. It supplements the public schools, and carries on and perfects the work begun by them. The

time is not far in the past when education was said to be finished at the schools. There was little of general instruction after the school-days were over, except what a greedy mind here and there, from a keen observation of the world and from a native gift of absorption, could unaided and with difficulty acquire. The consequence was that there were to be seen in all our towns men of fair business and social standing who, from its want of use and development, had lost the little general knowledge obtained at their desk at school, retaining only that which their special business or trade had made demands upon. They were, perhaps, shrewd, industrious and prosperous, but they were nevertheless ignorant men. Now, since the introduction of libraries into our small communities, education is never finished. The school-boy grows into manhood holding fast to the fruits of public school instruction, while craving and reaping more from his constant use of these store-houses of knowledge. And, indeed, in these latter years, when immigrants from abroad, well advanced in life, are finding their way into every city and town without early education, and too old to use our public schools, these institutions have become the indispensable means of that popular enlightment without which the standard of our republican government would be dangerously lowered, if not permanently weakened and destroyed.

The West Brookfield Free Library and Reading-Room owes its origin to a law passed in 1869, requiring towns to appropriate the annual dog fund for the support of schools or for a public library—that fund being created by fees paid annually for the licenses of dogs, and being the residue after the deduction of amounts paid to owners of sheep for damage inflicted by dogs.

In the early days of the Plymouth Colony it was provided by law that "all such profits as might or should annually accrue to the Colony from time to time from fishing with nets or seines at Cape Cod, for mackerel, bass or herrings, should be improved for and towards a free school in some town of the jurisdiction." Thus the fathers of New England set an example in the thrifty use of the tribes of the sea in the establishment of free schools, which their sons of to-day have followed in a similar use of the creatures of the land for their permanent preservation.

In the autumn of 1873 the town voted to establish a public library, and the dog-funds of 1871, 1872 and 1873 were appropriated in its aid. It was placed in an ante-room of the town-house, and opened to the public January 5, 1874, with two hundred and ninety-eight volumes. The room was fitted up and lighted by the liberality of Mr. Lemuel Fullam, a public-spirited citizen. In March, 1874, Mr. T. S. Knowlton was chosen librarian, and still holds that office. During the first year Mr. Charles Merriam, of Springfield, a native of the town, presented five hundred volumes to the library, and five hundred dollars in money, and at the close of the year there were fourteen hundred and eight volumes on its shelves. Mr. Merriam continued his gifts of books until they reached finally the number of about one thousand volumes. In 1876 he gave to the town fifty shares of New York Central and Hudson River Railroad stock, valued at that time at fifty-six hundred and fifty dollars,—"to be kept permanently invested safely, and never on personal security only, the annual income to be used for the benefit of the Library or Reading Room, which are to be kept always free to all the citizens of the town of a suitable age, and under such rules and regulations as the town may establish." He further provided that in case the library should be abandoned, the money should be paid to the public town libraries of Brookfield or North Brookfield, if such should be in existence; but, otherwise, the town of West Brookfield might appropriate the sum to any general educational purpose for the benefit of the town.

At a town-meeting, held April 15, 1876, the town formally accepted the gift, and thanked Mr. Merriam for his liberality. But his liberality had not reached its limit. In 1880 he addressed the following letter to the town, which, as a memorial of his enlightened generosity, is made a part of this narrative:

SPRINGFIELD, February 3, 1880.

To the Town of West Brookfield:

It is, I believe, already known to many of your citizens that I have formed the purpose of erecting within your limits a building to be used for a Free Public Library and Reading Room, and presenting it to my native town. The site has already been purchased, on the so-called Tainton lot, next west of the Town Hall, and the contract closed for the erection of the building. It had been my intention to complete the edifice, and then ask its acceptance by the town. But it is to be finished next October, and there will then remain four or five months before your usual town-meeting in the spring, and it seems proper and desirable that the town should own the property before entering upon its occupation. I understand there is no legal difficulty in making the transfer, although the building itself is yet to be erected.

I therefore propose to the town to make a present formal and legal transfer to it of the lot mentioned, with the building to be erected on it, to be used perpetually as a free Public Reading Room and Library for the town of West Brookfield. The town will maintain it as such under any By-laws and regulations it may think proper to establish; but under such regulations it is to be free to all, with no fee or charge to any citizen for admission to the privileges of the library and reading room. The town shall keep the building constantly insured for such a sum that, if destroyed, the town engages to replace it by another equally convenient. It is not required that the same site should always be used if a change becomes necessary or desirable. I am to be at liberty to go on and complete the building according to my plans. Three of your own citizens—Dr. Blodgett, Mr. Fullam and Mr. Knowlton, have been kind to act as an Advisory Committee in the matter, and can give the town any desired information in regard to these plans.

From long observation I have come to feel strongly the undesirableness of attaching any other than indispensable conditions to matters looking far into the future, as unforeseen circumstances may greatly change the conditions. I will not, therefore, add any to my donation other than these I have mentioned. I would, however, recommend—

First, That the upper hall, which I intend shall be a large and convenient one, be not used, unless rarely and occasionally, for religious worship, for the reason that the town is made up of different religious denominations, and such use by one might awaken jealousy in others, and I would like this building and its purposes to be such as that all shall feel in them a common interest.

Second, For similar reasons I would not use the hall for political purposes, as caucuses and the like.

Third, For moral and religious considerations and as I now, judge for

the best interests of the community, I would not open the library and reading room for general use on the Sabbath. Nor,

Fourth, Let the hall for purposes of mere amusement and entertainment, especially such as some may honestly deem objectionable, as balls, theatrical and minstrel performances, etc.

A general reason, perhaps in itself sufficient for not using the hall for purposes I have mentioned, would be that all the citizens of the town may be united in regard to its use. Then, too, the little sums to be obtained for rental for objects with regard to which there was a difference of opinion, would hardly compensate for the objections, and you have other places available for these purposes and it would seem desirable to keep the hall for uses somewhat in sympathy with the general design of the building. There will be many of these, as lectures, debates, scientific exhibitions, farmers' clubs, etc., wholly unobjectionable, and the income from which will help towards making the library and reading room self-sustaining. Yet if the town at any time think it expedient to use the building for the foregoing or similar purposes, I would not be understood as interposing any objection but that becoming the property of the town the gift in these respects be absolute and unqualified.

In case the donation, lapses from a failure of the conditions or the town's declining or neglecting to use the building for the objects for which it is given for any considerable period, the property shall revert to the same purposes as provided for the lapsing of the endowment of $5,000 given by me for a library fund in March or April, 1876.

Upon the town's passing a vote of acceptance of my proposition, recording the vote on its records, placing my proposal on file and sending me a certified copy of the vote, I will make out a deed of conveyance.

I have been prompted to make this proposition by a desire to do something for my native town, which shall be an expression of my gratitude for the early educational advantages it afforded me, and at the same time be of permanent benefit to its citizens, especially the young. I recall, too, the value such an institution would have been to me in my own early life, and entertain, I trust, a not improper wish to be pleasantly remembered by a good influence perpetuated.

I may be allowed to express the hope that the town will cherish the institution as one in which all its citizens have an interest, and may find it of lasting value. Such value will, of course, depend largely upon a wise discretion being exercised in selecting and encouraging the reading of books and periodicals, instructive and improving, as well as a due proportion of those of a right character more especially designed for entertainment, amusement and relaxation.

CHARLES MERRIAM.

At the annual town-meeting held April 5, 1880, the gift of Mr. Merriam was formally accepted by the town, and at a town-meeting held in October steps were taken for the dedication of the building, which took place on the evening of Friday, November 12th, in the same year. On that occasion Homer B. Sprague, of Boston, delivered the dedicatory address, and short speeches were made by Rev. Mr. Cushing, William B. Stone and L. H. Chamberlain. Letters were read from Governor Daniel H. Chamberlain, a native of West Brookfield, and from Mr. Merriam, the benefactor, who was prevented by the infirmities of age from being present. Mr. Merriam died at his residence in Springfield, July 9, 1887. According to the report to the town of the Library Committee made for the year ending February 29, 1888, the number of books in the library, at that date, was 5754, and 11,231 had been taken out during the year by 595 persons. During that year the library was credited on the treasurer's books with $200 income from the Merriam Fund, Dog Fund $192.89, and appropriations amounting to $300, making a total of $692 89. It may be proper to add, in closing the sketch of the library, the items of Mr. Merriam's various gifts, exclusive of one thousand volumes of books presented by him in the earliest stages of its career:

Cost of land	$2,245 17
Cost of building	10,300 00
Architect	600 00
Gas fixtures	316 00
Furnace	325 00
Furniture	1,000 00
Cash for books	600 00
Endowment Fund of 1876	5,000 00
Sundries	944 25
	$21,330 42

The public schools of West Brookfield, as well as its library, reflect credit on the town. According to the last report of the School Committee, for the sake of convenience of description, the town is divided into five districts, containing in all nine schools, with rolls of 286 scholars, and an average attendance of 87 per cent. In District No. 1, there are five schools—a grammar school with an average attendance of 24; a first intermediate, with an average attendance of 26; a primary, with an average attendance of 27; a primary, with an average attendance of 36; and another primary, with an average attendance of 36.

The Second District school has an average attendance of nineteen; the Third District of nine, the Fourth of seven, and the Fifth of five. The grammar school teacher receives $50 per month; the first intermediate, $36; the first primary, $36; the second primary, $32; the third primary, $32; Second District, $28; Third District, $28; Fourth District, $24, and the Fifth District, $24. The amount of money available for the support of schools for the year was $8217.54, of which the sum of $3,000 was appropriated by the town, and the sum of $217.54 was received from the State fund. The appropriations made by the town for the various departments for the year ending at the above date, February 29, 1888, were:

Schools	$3000 00
Roads and bridges	1000 00
Poor	600 00
Contingent Fund	1200 00
Debt and interest	1000 00
Street lamps	300 00
Common	100 00
Firemen	600 00
Memorial Day	50 00
Library	300 00
	$8150 00

At the time of the incorporation of the town, in 1848, the ancient First Parish of Brookfield was the only one within its borders. A meeting-house was built in, or soon after, 1673, probably on Foster's Hill, but was burned during King Philip's War. It is probable that John Younglove and Thomas Millet preached to the settlers during the short time they remained on their grant. Mr. Younglove was at Quabaug, the Indian name of Brookfield before the settlement, as early as 1667. After the destruction of the settlement he removed to Hadley, where he taught school. In 1681 he is mentioned as living in Suffield, and there he died June 3, 1690. Thomas Millet seems to have succeeded Mr. Younglove and died early in 1676, before Philip's War was

over. It is not probable that either Mr. Younglove or he were ordained ministers. After the resettlement of Brookfield, in 1686, it is not believed that any meeting-house was built until 1715. Religious services had probably been held in the garrison on Foster's Hill, and the preacher seems to have been styled chaplain, and to have been appointed by the government of the Province, with an annual allowance towards his salary from the Province treasury. On the 22d of November, 1715, the inhabitants agreed to build a meeting-house, which was erected on Foster's Hill, about half a mile southeast of the first meeting-house. On the 16th of October, 1717, it was so far completed that it was used on that day for the ordination of Rev. Thomas Cheney, who had accepted an invitation to settle as pastor. On that day the First Church of Brookfield was formally organized, and a church covenant signed, which may be found in a more detailed history of the church, in the history of Brookfield in these volumes. At the ordination of Mr. Cheney, Rev. Solomon Stoddard, of Northampton, preached the sermon. Mr. Cheney was born in Roxbury in 1690, and graduated at Harvard in 1711. He died December 11, 1747, and his grave is at Brookfield. Rev. Elisha Harding, a Harvard graduate in 1745, succeeded Mr. Cheney, and was ordained September 13, 1749, on which occasion Rev. Nathan Bucknam, of Medway, preached the sermon. During his ministry the Second Precinct (now North Brookfield) was incorporated, March 28, 1750, and the Third Precinct (now Brookfield) November 8, 1754.

In 1755 the First Church built a new meeting-house and abandoned the old house on Foster's Hill. It was voted, January 22d, in that year, "to build a meeting-house for public worship at the turning of the county rode, near the northeast corner of a plowed field, belonging to John Barns, being on the plain in said First Precinct." It was also voted that the house should be built "with timber and wood," and be forty-five feet in length and thirty-five feet in width. The location of this church was near that of the present Congregational Church, on the west side of the Common.

On the 8th of the following May Mr. Harding was dismissed, and on the 1st of February, 1757, Rev. Nehemiah Strong, of Hadley, was chosen pastor, but declined. Rev. Joseph Parsons, Jr., son of Rev. Joseph Parsons, of Bradford, and a graduate of Harvard in the class of 1752, was then engaged, and was ordained November 23, 1757. At his ordination Rev. Joseph Parsons, of Bradford, Rev. David White, of Hardwick, Rev. Joshua Eaton, of Spencer, Rev. John Tucker, of Newbury, and Rev. Isaac Jones, of Western (now Warren), took part in the services. He continued in his pastorate until his death, January 17, 1771, at the age of thirty-eight years.

Rev. Ephraim Ward, born in Newton in 1741, and a Harvard graduate in the class of 1763, followed Mr. Parsons and was ordained October 23, 1771, serving until his death, February 9, 1818. Dr. Lyman Whiting, in his address on the two hundredth anniversary of the settlement of Brookfield, said of him that "he was esteemed throughout his pastorate, which was little short of forty-seven years, as the urbane Christian scholar, illustrating the graces of the village pastor, so admirably pictured by the godly Herbert:

> As a tender father
> Doth teach and rule the church and is obeyed,
> And reverenced by it, so much the rather,
> By how much he delighted more to lead
> All by his own example in the way,
> Than punish any when they go astray."

At his ordination Rev. Jason Haven, of Dedham, preached the sermon, and the churches of Western, Ware, Spencer, Sturbridge, Newton, Weston, Waltham and Dedham were represented.

On the 23d of October, 1816, Rev. Eliakim Phelps, a native of Belchertown and born March 20, 1790, was settled as the colleague of Mr. Ward, and at his ordination Rev. Jedediah Morse, of Charlestown, the distinguished geographer, preached the sermon. In 1818, on the death of Mr. Ward, he became his successor in the pastorate. He was a graduate, in 1814, of Union College, of Schenectady, and received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from his *alma mater* in 1842. On the 25th of October, 1826, he was released from his charge to assume the preceptorship of a "Classical Female School," which at one time flourished in West Brookfield. At a later date he was the principal of the Female Seminary at Pittsfield, and in 1860, at the time of the Bi-Centennial Celebration, he was living in Philadelphia, and was present and spoke on that occasion.

On the day of the release of Dr. Phelps from the church, Rev. Joseph I. Foote, also a graduate of Union College, was installed, and was dismissed May 1, 1832. Mr. Foote was born in Watertown, Conn., November 17, 1796, and graduated at Union College in 1821. At his ordination Rev. Herman Humphrey, president of Amherst College, preached the sermon. In 1833 he had a pastorate in Salina, N. Y.; in 1835 in Cortland, N. Y.; in 1839 in Knoxville, Tenn.; and in the latter year was chosen president of Washington College, in Tennessee, but died April 21, 1840, before his inauguration.

Rev. Francis Horton, a graduate of Brown University in 1826, was installed August 15, 1832, on which occasion Rev. Thomas Snell, of North Brookfield, preached the sermon. He was dismissed September 15, 1841, and succeeded by Rev. Moses Chase, who was settled January 12, 1842, and dismissed October 28, 1842.

Rev. Leonard S. Parker, born in Dunbarton, N. H., December 6, 1812, and a graduate of Oberlin Collegiate Institute, was installed December 19, 1844, and dismissed April 7, 1851. At his installation Rev. Thomas Snell preached the sermon.

Rev. Swift Byington succeeded November 7, 1852, and served until his resignation, November 1, 1858. At his ordination Rev. Henry M. Dexter, now living in New Bedford, preached the sermon. Mr. Byington was born in Bristol, Conn., February 4, 1824, and graduated at Yale in 1847.

Rev. Christopher M. Cordley, born in Oxford, England, January 2, 1821, was settled June 28, 1859, and continued in the pastorate until June 23, 1862.

Rev. Samuel Dunham, a Yale graduate in 1860, was ordained October 4, 1864, and dismissed October 27, 1870. At his ordination Rev. E. C. Jones, of Southampton, Conn., preached the sermon.

Rev. Richard B. Bull was installed March 12, 1871, and dismissed July 6, 1874. The pulpit has since been supplied by Rev. S. C. Kendall, Rev. Mr. Stebbens, Rev. Frederick Allen, Rev. E. S. Gould and the present acting pastor, Rev. Thomas E. Babb.

Among the prominent members of this church have been Henry Gilbert, his son, John Gilbert, Joshua Dodge, Joseph Jennings, Comfort Barnes, John Cutler, Jedediah Foster, Thaddeus Cutler, Othniel Gilbert, Thomas Rich, Joseph Cutler, Levi Gilbert, Samuel Barnes, John Ross, Nathan Bucknam Ellis, John Wood, Josiah Cary, Alfred White, William Spooner, Reuben Blair, Jr., Jairus Abbott, Josiah Henshaw, Baxter Ellis, Jacob Dukes, Liberty Sampson, Solomon L. Barnes, Moses Hall, Samuel Newell White, Enos Gilbert, Nathaniel Lynde, Ebenezer B. Lynde, Avery Keep, John M. Fales, Raymond Cummings, Adolphus Hamilton, Wm. B. Stone, George Merriam, S. D. Livermore, A. C. Gleason, Edward T. Stowell, Warren A. Blair and others too numerous to mention. This list includes nearly all the deacons of the church since its organization and some laymen of later years.

On the 29th of October, 1792, it was voted to build a new meeting-house on the land given to the precinct by Lieutenant John Barnes for that purpose, and its dedication occurred November 10, 1795, on which occasion Rev. Enos Hitchcock, of Providence, preached the sermon. A bell was hung in its tower in 1799, and in 1838 it was remodeled and turned round to a right angle with its former site and rededicated January 1, 1839. Rev. Hubbard Winslow, of Boston, preached the dedicatory sermon. In 1855 the present bell was hung, and in 1856 a new organ replaced an old one which had been in use since 1826.

The old meeting-house was removed to another lot and for a time devoted to town and parish purposes. In 1809 it was sold by auction for one hundred and eighty-six pounds. The last meeting-house mentioned was burned February 28, 1881, and, having been rebuilt on the same site, was dedicated September 15, 1882.

The first burial-ground, probably, in consequence of the hard clay found near the old meeting-house on Foster's Hill, was located in the fields about one hundred rods distant from the meeting-house, and remains of the old grave-stones have been found sufficiently preserved to mark the spot. At a later day a second burial-ground was laid out in the westerly part of what is now West Brookfield, and at a still later day a third one was laid out nearer the village.

A Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in October, 1851, and purchasing a meeting-house in Templeton, removed it to West Brookfield, where it has since been used as a place of worship. Rev. Mr. Winslow was its first pastor and he has been followed by Rev. Mr. Clark, Rev. Alpheus Nichols, Rev. J. S. Barrows, Rev. G. H. W. Clark, Rev. William Blackman, Rev. Mr. Miller and others.

A Catholic Society was organized a few years since, but has neither church nor pastor. Its services are held in the town-hall under the ministrations of Father Grace, of Brookfield.

The business of Brookfield is moderately large, but not sufficient to indicate any considerable immediate growth. The boot and shoe establishments are those of McIntosh & Co., employing about fifty hands; M. J. Savage & Co., employing about thirty; George H. Fales, about fifty; J. T. Wood & Co., about fifty, and Allen & Makepeace, employing a somewhat smaller number. Besides these industries there is a condensed milk factory carried on by W. K. Lewis' Bros. & Co., and a branch of the Bay State Corset Company having its main establishment in Springfield. The farming interests of the town are considerable, and its product of butter and cheese for distant markets is by no means insignificant. The town is well situated on the line of the Boston & Albany Railroad, about midway between Worcester and Springfield and accessible by express and other trains in about two hours from Boston. It is laid out with wide and pleasant streets, and though bleak in winter is fanned in the heat of summer by airs from Long and Coy's and Foster's Hills, and across the meadows of the Quabaug. An attractive Common ornaments the central village, graced by a fountain presented by George M. Rice, of Worcester, and surrounded by a fence, the gift of Hon. J. Henry Stickney, of Baltimore, a grandson of Rev. Ephraim Ward, who gave the town thirty-five hundred dollars for the purpose. Few towns can be found along the hill-sides and in the valleys of Massachusetts presenting greater attractions to those who seek relaxation from the toils of business or the invigorating influences of a pure and healthy clime.

The Common above referred to was the gift of David Hitchcock, who, November 7, 1791, "granted and quit-claimed to the first parish in Brookfield a certain tract of land in said parish, containing three acres, more or less, to be held by said parish in its corporate capacity forever; provided said tract shall never be sold to any individual or individuals, but shall always remain open as a common for public use."

J. Henry Stickney, of Baltimore, through whose liberality the Common was graded and fenced, is a native of West Brookfield. He belongs to a branch of the Stickney family which settled in Essex County in the first half of the seventeenth century, and which had its estates in the town of Stickney, in England. Thomas Stickney, the grandfather of the benefactor, removed from Boston to Leicester and occupied an estate which makes one of the illustrations in the history of that town by Emory Washburn. His son Thomas removed to West Brookfield and married a daughter of Rev. Ephraim Ward, already mentioned as a pastor of the First Church. Mr. Ward was a cousin of General Artemas Ward, of the Revolution, and his wife was Mary Colman, of Boston, a relative of Rev. Benjamin Colman, of the Brattle Street Church. J. Henry Stickney was a son of the last-mentioned Thomas and was born in the parsonage house facing the Common. At the age of nine or ten years he went to Worcester, where his father had at one time lived, and from there went to Hopkins Academy in Hadley, where he closed his school-days. After leaving Hadley he entered the hardware store of Montgomery Newell, of Boston, as an apprentice, receiving a compensation of fifty dollars a year. At the age of twenty-two years he went to New York, where he spent a year and then joined some relatives in Baltimore, where he was employed for a term by his uncle, Benjamin Colman, who was at one time a partner of Nathan Appleton in Boston. In November, 1834, he began what was a new business in Baltimore, the American hardware business, and became the agent in that city for a large part of the manufacturers of the country. He had accounts in nearly every State in the Union, and by his exact methods and rigid integrity commanded the confidence of the business community. Having acquired a competence, he retired from active business pursuits and is now living at his home in Baltimore at a somewhat advanced age, but with a health and vigor of body and mind which enables him to gratify and enjoy the refined tastes in literature and art which in his busy life he has not failed to cultivate. He is a lover of the past and its representative men, and to the pursuits of an antiquary he has devoted time and money, to the satisfaction besides himself of others who were less able to follow them with success. The towns of Plymouth and Topsfield and Duxbury and West Brookfield have cause to remember his liberality long after the hand which has dispensed it shall have lost its power to give.

The town has two hotels, a commodious town-house, built in 1860, a savings bank, incorporated in 1872, a Fire Department with steam apparatus and an abundance of water, supplied by aqueducts from copious springs on the slopes of neighboring hills. In earlier times two newspapers were published in the town, but, as in many other New England communities, the facility and cheapness with which the metropolitan press furnishes everywhere its supplies have rendered the local press both unprofitable and unnecessary. The *Moral and Political Telegraph or Brookfield Advertiser*, published by Thomas & Waldo, and the *Political Repository and Farmer's Journal*, by E. Merriam & Co., are scarcely remembered by any now living.

The population of the town, which from the date of its incorporation until 1880 had slowly, but gradually, increased, was found in 1885, in consequence of the destruction of one of the shoe establishments of the place, to have fallen off nearly two hundred. There is no reason, however, to doubt that from this new starting-point another gradual increase will set in. The population at each census since the incorporation has been as follows: 1850, 1344; 1855, 1364; 1860, 1548; 1865, 1549; 1870, 1842; 1875, 1903; 1880, 1917; 1885, 1747.

Some of the distinguished men who, in earlier times, were born or lived within the limits of the town have been referred to in the history of Brookfield accompanying this sketch. Most of those who in later years have been conspicuous in the various walks of life have served the town in responsible offices, and have been referred to in the lists presented on earlier pages of this narrative.

It would be improper, however, even at the risk of repetition, to omit particular reference to a few of the men who have given West Brookfield distinction in the past. General Joseph Dwight, a graduate of Harvard in 1722, who lived in the town for a time; Joshua Upham, a distinguished Loyalist, a graduate of Harvard in 1763, who became a judge of the Supreme Court in New Brunswick; Jabez Upham, a Representative in Congress; Jedediah Foster, a graduate of Harvard in 1744, who became judge of Probate and member of the convention for framing the State Constitution; Dwight Foster, a graduate of Brown University in 1774, who became Senator of the United States, and others of equal or less reputation served to give to West Brookfield, or Brookfield, as it then was, a standing in the councils of the Province and State of which few towns in Massachusetts could boast.

Among those who have obtained distinction in broader fields of labor than were open to them at home may be mentioned Charles Merriam, of Springfield, already referred to as a benefactor of the town; Daniel H. Chamberlain, a graduate of Yale College, and the distinguished ex-Governor of South Carolina; Rev. Leander T. Chamberlain, of Norwich, Conn.; Rev. Enos Hitchcock, of Providence; Rev. Caleb Sprague Henry, the well-known professor and author; Lucy Stone Blackwell and Rev. Austin Phelps.

Lucy Stone was descended from Francis Stone, who lived before 1742 in that part of New Braintree which was annexed to North Brookfield in 1854. Francis Stone, son of Francis, was born in 1742. He was with his father in the French wars, and his father was killed at Quebec under Gen. Wolfe in 1759. Francis, the son, was a captain in the Revolution, and

one of the leaders in Shays' Rebellion. After the dispersion of the insurgents at Petersham in February, 1787, he fled to Vermont, where he remained until the decree of amnesty permitted him to return. He married, September 11, 1760, Martha, daughter of Abel Chase, of Sutton, and second, in June, 1777, Sarah Witt. Her children were Amy, Sally, (who married Hugh Barr, of New Braintree), Luther, Jonathan, Calvin and Francis. Francis, the last-named of these children, born November 9, 1779, lived on Coy's Hill, in West Brookfield. He married, March 27, 1804, Hannah Matthews, and had Bowman, 1805; Francis, 1807; Elizabeth Matthews, 1808; Wm. Bowman, 1811; Luther, 1813; Rhoda, 1814; Luther again, 1816; Lucy, 1818; and Sarah Witt, 1821. Lucy was born August 13, 1818, and graduated at Oberlin College. She early attached herself to the anti-slavery cause and to the advocacy of woman's rights, in which she distinguished herself as a forcible and eloquent speaker. She was married in 1855 to Henry B. Blackwell, but is usually called by her maiden name.

Austin Phelps, the son of Rev. Eliakim and Sarah (Adams) Phelps and grandson of Deacon Eliakim and Margaret (Coombs) Phelps, was born in West Brookfield Jan. 7, 1820, and graduated at the University of Pennsylvania in 1837. He was ordained pastor of the Pine Street Congregational Church in Boston in 1842, and in 1848 was appointed Bartlett professor of sacred rhetoric in Andover Theological Seminary. He married, in 1842, Elizabeth, daughter of Professor Moses Stuart, who is well known as the author of "The Sunny Side," and other works. Their daughter, Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, is better known than her mother as the author of "Gates Ajar," and other works too numerous to mention.

With the mention of these distinguished sons and daughters of West Brookfield this imperfect sketch must close. The reader who would learn more of the early history of the settlement of Quabaug and of the three towns into which its territory has been finally divided, is referred to the able and exhaustive history of North Brookfield, written by J. H. Temple, and published by that town in 1887.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

JOHN M. FALES.

In the middle of the seventh century James Fales came from Chester, England, and settled in Dedham. His children were James, John, Mary, Peter, Hannah, Martha, Rachel and Ebenezer. John Fales, one of these children, had Hannah, Martha, Rachel, Ebenezer, John, Joseph and Mary. John, one of these children, had a son Daniel. Daniel Fales married Sally Pratt, of Sherburne, and had Leander, Mary Ann, Elmira L., John M., Charles, Martha S., Sarah E. and Daniel H. Leander lived in Shrewsbury; Mary Ann married a Parker, and lived in Holliston; Elmira L. married a Lincoln, and lived in Brookfield; Charles lived in Brookfield; Martha S. lived, unmarried, in Shrewsbury; Sarah E. married a Flagg, and lived in Westboro'; and Daniel H. married a Thurston, and lived in Brookfield.

John M. Fales, the subject of this sketch, was born in Shrewsbury August 25, 1805, and married Mary S. Trask, of Leicester, May 12, 1831, by whom he had Ann Eliza, who married Dr. J. Blodgett, now of West Newton; George Henry, who married Laurinda T. Tomblin, daughter of Lucius Tomblin, of West Brookfield; John, who died at the early age of twelve years; Leander, who died at the age of seventeen years; Francis Theodore, who married Esther Griffin, of Enfield; and Mary, who died in infancy. From James Fales came the Fales families of Holden, Troy, Bristol, Taunton, Foxboro' and Milford. The Fales family was a very prolific one, David, of the third generation, the son of the second James, having had twenty-four children, and more than fifty of the descendants of the first James having had ten.

John M. Fales attended school in Shrewsbury, and afterwards went to Dedham, where he learned the trade of making shoes. The trade he learned included all the branches of the trade, and it is said that the first pair of shoes he ever wore he made himself. About the year 1831 he went to Brookfield and there opened a custom boot and shoe shop. After a short time his success in business warranted the initiation of a new enterprise, and with good business qualities and ample experience he entered into the wholesale manufacture of boots and shoes. In this business he was the pioneer in Brookfield, and before his death, which occurred in 1867, he established a large trade, in which he employed about one hundred and seventy-five hands. Before the war his business, like that of other shoe manufacturers, was largely at the South, but his adherence to principle saved him when the war broke out from those serious losses which many less conscientious than himself incurred.

In 1860, at a time when dealers at the South boycotted Northern manufacturers who advocated measures opposed to the extension of slavery into the Territories, he was asked, in a letter from S. Kirtland, one of his customers in Montgomery, Alabama, if he intended to advocate the Republican cause. To this letter he made the following answer:

WEST BROOKFIELD, March 10, 1860.

MR. S. KIRTLAND,

Dear Sir,—

Yours of the 3rd inst. is received, asking my views in relation to the Republican party, and saying, if I endorsed their principles, you should not trade with me. In reply I would say that I sell boots, not principles. I shall vote the coming Fall, if I am alive and well, for the nominee of the Republican party for president, and if you see fit to give me your orders, I shall be pleased to fill them, but not under any consideration will I sell my principles to sell boots.

Yours Respectfully, JOHN M. FALES.

During the war he was successful in securing army contracts, and these he filled with a promptness and

John M. Foley

E. B. Lynde

E. B. Lynde

fidelity which did not always characterize negotiations with the government. After the war his business was largely in the West, and his orders were received directly at the factory and filled without the intervention of middle-men in Boston or elsewhere.

Mr. Fales, at the time of his death, which occurred October 27, 1867, was a member in full standing of the Orthodox Congregational Church in West Brookfield, and made its interests and prosperity his chief concern. He was an active member of the Republican party, and as its candidate represented his native town in the House of Representatives in 1847, and his Representative district, composed of Warren, West Brookfield and New Braintree, in 1864.

Mr. Fales was a man of indomitable courage, firm will, strict integrity and judicious benevolence. He sought no public station, and attended with thorough devotion to the demands of his business, but whenever appealed to in the interests of the community in which he lived, was lavish in the use of time and money to develop and promote them. George H. Fales, the son of John M. Fales, was appointed town treasurer of West Brookfield in May, 1887, on the death of E. H. C. Blair, and was chosen to that office by the town at its annual meeting in 1888. Mr. George H. Fales carries on the business of the manufacture of shoes at the factory occupied by his father, and is a successful business man and an esteemed citizen.

EBENEZER B. LYNDE.

The subject of this sketch is descended from Enoch Lynde, a merchant of London, who married Elizabeth Digby and died in London in April, 1636. Enoch had three children, two of whom died in infancy. Simon, the surviving child, born in London in June, 1624, followed the occupation of his father and finally, after carrying on business for a time in Holland, came to New England in 1650 and settled as a merchant in Boston, where he married, in February, 1652, Hannah Newgate. He had seven children, one of whom, the seventh child, Benjamin, became chief justice of the Superior Court of Judicature, and had a son bearing his name, who was elevated to a seat on the same bench. Simon Lynde was made a justice for the county of Suffolk and died November 22, 1689, at the age of sixty-five years. Hannah, the wife of Simon, daughter of John Newgate, by his last wife, Ann, born June 28, 1635, died December 20, 1684. John Newgate, her father, was born in Southwark near the bridge in 1580, and came to New England. He had three wives. By the first two he had Sarah, who married Capt. Peter Oliver, and another daughter, who married John Oliver. By his last wife, Ann, he had, besides Hannah, Nathaniel, who married a daughter of Sir John Lewis and left Capt. Nathaniel Newgate his heir. John Newgate died September 4, 1665, at the age of sixty-five years. Ann Newgate died in 1679, at the age of eighty-four years. Nathaniel Lynde, son of Simon, took with him to Saybrook the old parchment containing the family record and family arms, which is still in the possession of the branch of the family to which the subject of this sketch belongs. Nathaniel Lynde, the fourth son of Simon and brother of Benjamin, was born in Boston, November 22, 1659, and became a merchant. He removed to Saybrook, Conn., and married, in 1683, Susanna, daughter of Governor Willoughby. He was a man of undoubtedly large means for the times and held a prominent position in the government of the Province. He was one of the early benefactors of Yale College, having given a house and land for the foundation of a college at Saybrook, which afterwards was absorbed by the institution at New Haven.

Nathaniel Lynde had eight children, all of whom but Samuel were girls and died in infancy. Samuel Lynde was born at Saybrook in October, 1689, and educated at Yale. He was first justice of the peace and member of the Council for the county of New London and married Rebecca Clark. The precise location of the residence of the Lynde family at Saybrook was at what is still called Lynde's Point, at the mouth of the Connecticut River.

Samuel Lynde had three children, two of whom died in infancy. The third child, Willoughby Lynde, was born at Saybrook in 1711, and also educated at Yale. He married, November 19, 1736, Margaret Corey, and had one child, Samuel, who was born at Saybrook October 14, 1737. Samuel was also educated at Yale, and married, in July, 1758, Phebe Waterhouse. He also lived in Saybrook and had nine children, the last of whom was Nathaniel, who was born at Saybrook May 18, 1784. Nathaniel removed to that part of Brookfield which is now West Brookfield in 1805, and following the occupation of a farmer, soon became, as he continued to be until his death, a large owner of land. He married, July 15, 1806, Sally, daughter of Caleb Hitchcock, and died February 25, 1865. At the organization of the town, in 1848, he was one of a committee of three appointed to ascertain the financial condition of the town and report recommendations for appropriations. His judgment was largely relied upon in placing the new town on a sound financial basis. In 1858, on the occasion of the celebration by the three towns, Brookfield, North Brookfield and West Brookfield, of the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, and in 1860, on the occasion of the bi-centennial celebration of the settlement of Brookfield, he was one of the committee of arrangements. The children of Nathaniel and Sally (Hitchcock) Lynde were Caleb Hitchcock, who died early; Mary Pemberton, who married Elijah Albord, of West Brookfield, afterwards president of the Northwestern Stage Company, and living in Indianapolis and Washington City; Samuel Willoughby, living in Richmond, Indiana; William Waterhouse, who died in Cincinnati; Sarah, who married James Van Uxum

and died in Richmond, Indiana; Henry, living in Greggsville, Illinois; Elizabeth Allen, who married Charles Woodward, living in Cincinnati; and Nathaniel, who died young.

Mr. Lynde married a second wife, Eunice Phelps, daughter of Ebenezer Bissell, of Windsor, Conn., and had Ebenezer Bissell; Eunice Phelps, who married James M. Durkee, of Pittsfield; Ellen Augusta, who married Horace White, of Boston; and Albert, who died young.

Ebenezer Bissell, one of these children and the subject of this sketch, was born in West Brookfield August 31, 1823, and was educated in the public schools of his native town and at the Leicester Academy. Like his father, he is an extensive owner of real estate and the occupation of farming, which came to him by inheritance, he has pursued with energy and success. He married, January 23, 1850, Minerva Jane, daughter of Joseph L. White, a successful manufacturer in North Adams, and has had the following children: Augusta, who was born July 28, 1851, and died February 5, 1852; Annie Dewey, who was born January 12, 1854, and died October 21, 1854; Herbert Bissell, who was born January 15, 1857, and is now living in West Brookfield unmarried; Nathaniel White, who was born January 4, 1859, and, after graduating at the Yale Scientific School and the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, became, as he now is, physician at the Inebriate Asylum at Fort Hamilton, New York; Mary Finney, the youngest child, born November 4, 1868, who is now pursuing a course of instruction at the Wheaton Seminary in Norton.

Mr. Lynde early won a prominent position in his native town and has always continued to occupy it. Though at all times reluctant to assume public office, his clear head and sound judgment, combined with a strong will and an unusual executive ability, have often been sought by his fellow-citizens, and, when sought, they have been freely and willingly lent. He has served on the Board of Selectmen and as moderator of town-meetings, and in various ways he has brought his active influence to bear in the promotion of the interests and welfare of the town. As a general adviser and friend, as a promoter of peace and good-will, as the earnest advocate of philanthropic, educational and religious enterprises, in a word, covering all, as a kind neighbor and good citizen, he occupies a place which every man should be proud to fill. The affection and esteem in which he is held by the community at large he possesses also in the narrower field of the Congregational Church, of which he is a member. To his energy and fidelity much of its prosperity is due, and to his business foresight may properly be attributed the insurance of its meeting-house, burned in 1881, without which the injury inflicted upon the society would have been well-nigh irreparable. But the reputation of Mr. Lynde has not been confined to his church or town. Beyond their borders his influence has been felt and his usefulness acknowledged. In 1877 and 1878 he represented his district in the Massachusetts Senate, and the position there sought by him as a member of the Committee on Agriculture enabled him to do something to advance and promote the welfare of the farming interests of the State, to which, during his life, he had been actively and intelligently devoted.

CHAPTER LXXXII.

PAXTON.

BY LEDYARD BILL.[1]

If lines were drawn diagonally across the Commonwealth, from and to each of its four corners, the point of crossing would be within, or nearly so, the borders of the little town of Paxton; hence it might be truly said, speaking geographically, that this town is the "axis" of the State, and that the high point of land known as Asnebumskit Mountain is the "hub" itself; thus may the least of towns aspire to rival, in some senses, the greatest!

This town lies about fifty-five miles west of Boston, and some seven miles from the city of Worcester, and is bounded and described as follows, namely: On the north by Rutland, on the east by Holden and Worcester, on the south by Leicester, and on the west by Spencer and Oakham. The town is situated upon high and rugged lands, and belongs to that class of towns known as the "hill towns" of the State. The general elevation above tide-water would not be very far from eleven hundred feet; indeed, the village "common" is, to be tolerably exact, eleven hundred and thirty-five feet above the sea, while the southernmost spur of the White Mountain range, Asnebumskit, is about fourteen hundred feet above water level, and is, with the exception of Mount Wachusett, the highest land lying east of the Connecticut River. The land surface is not so broken and irregular as might be inferred from its considerable elevation, but is rather a succession of rounded hills on which are situated some of the best of farming lands and farms, and again the valleys stretch away, here and there, into level tracts both fertile and pleasant, and between the hills and valleys of this town are found many thrifty homes and a comparatively contented population.

This town does not rank among the ancient corporations, but yet it has passed its first century, and may be said to have seen "generations come and go." The reasons which moved the early settlers to ask to be incorporated were various, but chief among those they gave in their petition was "the great difficulties

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they labored under in attending public worship, in consequence of the great distance they were from its places in the towns to which they belong." The foregoing petition was presented to the Legislature in 1761, and was unsuccessful, as nearly every petition of this nature is apt to be on its first presentation.

The people thus petitioning for a separate municipality were citizens of Leicester and Rutland, and the tract of land desired by the petitioners was that portion of the two towns lying contiguous, viz.: the southern part of Rutland and the northern portion of Leicester, making a tract of about four miles square. They complained in their first petition and subsequent appeals to the General Court that the distance to places of worship was great, and doubtless the same reason held good when it came to the transaction of the business of the two towns, since the centre of each of these towns was full five miles distant, and we can well imagine the condition of the highways in those early days, when the best were but very indifferent roads, while the side-ways were mere bridle-paths, making it quite a task in the inclement season to perform those public duties incumbent upon them.

The inhabitants, however, had the merit of persistency, and the following year they again petitioned and were again rejected; but nothing daunted, they still worked for the accomplishment of their final purpose; so in 1763, feeling, doubtless, the inconvenience of their position more and more, they again renewed their importunities and received some support from one of the towns, but the other (Rutland) opposing, the case was still deferred.

The following petition was presented to the authorities of Leicester by the undersigned, and this town, at a town meeting held on May 16, 1763, voted affirmatively on the petition, which was the first favorable action looking towards the establishment of the new town:

To the Selectmen of the town of Leicester, and the other inhabitants of the same:

The petition and desire of the subscribers hereof humbly showeth,—That whereas, in the government of Divine Providence, our inhabitants are at a great distance from the place of public worship in this town, which, together with the snow and moisture of the land, it is exceedingly difficult, a great part of the year, to attend on the public worship of God in this town; We look upon it as our bounden duty to endeavor to set up the Gospel among us, by which we, with our families, might more constantly enjoy its means of grace.

In order to accomplish the good end of setting up the Gospel, we propose, if possible to obtain leave so to do, to erect a town or district between the towns of Leicester and Rutland, by taking two miles off each town to make up the contents of four square miles. Wherefore your petitioners humbly and earnestly desire that, for the good end above proposed, you would now sett off, by a vote of this town, two miles at the north end of this town, the lands with the inhabitance thereon, to be laid out and connected with the south part of Rutland that is adjoining the same, to be erected into a town or district by order of the Great and General Court of this province, as soon as may be, that we may set up a Congregational Church and settle a gospel minister, according to the constitution of the churches in the land; which we judge will be for the advancement of religion and our comfort if it be obtained in the way of peace. So wishing your health and peace, as in duty bound, we subscribe your petitioners:

Leicester, May 13, 1763.

Oliver Witt,	James Thompson,
Timothy Barrett,	William Thompson, Jr.,
Abraham Smith,	Abijah Bemis,
Abner Morse,	Daniel Snow, Jr.,
William Thompson,	James Nichol,
Jason Livermore,	Isaac Bellows,
Nathan Livermore,	Daniel Steward.

Finally a fourth attempt was made by these people, and the petition this time headed by one Oliver Witt, followed by many others, was duly presented to the Legislature, and this time with better results, for it was ordered "that Jedediah Foster, of Brookfield, and Col. Williams, on the part of the House, and Benjamin Lincoln, of the Council, be a committee in the recess of this court to repair to the place petitioned for to be erected into a parish, at the charge of the petitioners, and that they hear all parties interested for and against said corporation, and report at the next session whether the prayer thereof should be granted."

This committee held several meetings, at which there were hearings of all the parties interested, and at the succeeding session of the General Court reported, on June 23, 1765, a bill entitled, "An Act for Incorporating the Southerly part of Rutland and the Northerly part of Leicester, in the county of Worcester, into a District by the name of Paxton." This bill, after brief reference to the appropriate committee, was reported back to the full house and speedily passed both branches of the General Court, and received Governor Francis Bernard's signature on the 12th of February, Anno Domini 1765. Thus was the frail bark of Paxton duly launched, possessing all the rights, privileges and immunities of any other town, except the right to send a representative on its sole account, but gave the right to "join with the town of Leicester and the precinct of Spencer" in choosing a representative to the Legislature.

It is proper to make some reference to the name given the town by the act of incorporation, and perhaps no better account can be given than the following, which has come under our observation, viz.: "When the bill for incorporating this town passed the House of Representatives no name was inserted; the blank was filled in the Council by the word Paxton, in honor of Charles Paxton, who at that time was marshal of the Admiralty Court and a friend and favorite of Francis Bernard, the Governor, and of Thomas Hutchison, the Deputy-Governor. It is said that Paxton promised the town a church-bell if it was named for him; this promise was never fulfilled. Charles Paxton, although polished in manners and of pleasing address, was an intriguing politician and a despicable sycophant; 'every man's humble servant, but no man's friend,' as his paper figure was labeled, when, on Pope's day, as the anniversary of the gunpowder plot was called, it was paraded through the streets of Boston standing between the effigies of the Pope and the devil. He was the tool of Charles Townsend, the Chancellor of the English

Exchequer, and with him devised the scheme of raising a revenue from the colonies by a tax on glass, paper, painter's colors and tea. The passage of this bill by the Parliament of England was greatly aided by Paxton, and returning to Boston, he was put at the head of this internal tax system, and made himself especially obnoxious to the people by reason of his issuing search-warrants to discover supposed smuggled goods, and his course was so insolent and tyrannical that he became an object of public hatred, was even hung in effigy upon Liberty Tree, and was subsequently, by the wrath of the people, driven into Castle William, and finally, at the evacuation, he departed with the British troops and went to England, where he died in 1788."

The course of this man, who had christened the town with his own name, was such that the bad odor of it reached the inhabitants of the newly-fledged district and they were intensely disgusted, and among the earlier public acts of the citizens was to petition for a change of name, and why the Legislature did not grant this reasonable request is a marvel. It should be attempted even at this late day, and there is no good reason why a new name would not be readily granted.

There have been several additions at sundry times to the territory of Paxton. At one time, on the petition of John Davis, Ebenezer Boynton, Nathan Harrington, Samuel Harrington, Micah Harrington and Ephraim Harrington, of Holden, their estates were set off from Holden on February 13, 1804, and attached to the town of Paxton, and, by this act, the town line was extended so as to border on Worcester. Still another addition from Holden was made in April, 1839. Again, in 1851, a small strip was added from the same source, and there is still room for improving the present zig-zag boundary line between Holden and Paxton. The total acreage is now about eight thousand five hundred acres. The population of Paxton at the time of incorporation is not known, but it is presumed to "have been some hundreds," says an unknown writer in the *Worcester Magazine*, published a half-century or more ago. It is quite likely that the settlement of this portion of the country was well under way the latter part of the first century after the landing of the Pilgrims. It was, indeed, about 1720 that Rutland was incorporated and Leicester settled, and all this region of country taken up gradually by natural gravitation of the population westward, this section being at that period of time the "great west," and had its border-wars and conflicts with the aborigines and their allies. Doubtless there were wise men in those days who were wont to say to the wayward and the self-aspiring in the crowded centres of population along the seaboard: "Go west, young man, go west." And so, in the lapse of time, these hill-towns, with those in the valleys, have filled up and the great army of emigrants has continued from that day to this to flow westward, founding new States, enlarging the boundaries of civilization and establishing both law and liberty, on firm foundations, over a vast territory.

Thus these hill-towns, so despised in the eyes of some ephemeral writers who draw distressing pictures of "abandoned farms, dwindling villages, decayed meeting-houses, diminished schools and poor highways," have contributed largely to the public weal.

The marvelous strides this country has made in the last century are chiefly by reason of the inexhaustible supply of men and women drawn from the hills and valleys of New England, where they have been trained in the schools of industry and frugality. These have given direction and force to the upbuilding of the great region of the West. Thus, while it is true that the populations of the hill-towns, with some of those even in the valleys here in New England, have diminished, the cause is not permanently disturbing—since the era of cheap lands is about closing and the reflex tide cannot be far distant when New England will be filled to overflowing, and then this assumed prophecy of a premature decay will have been forgotten. The country is to be taken as a whole and not judged by any of its minor members.

The statement that there "were some hundreds" of people in the district of Paxton at the time of incorporation could hardly have meant more than two or three hundred at the most, for in 1790 the number was but 558; in 1820 it rose to 613 and in 1850 to 870, while in 1880 it had fallen to 592, and in 1885 the State census gave the town only 561.

The population in 1870 was, we believe, well towards nine hundred, but, in part owing to the destruction of one of the chief industries by fire, which, unfortunately, was never re-established, it has gradually fallen to a point in numbers to about what it was one hundred years ago.

The town is at the present time purely agricultural, there being no manufacturing of any description carried on here.

In former years the boot and shoe industry was the principal business, or, at least, monopolized a very great share of the attention of the people; and the product of the shops was equal, if it did not greatly exceed in value the products of all the farms in town.

In 1820 John Partridge established the boot business in Paxton, and continued in the same line to the time of his decease, which occurred some fifteen years since, having been in business over half a century. The next notable firm to follow in the same line of industry was that of Messrs. Lakin & Bigelow, and they were succeeded by R. E. Bigelow & Son. All of these parties accumulated quite large fortunes, but none of their descendants reside within the town at the present time.

The town of Paxton is so situated, and has such natural beauty of landscape, and from its summits such extended and charming views of the surround-

ing country, that its ultimate destiny is by no means uncertain. Already many scores of visitors rest here during the summer months, and annually come back to "view the landscape o'er" and breathe again the wholesome and health invigorating air of these primeval hills and valleys. From the top of Asnebumskit, on a clear day, a score of towns may be seen, and from its summit a fine bird's-eye view of the city of Worcester can be obtained, which alone well repays the tourist for all his labors. There is still another eminence, known as Crocker Hill; this swell of land lies a few rods east of the village, and from the top there is a fine view of Wachusett, also of Monadnock and the Hoosac Mountains. This point is a charming spot to all who have any taste for the beautiful in nature. The wonder is, that some capitalist does not secure it, pitch his tent on the same and invite the world to dine with him and spend all of the "midsummer nights" at this breezy and delightful place. On "Christian Hill," west of the village church, is another landscape to the northward which is unsurpassed for quiet loveliness. Some day an artist will *discover* it, and it will then be famous for its exceeding beauty.

It may be thought unusual for elevated lands to hold many ponds or lakes; but, however that may be, Paxton has a goodly supply, inasmuch as there are some half a dozen artificial or natural ponds within the town's boundaries.

Of these, Lake Asnebumskit is by far the most interesting. This is located at the northern slope of the mountain whose name it bears, and covers, perhaps, sixty acres, "more or less," as the legal phrase is. It is elliptical in form and has an average depth of perhaps seven feet. All the sources of supply for this attractive sheet of water come from the springs in and around it. These springs are uniformly cold and clear; especially is this true of one at the southern shore, near the present carriage-way to the lake. The outlet is at the extreme northern end, and the flow is considerable. It supplies the Haggett Pond, and in its rapid descent furnishes power for Harrington's grist-mill, planing-mill and saw-mill, and then turns abruptly eastward, flowing through Holden, and on to the Quinepoxet and Nashua Rivers, and thus to the sea.

This lake has been famed for its fine pickerel and perch, and for many years afforded most excellent fishing for many people far and near. Latterly, however, its supply diminished, and some dozen years ago a few citizens formed a club and, securing a lease from the Commonwealth, stocked it with black-bass, and these were left for several years to increase, but when fishing was recommenced it was discovered that the bass had destroyed the most of the native fish, and, as many of the bass made their escape through the lake's outlet, little headway was made in stocking the pond. The club subsequently relinquished to the town all their rights, whereupon the town took out a lease, and all have the old-time privilege restored, but the fish are not plentiful in the lake at this time.

Bottomly Pond is the largest body of water in the town. It is about one mile in length, has irregular shores, and is of varying width, while its depth must average ten feet or more. It is for the most part an artificial pond, and is used as a storage-pond for the mills below, of which there are quite a number. This pond lies just south of the village and west of the Worcester and Paxton county road, but only the southern end is in view from the highway mentioned. It is there that the joke concerning the "Paxton Navy-Yard" was perpetrated, which is so frequently mentioned even to this day. It was some years ago, and in the late autumn, as the stage-coach with its complement of passengers reached this place in the highway (Arnold's Mill), where there was afforded a tolerable view of the lake. A sailor passenger, who had at least "three sheets in the wind," on gazing out and seeing the forest trees at the left, with their bare trunks and branches in close proximity to the water, recalled his wandering senses sufficiently to exclaim "Is—hic—this—hic—the navy-yard?" The solemn quiet which had prevailed with the passengers in the coach up to this time was suddenly broken. The ludicrous remark, and the very absurdity of the whole subject, as applied to a section of country twelve hundred feet above tide-water and fifty miles inland, and coming, too, from a furloughed sailor just off ship, was too much, and all, as it were, "tumbled" to the same, and the joke seems ever fresh in the mouths of men inclined to poke a little fun.

Turkey Hill Pond is a natural body of water near the Barre county road, about two miles north of the centre of the town. It is perhaps a fourth of a mile in width. Its waters are dark and the fishing is fair, though not nearly as good as in former years. The outlet is at the southern extremity, and forms what was once known as Jennison's Brook, crossing the highway near what is now known as the "town-farm," and empties into Comins' mill-pond, formerly Jennison's mill-pond, and thence southwesterly through Spencer and the Brookfields to the Chicopee River. Formerly there was at the outlet of this pond a fulling-mill and carding-factory.

There are several small streams flowing into this Jennison Brook within the limits of the town. One of these rises in the southwesterly part of Rutland, passes into Paxton, and unites with the brook above named in the meadow below Comins's mill. Another rises about five hundred yards southeast of the meeting house, on lands owned by the late John Partridge, and flows southerly across the village farm of the writer into Lakin's meadow and thence northwesterly to Howe's meadow, where it unites with the brook above named. The third takes its rise in the southwesterly portion of the town, and joins the above brook just over the Spencer line. These three forks

are the head-waters of the Chicopee River, that rising on the Partridge land being the most easterly, and, perhaps, is the true head of the Chicopee.

The head-waters of the Blackstone River are found on the old Col. Snow Farm, and near the road leading from Paxton to Holden. The spring is on land now owned by Peter Daw. There are numerous other springs lower down the brook which is known as Arnold's Brook. The stream was given the last name of Oliver Arnold, who lived in the present old red house, adjoining the highway at the junction of the Worcester and Leicester roads; he kept a saw- and grist-mill there, and had an artificial reservoir, which has since been enlarged and repaired, and, like the brook flowing into it, was and is called Arnold's Pond. The old saw-mill site is still visible, a few rods west of the county road. Mr. Arnold had a son Elisha, who is living in this town at the present time. The pond last named is used as a storage reservoir for the mills below, and its waters flow into Bottomly Pond, previously mentioned.

There is another small stream, which has its source in a spring on the southeast face of Asnebumskit Mountain, and flows across the county road southerly, and is the head-water of Lynde Brook which forms a source of supply for the city of Worcester.

While speaking of these brooks, we are reminded of a house in this town, owned and occupied by Tyler S. Penniman, situated about a mile east of the village.

This house stands on a slight rise of ground, in such a way that rain falling upon the roof flows away into the waters of the Blackstone River on the one side, while upon the other the water goes to the Chicopee. There is, too, a well-known spring, famed for its cool, sweet water, which bubbles up near the trunk of a large tree just west of the Rutland highway, and less than a mile from the centre, where the water flows a short distance into a marshy tract, out of which two streams come, one going northerly into the Quinepoxet, while the other goes southerly to the Chicopee.

The original growth of forest trees here must have been quite large and very general. At the present time pine and hemlock predominate, though there are samples of about every other sort of timber found in New England. As an illustration of the size of some of the earlier timber, it may be interesting to note that this sketch is penned on a table made of a single pine board, three and a half feet in width, manufactured from a tree cut in this town some fifty years ago. The older growth of wood disappeared long since, and at the present time the second growth has about all been removed, and yet it would be difficult to say whether there is, or is not, as much land given up to the growth of forest trees as at any time within the past hundred or more years.

Among the early settlers in what is now Paxton, the names of Josiah Livermore and his brother, Jason Livermore, appear. This was about 1748. They came from the town of Weston, and settled in what is now the southwestern part of this town, on lands considerably improved. About the same time came Abijah Bemis, and from the same town, or Waltham. There were also living near the Livermores: William Thompson, James Thompson, James Bemis, William Wicker, Jacob Wicker, John Wicker, Isaac and Ezekiel Bellows.

Captain Ralph Earle, an early settler, owned and lived on the farm which once belonged to the late Joseph Penniman; and his was one of the first fifty families which settled in Leicester, and he was one of the grantees named in the deed of the proprietors of Leicester, and was assigned to Lot No. 47. On the other hand, in the Rutland portion of the new town, Seth Metcalf made an early settlement, as did Phineas Moore, who lived on the Rutland road, a mile or so north of the present meeting-house, and, by the way, it is proper to say that the line dividing the towns of Leicester and Rutland ran east and west, by the present north side of the meeting-house as it now stands. Others of the early settlers were: John Snow, David Davis, Benjamin Sweetser, Samuel Moore, Jonathan Witt and Oliver Witt.

We have seen that the act of incorporation of the "District of Paxton" transpired on the 12th of February, 1765. Very speedily "a warrant," dated the 25th of February, 1765, was issued by John Murray, of Rutland, a justice of the peace, the same being addressed to Phineas Moore, "one of the principal inhabitants" residing within the new district, requiring him to warn a meeting of the inhabitants for the choice of officers. We append a copy of the first warrant calling the first district meeting:

Worcester ss. To Mr. Phineas Moore of Paxton in the county of Worcester and one of the principal Inhabitants of Said District. Greeting—Whereas I the subscriber am Impowered by an act of this Province to call a meeting of the Inhabitants of the District of Paxton to Choose Town Officers &c.

[Seal] These are therefore on his Majestys name to Require you forthwith to Warn and Notify the Said Inhabitants of Paxton Qualified to Vote in Town Affairs to meet at the House of Mr. Jnº. Snows Innholder in Said Paxton on Monday the Eleventh Day of March Next at nine of the Clock in the forenoon then and there to Choose a Moderater, District Clerk, Selectmen, assessor, warden, Constables, Surveyors of highways, Tythingmen, Fenceviewers, Sealers of Leather, Sealers of weights and measures, Sealers of Boards, and Shingles, and all other ordinary Town Officers as Towns Choose in the month of March annually; hereof Fail not and make Due Return hereof with your Doings hereon unto me at or before the Said meeting. Given under my hand and Seal at Rutland in Said County this 25th Day of Feb. 1765 and in the fifth year of his Majesty's Reign.

Jno. Murray, Jus. of the Peace.

This first town-meeting was at the house of one John Snow, who kept a tavern or hotel, and who lived just east of the present village, on the Holden road, on the place known to the present inhabitants of Paxton as the old Colonel Snow or Bellows place. This place has now no farm buildings upon it, they having been destroyed by an incendiary fire about ten years since.

The meeting was held on March 11, 1765. Captain Samuel Brown was chosen moderator, and Ephraim Moore district clerk, and the following district officers

elected, namely: Selectmen, Oliver Witt, Ephraim Moore, Samuel Brown, Timothy Barrett, Abraham Smith; Clerk, Ephraim Moore; Treasurer, Ephraim Moore; Wardens, William Thompson, Jr., Jonathan Knight; Assessors, Oliver Witt, Ephraim Moore, Aaron Hunt; Constable, John Livermore; Surveyors of Highways, Abner Moore, Ebenezer Hunt, Jr., Elijah Howe, Thomas Cutler; Sealer of Weights, etc., Captain Samuel Brown; Tything-men, Samuel Man, Ralph Earle; Hog-reeves, Jonathan Morse, William Martin; Deer-reeves, James Ames, William Whitaker; Pound-keeper, Jonathan Knight; together with other officers, such as measurers of boards and shingles, etc.

They probably had a jollification at the close of this meeting. Remembering that in those early days the inhabitants had no town halls, either old or new, in which to meet, their next best place was at some public house, or tavern, as they were then called, and we have seen that they first gathered at an inn. In those they found good cheer, even if the accommodations were circumscribed. Here, too, the old-time flip-mug, or glass, served for the whole company, and was frequently replenished, as everybody in those days indulged, more or less, in the "flowing bowl." It is sometimes asserted in these days that temperance has not made any progress, but in these century mile-stones we can note a world of advancement. Why, a hundred years ago the clergy, as well as the people, partook of the ardent, even at the laying of the corner-stones and dedication of church edifices, and also after the Sabbath sermon all would repair to the nearest tavern for "refreshment." Now, in New England these things have all passed away, so far as the public eye or public approval is concerned. Strange to say, however, the people did not lack for piety in those sturdy days, for among the very first things done, of note, by this district of Paxton was to provide by vote for the building of a "meeting-house."

At the next district meeting, held on April 1, 1765, "it was put to vote to see if the district will Build a Meeting House in said Paxton and of what dimensions they will Build it, also to see if the district will agree upon some place for to Sett Said meeting House on." It was also voted "to build a house of worship fifty feet in length and forty in width with twenty two foot posts and to set the house at the Gate behind John Snow's farm in Mr. Maynard's pasture."[1] In the following autumn a grant was made of £13 6*s*. 8*d*. for the support of the gospel during the winter. In the following spring (March 3, 1766), the sum of £250 was voted "for a meeting house and a meeting house place." When the building had advanced to the point of raising the frame there was a general turnout of the citizens interested, and the records say a supper was provided for the occasion. The building was so far completed by the end of the year that its use commenced. Its appearance has been described by Mr. Livermore,[2] in his Centennial address, as "a plain, square structure, standing in the middle of the Common in primitive simplicity, without dome or spire, destitute of external ornament and internal embellishments, its prominent sounding-board above, and its deacon seat and its semi-circular communion table at the base of the pulpit; its uncarpeted aisles and pen-like pews, with their uncushioned and hinged seats, to be turned up and let down at the rising and sitting of their occupants, with a clatter sufficient to have awakened a Rip Van Winkle; its negro seats in the rear of the front gallery and the old people's in front of the pulpit, for the use of the deaf; its two corner pews perched aloft over the gallery stairs.

> "'Through which, and the scuttles above, were the ways
> To the attic, the arsenal of those early days.'"

Thus did the inhabitants of this new district of Paxton keep faith with the General Court. They had asked to be set up in housekeeping, and gave as a reason that it was burdensome and extremely inconvenient for them to go so many miles to attend upon church service, and it cannot be denied that they were sincere and honest in their request. They had, indeed, other and important reasons for separation, but the foregoing was the chief one given.

One writer says that there was an attempt to form at first an Episcopal Church, but it failed, and had the effect to put off the formation of any other till September 3, 1767, when the present Congregational Church was organized, and the meeting-house completed during this year.

Regular preaching heretofore had not been established, but yet services had been held by the Rev. Henry Carver and by Rev. Mr. Steward, who also taught school here at this early date in the history of Paxton.

The names of those subscribing to the covenant at the time of organization were Phineas Moore, John Snow, Jason Livermore, David Davis, Benjamin Sweetser, Silas Bigelow, Samuel Man, Oliver Witt, Stephen Barrett and Samuel Brown.

In the early part of 1767 a committee was appointed to secure a permanent pastor, and they subsequently reported in favor of the Rev. Silas Bigelow. On May 14, 1767, the district voted him the sum of £133 6*s*. 8*d*., as a settlement grant, and also voted a yearly salary of £53 6*s*. 8*d*. for the first four years, and £66 13*s*. 4*d*. as long as he shall continue his relations as a minister.

In response to the call of the parish and district of

[1] During the year a good deal of dissatisfaction was manifested about the location, and several efforts were made, at subsequent meetings, to change the decision, and we believe it was finally located on land of Seth Snow, who subsequently gave the town the land around it for a town "common."

[2] George W. Livermore, of Cambridge, a native of Paxton, delivered the Centennial address in 1865.

Paxton to become their settled pastor, the Rev. Silas Bigelow returned the following answer, viz.:

To ye Inhabitants of ye District of Paxton, Christian Friends and Brethren:

I have taken very serious Notice of ye Sovereign Hand of Divine Providence in Conducting me to you, and would in some suitable and Grateful manner attend to ye kind acceptance my labours have met with among you; and ye Regard which you have manifested to me (how unworthy so ever) in Electing me to be your Pastor. I observe ye Degree of unanimity and undeserved Affection with which you have Done this, and I can't but be apprehensive of *Harmony* and *unanimity* afford some of ye Best encouragements to hope for success, and yt ye Great End of ye Gospel ministry may be obtained in the Conversion of Souls to God and ye edifying of Saints in Faith and Comfort to Salvation. Nor would I fail to take Due Notice also of ye Provision which you Have made for my *Settlement* and *Support* among you; and it is Fit you should give Praise to God who both enabled you to maintain ye gospel and ye ordinences thereof, and so far inclined your hearts thereto; At ye same time I am obliged to appraise you (not, I hope, From any avoricious Disposition, nor Because I would rather seek yours than you, but because I would fain Promote your real Benefit and highest welfare) that after Taking ye Best Advice I can get, not merely From those in Ministerial life, but From others in Civil Character, I fear I shall not be able (from The *Support* you have *offered*) to answer your expectations from me in ye office I must Bear, nor to sustain the Dignity and Discharge the duties thereof. But having sought earnestly to ye God of all Wisdom and Grace for Direction in the most weighty and important affair; Consulted such as are esteemed Respectable for their Capacity and Integrity, and Deliberately considered everything as well as I could within myself, I accept of your Call, Determining by the Grace of God to Devote myself to ye work of ye Gospel Ministry among you; not Doubting your Readiness to Do what you can to free me from ye unnecessary cares and Incumbrances of Life; yt so I may more fully give up myself to this Great and arduous work. Concluding with Rom. 15: 30 and 32. Now I Beseech you, Brethren; for ye Lord Jesus' sake and for ye love of ye spirit yt ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me; That I may come unto you with Joy by ye will of God, and may with you be refreshed. So Prays your Friend and Servant in the Gospel of Christ.

Paxton, June 25, 1767. SILAS BIGELOW.

Mr. Bigelow was ordained on October 21, 1767. His pastoral labors were comparatively of brief duration, since his decease occurred on November 16, 1769, at the age of thirty years. He was buried in the public cemetery, near the southeast corner and but a few paces from the present meeting-house. All accounts agree that this first pastor was a devoted minister of the Gospel; a man of unusual intellectual endowments, coupled with great dignity of manner, and he was also a man much esteemed for his high Christian character and greatly beloved by all of the parish over which he had so briefly presided.[1]

Under his ministry the kindliest of feeling had sprung up among all the members of the society, and had his valuable life been spared to this people, much greater good must have been accomplished. The Rev. Mr. Bigelow was from the vicinity of Concord, it is believed; of his early education we have no present data. He was of a family, however, quite celebrated for their learning and prominence in public affairs.

He lived on the western slope of Asnebumskit, on what is now known, and has been these many years, as the "old Bigelow place." His first wife was from Lexington. There is one memento of this family still preserved. It is an antique clock, one of the well-known "grandfather's clocks," so-called, reaching from floor to ceiling. It was a bridal present from her parents in Lexington, where the clock was made, as indicated on its face. It remained in the family several generations and on the farm more than one hundred years, and is now in the possession of the wife of the writer (a descendant), and is doing duty as faithfully as when first set in motion by the hand of the bride, a century and more since. His second wife was a Mrs. Sarah Hall, of Sutton; intentions of the marriage were published September 22, 1769, as shown by the records.

On November 28, 1770, the Rev. Alexander Thayer[2] was ordained as the successor of Rev. Silas Bigelow. His pastorate continued for nearly twelve years. He was dismissed on August 14, 1782. His relations with the church during the last half of his ministry were anything but agreeable. He was suspected of being a loyalist. "This suspicion (says one writer), whether well or ill-founded, was sufficient to create a degree of coldness, and, in some instances, a fixed dislike, especially among those, who, from other causes, had become disaffected." It is reported that his salary was another cause of trouble, he complaining that the currency had much depreciated, and that he was justly entitled to a grant to make it equivalent to what it was when first settled, and it is not unlikely, from a review of the whole matter, there was really just ground for complaint upon both sides, and entire condemnation of either party would be very unjust.

The Rev. John Foster[3] followed Mr. Thayer. He found the church divided and inharmonious. He endeavored to reconcile them, but was unfortunate in being a positive man, and in expressions was perhaps injudicious.

At all events the old troubles were not healed, but broke out afresh, when it was proposed to settle him. The first council refused to grant a settlement, but a short time afterwards a new council, composed of different members from the first, voted to ordain and settle him, which was accordingly done on September 8, 1785. He was dismissed in 1789. During his pastorate there was a secession of about twenty, who

[1] The undersigned met on Nov. 9, 1767, and made choice of pews in the completed church. The prices they were to pay ranged from fourteen to twenty-two dollars. The district voted to give them the preference as to choice, since they were the heaviest tax-payers on real estate. The district also voted to give them deeds of the pews.

Capt. Oliver Witt, Timothy Barrett, Abraham Smith, Capt. Ephraim Moore, Hezekiah Newton, Capt. Samuel Brown, Jonathan Smith, Elijah How, Jeremiah Newton, Jonathan Knight, Samuel Man, Ebenezer Hunt, Jr., James McKennen, Capt. Ralph Earle, Paul How, Phineas Moore, Jacob Sweeter, Ebenezer Hunt, Abijah Bemis, Peter Moore, Abner Morse, David Davis, William Whitaker, William Thompson, Seth Snow.

[2] He married Miss Abigal Goulding, of Holliston, in 1773.

[3] He was married in September, 1785, to Mrs. Eunice Stearns, of Holden.

formed a new church, and so continued till 1793, when a reunion occurred.

Mr. Livermore relates several anecdotes of Mr. Foster, one of which will interest the general reader. "In those days, when capital punishment was to be inflicted it was the law that public religious exercises should be held, and the criminal had the privilege of selecting the preacher. Mr. Foster was selected, and at the appointed hour the house was crowded, and in the audience were many clergymen. Mr. Foster being selected only to preach, asked the first minister he saw to offer prayer. The invitation was declined, and several others were similarly invited and all declined, whereupon Mr. Foster stepped to his place, with the remark in an undertone, though loud enough in the general hush of the occasion to be heard by all, 'Thank God, I can pray as well as preach.' It is reported that his prayer was so soul-stirring and sincere that all were moved to tears, and many wept aloud."

Mr. Foster is reported to have been a man of brilliant attainments, and a very eloquent preacher, but possessed some other qualities that neutralized greatly these gifts. The Rev. Daniel Grosvenor was installed on the 5th November, 1794, as the successor of Mr. Foster. He came to this people from a church in Grafton, where he had been pastor. There was, for a season, quiet and considerable religious interest manifested under this affable and able pastor. But the old trouble would not wholly down, but, ghost-like, came to the surface.

Mr. Grosvenor's health was poor at best, and he felt unequal to the task of reconciling the factions, and finally asked to be dismissed, which was granted on November 17, 1802.

One proof that the old troubles were the causes of the unhappy condition of things at the time, and prior to the retirement of Mr. Grosvenor, is that they continued to be a disturbed church for several years after he left, and some years came and went before a pastor was again settled over them.

Mr. Grosvenor lived a half mile northeast of the church on the Holden road, where Peter Daw now lives.

In 1808, February 17th, the Rev. Gaius Conant was ordained, and he remained with the society for many years. He lived and died in the square-roofed house now occupied by Deacon Levi Smith, situated about half a mile due east from the church. He was dismissed September 21, 1831, and the same council ordained the Rev. Moses Winch. It was in 1830 that the Congregational Society was organized separately from the town. Mr. Winch's ministry must have been a very quiet one, and without any very disturbing circumstances, since very little is said respecting his stay here. He was discharged in 1834, August 28th.

The Rev. James D. Farnsworth succeeded Mr. Winch and was ordained on the 30th of April, 1835, and continued his labors till May 7, A.D. 1840. He was succeeded by the Rev. William Phipps, A.M., who was ordained November 11, A. D. 1840. Something more than a passing notice should be given this eminently gifted divine. He was for more than twenty-eight years connected with the history of the Congregational Church in this town. He was born in Franklin, this State, on October 31, 1812. He was the son of William and Fannie (Moulton) Phipps, with a line of ancestry traceable back to old England; to the father of Sir William Phipps, one of the early Governors of Massachusetts Colony. He was a quiet, gentle man, and true, yet did not lack force or bravery. He was resolute for worthy ends, and brave in self-denial. He early learned the trade of a cabinet-maker in his father's shop, which trade, in those days, meant quite as much an ability to manufacture a violin as a bureau, and as an illustration of his mechanical genius in this direction, it is told that he made in the days of his apprenticeship a fine bass-viol, with five strings, on which he was wont to play as an accompaniment to his vocal songs. He was a great lover of music and possessed a fine, rich, bass-tone voice, and always sang with an enthusiasm never to be forgotten by sympathetic hearers. He found his trade especially useful to a "country minister" in a small place, and on a small salary, since many of the things he needed he either had to make or go without. His inventive faculty was by no means inconsiderable. He constructed models of an improved school-room, a turret wind-mill, a drawing globe, a seed-sower, an upright piano and other useful and fancy things. He was a natural student, ever fond of the companionship of good books, and was diligent in everything. He attended Day's Academy in Wrentham; from there he entered Amherst, and graduated in the class of 1837. On leaving college he taught, as principal, in the academy at Edgartown, for one year. He married, in 1837, Miss Mary C. Partridge, of Franklin, who still survives at the age of eighty-eight. They had seven children, of whom five are living—two sons and three daughters. The sons, George G. and William H., have taken up the profession of their father. The former is settled at Newton Highlands, while the latter is preaching in Prospect, Conn. Mr. Phipps was first settled in this town. He was an earnest preacher and profoundly interested in all good works. He served for very many years as the head of the School Committee, and his school reports are good reading to-day, and display much thought, earnestly and gracefully expressed. He was wont to do anything he had in hand with "all his might," whether tuning a piano, or raising the finest vegetable in town. Those, whether in the church or out who became intimate, were not the ones to turn from him, for they best realized his largeness of heart and generosity of spirit.

But few of his sermons were ever published, barring a few Thankgiving discourses, fugitive pieces in var-

ious newspapers and a number of musical compositions.

Of the latter, it was as easy for him to write the poetical stanzas as the melodies that floated them. Had he been more favorably situated, as to leisure and means, he might readily have made his mark as an inventor or author, but he preferred to remain where he felt an all-wise Providence had placed him. His mark was, however, made honestly and deeply on the generation of youth that grew up under his long and faithful ministry here.

In 1869 he accepted a call to Plainfield, Conn., and was there installed June 9th. He died on June 18, 1876.

The Rev. Thomas L. Ellis succeeded Mr. Phipps, and was installed November 26, 1871. He died, after a brief pastorate, on November 12, 1873. He was followed by the Rev. Francis J. Fairbanks. He was hired in the early part of 1874, and continued his labors here till October, 1877. He was a well-educated man, and devoted in his work. The Rev. Otis Cole, a Methodist divine, was next hired by this society, and commenced his labors on January 1, 1878, and continued for two years, when he removed to New Hampshire. He was a man of great simplicity, and yet of very great power as a preacher and much beloved by all, both by those in and out of the church. The following summer the society engaged Mr. John E. Dodge, who was licensed to preach. He filled the pulpit for several years and was then ordained and settled, continuing his labors a couple of years thereafter. In June, 1887, he asked for a dismissal, having been called to the church in Sterling. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dodge were earnest in their labors in behalf of the church and community.

The Rev. Alpha Morton succeeded to the pastorate. He was engaged in June, 1887, and still continues his active labors with this people. He is an able man and of the highest character.

The old church edifice erected by the district of Paxton in 1767, paid for by a general tax, was used for all town-meetings after its erection, and the "deacon's seat" was the place occupied by the moderator of the town-meetings. In 1835 it was voted to remove the building to its present site and both enlarge and repair it, the town putting in a basement story for a town-hall, and it is now a very dignified edifice of the usual village style. Subsequently the church, feeling the need of a room for vestry purposes, entered into an agreement with the town, offering to light and warm and care for the said town hall for all town purposes on condition of its use by them as a vestry. In 1888 the town, stimulated by the gift of one Simon Allen, erected a new town hall, concerning which additional particulars are given further on in our history.

Leaving the history of the church and taking up that of the town, it will be remembered that the "District of Paxton" was chartered in 1765, Feb. 12th, and was "to join Leicester and the precinct of Spencer" in electing a Representative to the Legislature. This restriction was removed by an act bearing date July, 1775, viz.: "Whereas there are divers acts or laws heretofore made and passed by former General Courts or Assemblies of this Colony for the incorporation of towns and districts, which, against common right and in derogation of the rights granted to the inhabitants of this Colony by the charter, contain an exception of the right and privilege of choosing and sending a representative to the Great and General Court or Assembly. Be it therefore enacted and declared by the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, that henceforth every such exception contained in any act or law heretofore made and passed by any General Court or Assembly of this Colony for erecting or incorporating any town or district, shall be held and taken to be altogether null and void, and that every town and district in this Colony consisting of thirty or more freeholders and other inhabitants qualified by charter to vote in the election of a representative, shall henceforth be held and taken to have full right, power and privilege to elect and depute one or more persons being freeholders and resident in such town or district, to serve for and represent them in any Great and General Court or Assembly hereafter to be held and kept for this Colony according to the limitations in an act or law of the General Assembly, entitled an act for ascertaining the number and regulating the House of Representatives, any exceptions of that right and privilege contained or expressed in the respective acts or laws for the incorporation of such town or district notwithstanding."

On August 22, 1774, the following committee was chosen to consult and report on the state of public affairs, viz.: Capt. Ralph Earle, Lieut. Willard Moore, Dea. Oliver Witt, Phineas Moore and Abel Brown. They also voted to purchase a barrel of powder in addition to the stock (some two barrels) then on hand. All the able-bodied men of all ages, capable of bearing arms, were formed into two military companies, one of which was called the "Standing," and the other the "Minute Company."[1]

On the 17th of January, 1775, thirty-three men were ordered by the town to be drafted as minute-men. They chose Willard Moore to be their captain. He went with his command on April 19, 1775, to Cambridge, on receiving intelligence of the beginning of hostilities at Lexington and Concord.

The following is a copy of the agreement of the minute-men at Snow's in 1775:

We the Subscribers, Do engage for to Joyn the Minute Men of this District and to March with them Against our Common Enemys When we are called for, if so be that the Minute Companys are kept up as witness our hands: Marmaduke Earle, Jonah Newton, David Goodenow,

[1] A Committee of Safety was chosen on March 20, 1775, consisting of Willard Moore, Phineas Moore, Abraham Smith, Ralph Earle and David Davis.

Jr., Abijah Brown, Joseph Knight, Clark Earle, Nathan Swan, Jonah Howe, Ithamer Bigelow, John Davis, John Pike, Phineas Moore, John Flint, Ebenezer Hunt, Thomas Lamb, Oliver Earle, Jonathan White, Hezekiah Newton, Stephen Barrett, Samuel ——, Daniel Steward, Joseph Prescott.

The duties of the committee named above were various; among other matters, to observe and report to the people the action of Congress, and also the acts of the colonists and the doings of the home government, and last, but perhaps not least, to keep watch of certain suspected Tories in the district, of whom there were a number.

Captain Willard Moore, with a number of his men, soon enlisted in the Continental Army. He was promoted to the rank of major and took part with his men in the battle of Bunker Hill, where he was killed, together with several of his men. The "standing company," already named, was commanded by Captain Ralph Earle,[1] with John Snow as lieutenant, and Abel Brown as ensign. They were chosen as officers at the district-meeting on January 17, 1775, and did valiant service, and bore their share of the hardships of the long campaigns for liberty and independence.

At the town-meeting held April 6, 1775, Lieutenant Willard Moore was chosen delegate to the Provincial Congress, held in Concord, Mass., and was instructed to "use his influence in Congress that government be assumed in case that it shall prove certain that Great Britain intends to enforce the late acts of Parliament by the sword."

The town, at various times during the Revolutionary period, appropriated about ten thousand pounds as bounties, besides paying heavy taxes to the Provincial government amounting to many hundreds of pounds. Then, too, there were frequent purchases of beef for the use of the army, sending as high as nine thousand pounds at one time as their quota of the supplies needed by the government "at the front."

In addition to the regular companies named, there were, the records say, many volunteers going forward on their own responsibility and their own patriotic impulse to defend their imperiled country.

In the following year (1776) the records show a warrant directed to the "Constable of the *Town* of Paxton."

There is a warrant dated May 13, 1776, calling a meeting on the 23d of that month, for the purpose of choosing "a person to represent them in the Great and General Court" that year, agreeably to a precept directed "to the town" for that purpose.

On May 23, 1776, the town made choice of Abraham Smith as its first representative to the General Court, and the record shows the clerk of the meeting to have signed himself as the *town* clerk, all records prior thereto having been signed by the district clerk.

In June, 1779, there was a special call for representatives to meet in Cambridge, for the purpose of framing a State Constitution, and under this call, on August 10, 1779, Adam Maynard was chosen as the delegate. This very year it would seem by the records that Abraham Smith continued as the representative to the General Court, while Phineas Moore was the delegate to the convention held in Concord.

These were stirring times with the colonists, and besides the care of founding States was the added one of taking up arms to maintain them and establish liberty. In all of these serious affairs the new town of Paxton discharged all of her obligations with highest credit. In the earlier contests between the French and Indians this town furnished, in 1756, five men as her quota in a call for one thousand men from Worcester and Hampshire Counties. Their names were: Ezekiel Bellows, Jacob Wicker, Jason Livermore, David Wicker and John Wicker. These men were in the command of Gen. Ruggles, and saw service at Crown Point, Fort Edward and Ticonderoga.

This town is proved by all the ancient records to have been eminently patriotic in the time of the Revolution. All of the demands for men and means were met, though doubtless their efforts at times were very great. The prolongation of the war, saying nothing of the cost incurred in getting ready for the contest, was a very serious matter, but through all these trials the true patriots never flinched.

Among their first acts was an attempt on their part to rid themselves of the name of Paxton, now odious by reason of his loyalty to and influence with the enemy of the colony. They failed in their patriotic endeavor to secure a change of name, as we have seen.

The Hon. George W. Livermore, of Cambridge, a native of Paxton, relates the following incident which happened here: Jason Livermore and his three sons were plowing in the field when informed by a messenger of the incursion of the "regulars" to Lexington and Concord, and that the company of which they were members would march forthwith. The father said: "Boys, unyoke the cattle and let us be off." No sooner said than done; and they at once made ready and marched, with the household pewter dishes melted into bullets, to Cambridge, and there joined the Continental army, and on June 17, 1775, they bore a part in the great battle of Bunker Hill. The wife and mother, Mrs. Jason Livermore, was left with a lad but twelve years of age, to cultivate the farm and care for the stock. This was successfully done, and it is further stated that she made a hundred pounds of saltpetre for the army, during the summer, in addition to her other duties." Mrs. Livermore died at the extreme age of ninety-nine years and ten months. In the following year this same Jason Livermore, together with one Samuel Brewer, of Sutton, raised a company and proceeded

[1] Capt. Ralph Earle married the widow Naomi Kinnicutt, of Providence, in 1775.

to Charlestown, and from there were ordered to Ticonderoga and Mount Hope, where they were stationed for some time. It is fully believed that the town of Paxton must have sent more than a hundred men into the ranks of the patriot soldiers of the Revolutionary army; and history declares that few, if any, towns contributed, proportionately, more for the achievement of our independence, according to their means, than this. It is also reported that towards the close of the war "their individual and public suffering was extreme, and at times almost intolerable;" yet at no time did their courage flag or the fires of patriotism grow dim.

The qualification for voting in 1770 was the possession of sixty pounds' worth of property or an annual income of three pounds sterling. At the first State election there were twenty-four votes cast for John Hancock for Governor. The amount assessed at this time in the town on both polls and real estate was £29,400. The State tax in 1780 was as high as £5,120, old tenor.[1]

Provision for the education of the young was made as early as 1769 in the new district. On January 9, 1769, a warrant was issued calling a meeting to consider, among other things, the division of the town into "squadrons" or school plots, as per the recommendation of a previously-appointed committee who had reported favorably. This committee (chosen in October, 1768) consisted of Captain Oliver Witt, William Whitaker, William Thompson, Willard Moore and Jonathan Knight.

There were (in 1769) five districts established, and the committee for each "school plot" were as follows: For the Northeast, Phineas Moore, Hezekiah Newton and Stephen Barrett; for the Southeast, Daniel Stewart, James Glover and Francis Eager; for the Southwest, Abner Moore, James Thompson and Jason Livermore; for the Northwest, Abraham Smith, William Whitaker and Jonah Newton; for the Middle plot, Captain Paul How, John Snow and Ralph Earle.

The following names of the heads of families living in the several school plots or divisions, together with the number given the said divisions, must be of general interest even at this date, viz.:

Northeast School Plot, No. 1.—William Allen, Capt. Saml. Brown, En. Stephen Barrett, Aaron Bennet, Samuel Estabrook, Jno. Fersenden, Zach? Gates, Aaron Hunt, Ebenezer Hunt, Samuel Man, Phineas Man, Elijah Man, Peter Moore, Ephraim Moore, Willard Moore, Hezikiah Maynard, Hezikiah Newton, Silas Newton, Benj. Pierce, Jacob Sweetser, Jacob Sweetser, Jr., Benj. Sweetser, Ebenezer Wait, Antipas How, James Ames.

Southeast School Plot, No. 2.—Capt. Jesse Brigham, Joel Brigham, En. Timothy Barrett, Thomas Denny, Wm. Earle, Jr., Antipas Earl, Francis Eager, Newhall Earl, James Glover, Zach. Gates, Wm. Howard, Jabez Newhall, Daniel Steward, Danl. Snow, Asa Stowe, Joseph Sprague, Danl. Upham, Capt. Oliver Witt, Elijah Dix, Jedediah Newton, Ebenezer Boyington, Jon't. Wheeler, Jr., Jeremiah Fay.

Southwest School Plot, No. 3.—Ezekiel Bellows, Joseph Bellows, Abijah Bemis, Jont. Brigham, Jacob Briant, John Livermore, Abner Morse, James Nicol, Seth Swan, Wm. Thompson, Wm. Thompson, Jr., Wm. Wicker, David Wicker, Samuel Wicker, Jacob Wicker, David Newton, Jonathan Knight, Jr., James Pike, Solomon Newton.

Northwest School Plot, No. 4 (now West School District).—Joel Brigham, Jonathan Clemmer, David Goodenow, Ebenezer Hunt, Jr., James McKennon, Seth Metcalf, Jaasaniah Newton, Jonah Newton, Nahum Newton, John Smith, Abraham Smith, Jonas Smith, Wm. Whitaker, Wm. Whitaker, Jr.

The Middle School Plot, No. 5.[2] (now the Centre School).—Abel Brown. Col. Gardner Chandler, Capt. Thos. Davis, David Davis, Wm. Earle, Capt. Ralph Earle, Samuel Gould, Wid. Damarius How, Wm. Martin, Shadariah Newel, Ebenezer Prescott, David Pierce, Jonathan Knight, Daniel Knight, Jno. Snow, Seth Snow, Adam Maynard, Elijah Demmon, Capt. Paul How, Jonah How, Saml. Brewer, Eleazer Ward, James Logan, Andrew Martin.

The Northwest (or West, as it is now known) Schoolhouse was located, in these early days, just west of the road leading from "Hows Hill," now "Davis's Hill," to Jennison's Mills (Comins' Mills), a few rods southward of the pond and across the highway. About 1820 the present brick school-house was erected just west of the mill-dam. Some fifty years ago or more Homer Chase taught this school, and lived at the house near by. It will be recollected by the older citizens that years ago the seats were arranged in two rows, which brought the scholars in two lines, one directly back of the other.

A class in reading was up, and a notably dull scholar was proceeding, and, as usual, was being

[1] Among the names found in the early records it is interesting to note the following, viz.:—Dr. Saml. Stearns, who married in 1773 Sarah Witt. This Dr. Stearns was the practicing physician in this town at and before the Revolution. Then there appear the names of Samuel Gould, Capt. Ralph Earle, Ephraim Moore, Marmaduke Earle, Willard Moore, Paul How, Rev. Silas Bigelow, Ithamar Bigelow, who had sons Timothy, Silas, Lewis and Ithamar; Samuel Brown, Wm. Thompson, who had sons William and James; Danl. Upham, Hezekiah Newton, John Newhall, James Earle, Oliver Earl, Wm. Livermore, John Livermore, Braddyl Livermore, Wm. Martin, Thos. Lamb, Silas, Ezekiel and Joseph Bellows, Jacob Sweetser, Saml. Sweetser and Stephen Sweetser, David Davis, Ephm. Davis, Aaron Hunt, Jonathan Ames, Seth Swan, Jabez Newhall, John Warren, Daniel Steward, M. B. Williams, Adam Maynard, Moses Maynard, David Goodenow, John Knight, Wm. Whitaker, David Wicker, Abel Brown, Danl. Knight, John Flint, Clark Earl, Nathan Sergeant, Danl. Bemis, Benj. Cutting, Dexter Earl, David Peirce, who had sons David, Gad, Aaron and Job; James Washburn, Joseph Penniman, Hezekiah Ward, Phiny Moore, Phineas Moore, Samuel Brigham, Seth Metcalf. Benj. Wilson, Dr. Thad. Brown, Dr. Saml. Forrest, Dr. Caleb Shattuck,—these were all residents and practicing physicians, between 1765 and 1800, in this town—Samuel and Ebenezer Wait, Jude Jones, Timothy Bigelow, married Anna Earl in 1797; Ithamar Bigelow, Jr., married Sophie Earle in 1801; Daniel Abbott, D. H. Grosvenor and Jonathan P. Grosvenor, Levi Boynton, Dr. Absalom Russel, Dr. Loami Harrington, was married to Delia Newton in 1806 by Nathaniel Crocker, Esq.; Taylor Goddard, Frederick Flint, Joseph Knight, Benj. Wilson, Thomas Whittemore, Wm. Howard, Henry Slade and his sons Anthony, John and Henry; Winthrop Earle, Braddyl Livermore, Amos Ware, Elisha Ward, Ebenezer Bointon, had children, Ebenezer, Jr., born in 1770, Silas, Jeremiah, Alpheus, Phebe, Levi, Hannah, Asa and David; Samuel Jennison, Ebenezer Estabrook, William Earle, Robert Crocker, Emory Earle, Seth Metcalf, Jr., John Pike, Francis Pike and Clark Pike, Thomas Read, Jacob Earle, Rufus Earle, Artemas Earle, Nathan Cass, Moses Gill Grosvenor, son of Rev. Daniel Grosvenor, Geo. W. Livermore, son of Braddyl Livermore, born Oct. 15, 1794; Thaddeus Estabrook, Ephraim Carruth, John Brigham, Joseph Day, Nathaniel Lakin, Samuel Partridge, John Partridge, Elbridge Gerry Howe, son of Jonah Howe, born Aug. 14, 1799; John Howe, Jonathan Chase and son, Homer Chase; Ralph Earle Bigelow, son of Ithamar Bigelow, Jr.; Oliver Arnold, Amasa Earle, Silas D. Harrington, Daniel Lakin, John Bellows, Sam'l Wait, Daniel Estabrook, son of Jonah Estabrook, born in 1807; Jacob Earle, Dr. Edward M. Wheeler.

[2] The number of districts now is the same as in 1769.

prompted by his neighbor behind him, who could overlook his book. It was the habit of this dull reader to use his finger to keep his place, and as he was being coached, his finger prevented the party prompting from seeing the words ahead, so he whispered to this dull reader, "Skip it;" the reader supposed they were the next words in order for him to repeat, and he drawled out, "S-k-i-p i-t," which had the result to "bring down the house," as modern people speak.

At the Southwest School, forty years ago, there were as many as sixty scholars in attendance, and this was true of most of the other schools in town, whereas, at the present time, they would not average a dozen pupils to a school-house, outside of the Centre District; and what is true of this town is nearly true of all the back towns in New England. The Centre School building used to stand north of its present location, near where Hiram P. Bemis now lives, on the Rutland road. It was a square-built house, and when abandoned, it was used to erect the house now owned by H. C. Eames, on the Barre road. Mr. D. Gates Davis remembers when more than sixty scholars attended at this school.

We herewith append a list of prices established in 1777 by the authorities of Paxton:

Agreeably to late act of the Great and General Court of Massachusetts Bay To Prevent Monopoly and oppresion; The Selectmen and Committee of correspondence for the Town of Paxton have Agreed upon and affixed the Prices hereafter set down to the Following Articles in the Town of Paxton, Viz. :—

Men's Labour at Farming Work in the months of July and August. 3 shill. per day; The months of May, June and September, 2*s.* 3*d.* per day; The months of April and October, 1*s.* 9*d.* per day; The months of November, December, Jan., February and March, 1*s.* 4*d.* per day; Wheat, 6*s.* per Bushel; Rye, 4*s.* 3*d.* per Bushel; Indian Corn, 3*s.*; Oats, 1*s.* 8*d.* per Bushel; Barley, 3*s.* 6*d.* per Bushel; Spanish Potatoes, 1*s.* per Bushel in the fall of the year and not to exceed 1*s.* 4*d.* at any other season; Beans, 6*s.* per bushel; Peas, 7*s.* per bushel; Sheeps Wool, 2*s.* per lb.; Fresh Pork, well fatted, 3 pence 3 farth. per lb.; Good Grass-fed Beef, 2 pence 3 farth. per lb.; Stall-fed Beef, 3 pence 3 farthing per lb.; Raw Hides, 3 pence per lb.; Green Calf Skins, 6 pence per lb; Imported Salt, 13 shillings per bushel; Salt manufactured of Sea water, 15*s.* per bushel; West India Rum, 8*s*, 2*d.* per Gallon; New England Rum, 5*s.* per Gall.; Best Moscorado Sugar, £3 6*s.* 8*d.* per Hundred Wt. and 8 pence 3 farthings by the single pound; Molasses, 4*s.* 8*d.* per Gallon; Chocolate, 1*s.* 9*d.* per lb.; Best new milk Cheese, 5 pence 1 farthing per lb.; Butter, 9 pence per lb.; Tan[d] Leather, 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb.; Curried leather, in Proportion; Homespun yard-wide Cotton . . .; Cloth, 3*s.* 6*d.* per yard; Mutton, Lamb and Veal, 3 pence per lb.; wheat Flour, 18*s.* per hundred Wt.; Best English Hay, 2*s.* 8*d.* per Hundred Wt.; Teaming work, 1*s.* 6*d.* per mile for a Ton; Turkies, Dunghill Fowls and ducks, 4 pence per lb.; Geese, 3 pence per lb.; Milk, 1 penny 3 farthing per quart; Good Merchantable white pine Barn boards, 2*s.* 8*d.* per hundred feet; Men's best yarn Stockings 5*s.* 4*d.* per pair; Men's best Shoes made of neat Leather, 8*s.* per pair; Women's best Calf Skin shoes, 6*s.* 8*d.* per pair; Making Men's Shoes, 2*s.* 8*d.*; Making Women's leather shoes, 2*s.* 8*d.*; Good Salt Pork, 8 pence per lb.; Cotton, 3*s.* 8*d.* per lb.; Good well dressed merchantable Flax, 1 shilling per lb.; Coffee, 1*s.* 5*d.* per lb.; Yard wide tow Cloth, 2 shillings per yard; Good yard-wide Stripped Flannel, 3*s.* per yard; Fried Tallow, 7 pence per lb.; Rough Tallow, 4 pence 2 farth. per lb.; Men's board, 5*s.* per week; Women's board, 2*s.* 8*d.* per week—Taverners; Oats, 2 pence 2 farthings for 2 Quarts; A mug of Flip made with half a pint of West India Rum, 1*s.* 1*d.*; a mug of Flip made with half a pint of New England Rum, 9 pence; a Common meal of Vituals, 9 pence; lodging a person a night, 4 pence; Keeping a horse a night or 24 hours on English Hay, 1 shilling; Keeping a yoke of oxen a night or 24 hours on English Hay, 1 shilling; Charcoal, 3 pence per bushel at the pit; Shoeing a horse round and Steeling toe and heel, 6*s.* 3*d.*; Weaving Plain Towel Cloth yard-wide, not to exceed 3 pence 2 farthings per yard; sawing White pine boards, 1*s.* 1*d.* per Hund feet; Tanner's Bark Oak—Delivered at the Yard, 12*s.* per Cord—price for tanning, 1 penny 3 farthings per lb.; horse hire, 2 pence per mile; Cyder not to exceed 6*s.* at the press in time of the Greatest Scarcity; Carpenter's work, 3 shilling per day; Price of Taylor's work to be advanced one-eighth part above what was usual when Labour at farming work in the Summer Season was 2*s.* 8*d.* per day; Best Homespun Woolen Cloth of a Good Colour full[d] and Press[t] not to exceed 8*s.* per yard, and all other articles not her enumerated are to bear a price in a just Proportion to the Particularly Mentioned, According to former Customs and usages. Dated at Paxton, Feby. 7, 1777. Agreed to by the Selectmen and Committee of Correspondence of Paxton. Attest,

ABEL BROWN.

On September 14, 1791, Seth Snow, of Paxton, gave by deed to the town, one and a half acres and fifteen rods, "whereon the meeting-house stands," the whole forming nearly a square tract for "the use and benefit of the town." The bounds are given in Book 115, page 134, as certified to by Artemas Ward, register of deeds, Worcester, and are as follows, viz.:

A certain tract or parcel of common land lying in Paxton aforesaid, whereon the meeting-house stands, for the use and benefit of the said town, and is bounded as follows, viz.: beginning at a stake and stones on the south line of the burying-yard, thence East 3° S. nine rods and nine tenths to a stake and stone, being the Northwest corner of Frederick Hunt's land; thence South 13° 40′ W. eighteen rods and eight-tenths of a rod to a heap of stones on the West side of said Hunt's barn, said line strikes the Northwest corner of said barn; thence South 29° East ten rods and seven-tenths to a stake and stones; thence West 12° 30″ N. four rods to a stake and stones by the Southeast corner of Deacon Timothy Barrett's horse-shed; thence N. 32° West seven rods to a stake and stones near the Northeast corner of the store; thence W. 8° 45′ N. eight rods and six-tenths to a stake and stones by the Northwest corner of my dwelling-house; thence S. 45° 30′ W. six rods to a stake and stones; thence W. 19° N. two rods and five-tenths to a stake and stones; thence East 42° N. nine rods to a stake and stones near the Southeast corner of Abner Morse's horse-stable; thence N. 8° E. running on the West side of the horse-stables eighteen rods to the first-mentioned corner; said tract contains one acre and a half and fifteen rods by measure.

The town, after about 1800, moved along the even tenor of its way, without alarming incidents, until 1812, when, at a special meeting of the town, held August 10th, of that year, it was voted to choose a committee to attend a county convention called to consider the state of the country, and Nathaniel Crocker and Braddyl Livermore were appointed as the delegates. There was also a petition or memorial ordered at this meeting to be sent to the President, and the following persons were appointed to prepare the same, viz.:—Nathan Swan, Nathaniel Lakin, David Davis, Jr., Braddyl Livermore and Jonathan P. Grosvenor. The war was of short duration, terminating in a successful issue for the government.

Of Indian history little is known. Paxton was for many years a part of other towns, and their history would in part be its history, but long before the surrounding towns were incorporated there were conflicts with the aborigines in this vicinity, though yet not much that can be localized as having happened within the present territory of the town. Yet there was one Indian resident of this town who made it his home during the greater portion of his life, and his

name was Aaron Occum.[1] He was the last remnant and representative of his race. He lived about one hundred years ago, and had his home near the southwest point of Turkey Hill Pond. He lived in peace and quiet with his white neighbors, who learned to like him, and were, at times, much interested in him: "He was a tall, well-formed man, very lithe and strong, and in feats of running, jumping, wrestling or lifting, no white man in the town could approach him. He clung to his ancient arms, and always was seen with bow and arrows, and with these primitive weapons his aim was unerring and fatal. He was a temperate and peaceful man and came to be respected and was a frequent visitor during the long winter evenings, at the dwellings of his neighbors, whom, in broken English, he would entertain by his wonderful stories of his ancestors and their exploits. Close by his cabin was a large flat rock, on which he pursued his occupation of beating brooms and making baskets, in which arts he was a master, and his wares found ready sale in the vicinity. Thus he lived till one eventful winter night, when he went to visit at the old red house on the hill, a half-mile or so west of his cabin, now the home of Oris Howe. It was an icy time, bitter cold having followed a storm of sleet. The face of the country was glass, with ice. Occum finally departed, and with a bound he started forward down the hill, but he never reached his cabin home alive. The next morning he was found dead at the foot of a sharp declivity, with a gash in the back of his head caused by a sudden fall on a sharp stone above the ice. He, in the darkness, had, doubtless, miscalculated his footing and thus came to his sudden death. He was buried in the public cemetery of the town."

Of Indian relics there are few; still, some are found of course, but not in numbers that would lead us to think any tribe made its permanent home on these hills. There is, however, just west of the Barre road, beyond the causeway, adjacent to the house of the late Benjamin Maynard, "a low, hollow rock," which tradition says was an Indian "Mortar," used by them for grinding corn. The story of the "Indian Graves" was related by John Metcalf, who lived to be ninety years old and had a clear memory up to the close of his long life. He died about 1884. His statement was that southwest of said Turkey Hill Pond, on a long ridge, is the spot where a party of Indians killed a number of white men, as described in a book giving an account of the Indian Wars. Here seven white men were killed and were buried under a large oak tree. The mound may still be seen surrounded (or was) by flat stones, not far from the stump of a large oak tree. The original account stated "that a party of white men were attacked on a hill at the southwest corner of a pond with a large hill on the east side of it, about ten miles from Quinsigamond (Worcester) and on the road from Quabog (Brookfield) to Wachusett, and were buried under a large oak tree." Mr. Metcalf showed this account to one Artemas Howe, of this town, and together they identified this place as the spot referred to.

George Maynard states that at one time he sank a shaft into this mound and below yellow earth he came to a black mound, such as might appear in any very ancient grave.

Of murders there have been several within the present limits of the town since its first settlement. The first great crime of this character occurred on what is known as the old "Carruth Road," which formerly led from just below "Comins Mill" (once "Jennison's Mill") to the north into the Barre Road and on to West Rutland. Less than a half-mile from the mills named lived Daniel Campbell, a Scotchman, who was killed March 8, 1744, by one Edward Fitzpatrick, an Irishman who was in the employ of Campbell. Fitzpatrick disposed of the body in the wood-pile, the whole covered over with a few rails. There was a general rally of the neighbors to search for the missing man. It was agreed that should the body be found the horn (conch-shell) should be blown to give notice. At the sound of the horn Fitzpatrick, who was standing in the doorway of the house, exclaimed, "My God! it is all up with me," or words to that effect. Fitzpatrick was tried the following September, found guilty and sentenced to be hanged on the 18th of October following. Campbell was buried in the old cemetery at Rutland Centre, and on his tombstone is the following inscription, viz.: "Here lies buried y^e^ body of Mr. Daniel Campbell, born in Scotland, who came into New England A. D. 1716, and was murdered on his own farm in 1774, aged 48 years. . . . Man knoweth not his time."

This Carruth Road was much used in the days of which we write, it affording a short route to Barre and that section, to people in the vicinity of Jennison's Mills; besides, many came over this road to trade at Jennison's.

One Aaron Coggswell lived on the right as you go up this road. He is the ancestor of the present Coggswells of Leicester. Beyond Mr. Coggswell lived Ephraim Carruth and further on Daniel Campbell and others. This Mr. Carruth, for whom the road was named, came from Marlboro' along with the Hows. After the murder of his neighbor, Campbell, his family, which was quite large, became discontented and he returned to Marlboro. He was a surveyor and once surveyed the farm of David Davis, who lived at C. A. Streeter's. Mr. Carruth was not in favor with Jonah How, who lived on what is now called "Davis' Hill." This How had a pasture up on the Carruth Road where he kept his sheep in summer, and each year he lost a good lamb. At the close of the season, finding a lamb gone as usual, and happening to meet Carruth, said to him that he had got a

[1] Related to us by George Maynard of Worcester.

new name for his pasture and now called it Pilfershire. After that no lambs were missed. The locality still goes by the new name among the old people of the neighborhood.

Some twenty-five years ago, at the time of grading the Great Road, as the Barre Road was then called, many men were employed, among whom was one Doyle, an Irishman. He boarded at the first house beyond the brook on what is now called the West Road (New Braintree Road), a quarter of a mile or less west of the Common. In the evening of May 11, 1862, one Henry Watson, an Englishman, was going by to his home, known as the Stillman Smith place, beyond Pudding Corner. As he came opposite the house some conversation occurred with this Doyle, who demanded some rum of Watson, which he refused, whereupon Doyle became angry, and stepping to the woodpile, took up a hemlock stick and chased Watson, who ran to the next house, where Samuel Peirce lived, and as he passed on to the veranda at the west side of the building he was struck and killed. Doyle at once fled to Worcester, where he was arrested, tried and sentenced to a long term of imprisonment at hard labor. There was, some years ago, a human skeleton found in the front yard of a small farm-house, now occupied by H. Sweetser, on the road leading to Pine Hill, in the northerly part of the town. This brought to mind the fact that a peddler by the name of Livermore, who staid over-night in this neighborhood, some years prior, was suddenly missed from the community, and was thought to have been foully dealt with, as a quarrel was believed to have occurred at Widow Samuel Sweetser's that night. An inquest was held, but nothing was established, though Benjamin Maynard, who was present, stated that some of the parties living there were much disturbed and seemed guilty. At all events, the principals soon after left, and have never returned.

A man by the name of Charles Conners, in February, 1862, was frozen to death in his sleigh at the foot of the hill near Pudding Corner, on the New Braintree road, east of the school-house. He had been to Worcester, and, addicted to drink, had procured a bottle of liquor, and, over-indulging, had become insensible from two causes,—the liquor and the cold. The day had been somewhat mild and fairly pleasant, but in the early afternoon the wind rose and it grew cold rapidly, and before sunset the wind had risen to a blizzard, and the thermometer dropped during the night to 30° below zero. He was found in the morning, sitting nearly upright, with his hat off and an empty bottle beside him. The reins had become tangled, and had turned the horse to the side of the road, where he stopped, and was yet alive. The man lived at North Spencer, and the team belonged to Samuel Cunningham, of that place. The day he was found the thermometer at noon stood at 28° below, the coldest day for three-quarters of a century in this locality.

At one time in the spring of the year, as a company of workmen were engaged repairing the road near the present town-farm, Captain B—— was holding the plow when a skeleton was turned up. All were horror-stricken, and the captain left and went to work elsewhere, being unable to witness the scene. It was told by him that it must be the body of a Mrs. Hunt, who had lived on the cross-road near by, and who, having died of the small-pox, was hurriedly buried there. But this was not credited by the citizens. The other theory was that a young man, who, a year before, was working for the captain, had suddenly disappeared without any very good explanations, and it was believed the body was his, especially as an investigation showed the remains to be those of a male person.

Among the notable people who were born or lived in Paxton was the Livermore family. Jason Livermore was one of the early settlers, and lived in the southerly part of the town, near Pudding Corner, and had several children.

He was in the engagement at Bunker Hill, as has already been shown, and was a man of high courage and great patriotism. He was for many years a prominent citizen here. His son Braddyl also became prominent, and was well known for his capacity to transact business, and stood high among his townsmen. His son, George W. Livermore, a graduate of Harvard, and now of Cambridge, became a distinguished citizen of that place, and returned on June 14, 1865, and delivered the historical address at the centennial celebration, and to him, as well as to other writers, are we much indebted for many of the facts herewith embodied.

Few men in our early history were as distinguished as Doctor Samuel Stearns. He was a somewhat celebrated man in his day, as well as prominent as a practicing physician. He traveled much between 1778 and '85, and he made the journey from Southern Georgia to Massachusetts on horseback. He relates leaving Georgia in February, with the trees blooming, and he so timed his journey as to reach Massachusetts in early June, having a succession of blossoms for a thousand miles. He married Sarah Witt of Paxton March 7, 1773.

In 1782 he was in Europe, and continued his travels there for several years. He published a volume of his letters from England and the Continent written in 1784.[1] He speaks of meeting Minister John Adams at the Hague, and spending some time with him in driving about the country. Doctor Stearns was very fond of art, and greatly admired the painting of Rubens, as well he might. He visited the Hague in the summer of 1784 and was a guest of John Adams, the American minister, of whom he speaks in

[1] This volume was published by Isaiah Thomas of Worcester, in 1790, entitled, "A Tour in Holland," with a preface by John Trumbull, the celebrated author of "McFingal."

the highest praise. In speaking of the ambassador he says his livery is the same as the American uniform. He also says that in popularity and influence at that court Mr. Adams bore the palm of the diplomatic body. He adds that Mr. Adams talks but little, but what he says is direct and forceful; that America stands indebted to him principally for three important acquisitions—the defeat of Sir Joseph Yorke and securing the patronage of Holland in a critical moment, the extension of our limits and the security of our fisheries. The headquarters of the embassy was the Grand Hotel, which Mr. Adams had purchased for the permanent quarters of United States ministers. Dr. Stearns relates an incident which, but for him, the life of Mr. Adams might have been in great jeopardy, viz.:—They were driving along the banks of a canal in Delft when a child was discovered struggling for life in the waters of the canal. Mr. Adams drew off his overcoat and was about ready to leap into the water when the Doctor interfered. At this juncture, a workman close by had made the plunge and saved the drowning child.

The Earles were numerous and prominent in the town's early history and for many years afterward. Marmaduke Earle came from Leicester and settled where Nathaniel Parkhurst now lives, about a mile west of the centre, on the Barre road. He had fourteen children.

Capt. Ralph Earle, of Leicester, was the best-known of any of the Earle family. He took a part in the Revolutionary War and performed other and valuable service. One of his sons, R. E. W. Earle, became famous as an artist. He made a painting of Niagara Falls which attracted much attention, and subsequently he resided in the South, where he became an inmate of the family of General Jackson, at the "Hermitage." He painted several portraits of the general and his family. He died there in 1837, and was buried in the garden, beside the graves of Jackson and his wife. Captain Ralph was a member of important committees raised by the town at sundry times during the Revolution; was for a time chairman of the selectmen, and occasionally served as moderator. He was also captain of the Standing Company in the Revolution.

Philip Earle[1] was a public man and was engaged in the manufacture of scythes, below Jennison's Mills, just west of the highway. Here he had a trip-hammer and carried on quite a business. The mills above named were first owned by one Silas Newton; he lived on Brigham Hill, where one Brigham subsequently lived. Newton had a fulling mill, besides a saw and grist-mill and shingle-mill. He sold to Samuel Jennison, who is reputed to be a rough sort of a man. He kept a *wet* grocery store in the basement of his house, and it used to be a much-frequented resort. He sold to Homer Chase, his son-in-law, who continued the store business. Homer was a son of Jonathan Chase, who lived where Horace Daniels now lives.

[1] This Philip was a son of Marmaduke Earle and succeeded to the business of one Joel Crossman.

The Davis family was likewise conspicuous, and the first Simon Davis came from Concord to Rutland, where he had a son David, who settled in Paxton, where Charles A. Streeter now lives. He had a son David, Jr., who lived at the foot of the hill, just west of his father's place. There was a tan-yard just back of this last-named house, where considerable business was done annually. At this time there was another tan-yard near Pudding Corner, on the Bellows place, where an equal amount of tanning was done. This Davis family are the ancestors of Mr. D. Gates Davis, who, until lately, lived where Jonah Howe formerly lived.

The Peirce family came here from New Hampshire, but of all the members perhaps John D. Peirce is the most conspicuous. His father was Gad Peirce, and his grandfather David Peirce. The subject of this brief sketch came to live at the Peirce homestead, in the easterly part of the town, on the farm now owned and occupied by Horace Peirce. He lived with Job Peirce, an uncle. He, at the age of sixteen, decided to secure a liberal education, and, with the assistance of the Rev. Mr. Conant, a near neighbor, he went to Leicester Academy. He joined the church at that place. He fitted for college, entered Brown University and graduated with Elbridge Gerry Howe, of this place. He married in Sangerfield, New York, studied for the ministry and settled in York State as a Congregational minister. He subsequently went to Michigan and preached for a time at Marshall, and at same time kept the post-office (in a cigar-box). When Michigan was admitted into the Union he was appointed State Superintendent of Instruction. He took an active part thereafter in all educational affairs and advised a liberal policy for the State, which was adopted, and has left its impress on that great Commonwealth to this day. He was at one time prominently named for United States Senator, but being a Whig and they in the minority, he decided to change his politics, and soon after the party he espoused became the minority and so he died a disappointed man in some respects. But his life was made valuable to his fellow-men in the founding of a new State.

Of the Harringtons, first came Nathan Harrington from Weston and settled on the farm just north and under the shadow of Pine Hill. He had children—Nathan, Lemuel and Samuel. The first son settled in Barre, Vt., the second lived and died in Hardwick, Mass., while Samuel remained at home and had children—Lucy B., Elizabeth F., Samuel D., Lemuel, David, Simon G., Abigail and Lucinda. Samuel D. had children—Samuel, who lives in Boston; Nathan, living in Toledo, Ohio; and Eliza, who married Rev. Charles Morris and lives in Gloucester.

David Harrington, last above named, married Miss Olive Holmes in October, 1830. He lived and died

on his farm in Paxton. He celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his marriage on October 29, 1880. There was a large company of relatives and friends from far and near present on that occasion. Mr. Simon G. Harrington is still living at the advanced age of eighty years and upwards, at his farm on the Rutland Road. He represented the town some years since in the Legislature and is one of the brightest and ablest men in this vicinity.

Silas D., son of Dr. Loami Harrington, was a very prominent man in the public affairs of this town. On November 17, 1877, he celebrated his fiftieth wedding anniversary. He died suddenly soon after, while on a visit to Millbury. He was for many years one of the selectmen and much respected. His portrait can be seen in the new town hall.

The Howe family is a numerous one in Paxton, and the first settler here was one John How, who came from Marlboro', Mass., in 1742, and purchased lands of an agent of the Crown, and the old deed, now in possession of Dr. A. J. Howe, bears the seal of the colonial government. The place purchased by John Howe is now owned by Deacon Keep, and is situated about a mile west from the centre. This John Howe deeded the place to his son Paul Howe, and he to his son John, and he to Samuel H. Howe, the father of the present Dr. Andrew Jackson Howe, of Cincinnati. Of the Howe family born in Paxton, Dr. Howe is the most distinguished. His father moved to the edge of Leicester, where Mr. Watts now lives. At the age of twenty, Andrew bought his time of his father, agreeing to pay one hundred dollars for his "freedom," a transaction not unknown in those days. Young Howe worked in a saw-mill and thereby kept his engagement with his father as to the payment of the "time" or freedom money. He then went to Grafton, where he worked for an uncle in a shoe-factory. While thus engaged he made the acquaintance of Dr. Calvin Newton, who, being interested in him, consented to take Andrew as a student on condition that he acquire the education requisite to enter college. The young man, nothing daunted, subsequently entered the Leicester Academy, where he attended two years, taking high rank as a student, From there he went to Cambridge and was admitted, and during the four years there he held a reputable place in his class, that of 1853. While fitting for college he was obliged, out of study hours and during vacations, to labor at whatever his hands could find to do; sometimes he was busy with wood-chopping and threshing and boat-building. After graduation at Harvard he prepared his way as best he could pecuniarily for entering upon a course of medical lectures at Jefferson College, in Philadelphia. The next year he attended hospital instructions in New York. The year following he took temporary charge of Dr. Walter Burnham's practice in Lowell, Mass. In 1855 he was appointed to the professorship of surgery in the Eclectic Medical Institute of Cincinnati, Ohio, a position he has held ever since.

He is the author of a treatise on General Surgery, and also of works on special branches of surgical science. He has, during his residence in Cincinnati, performed all the great operations of a surgical character and he is favored with a wide range of patronage. In 1886 Dr. Howe made a tour of Europe, visiting the famous hospitals of the Continent, and became acquainted with the distinguished men of his profession. As a recreative indulgence, Dr. Howe has cultivated a taste for biological investigations, and has acquired some distinction as an anatomist. For many years he was one of the curators in the Cincinnati Society of Natural History. Dr. Howe married, in 1858, Georgiana, the oldest daughter of George Lakin, of this place.

The familiar faces of Dr. and Mrs. Howe are occasionally seen in town revisiting the places familiar in their childhood, and renewing old acquaintances, by whom they are ever cordially welcomed.

Jonah How lived on Davis Hill, and died there aged eighty-four years. Artemas How was also prominent in public affairs.

Rev. Elbridge Gerry Howe, son of Jonah Howe, was a graduate of Brown University, and went West on missionary work and established the first Congregational Church at Waukegan, Ill. He was four times married. He leaves two sons, E. G. Howe, Jr., and Ira Howe. Rev. Mr. Howe was one of those men who left the world better by having lived in it. He was pre-eminently adapted to missionary labors, in which he had great success. He was always an earnest speaker and always found on the side of right on every public question. He was an honest man and of exalted character.

The Grosvenor family were among the notable people during their residence in this town. A brief sketch has already been given of the Rev. Daniel Grosvenor. Jonathan P. Grosvenor was a prominent man, occupying offices of trust and honor for many years. He was a justice of the peace, and lived on the farm now owned by Peter Daw. Here met some of the most cultivated people in town. His daughter, Lucy Grosvenor, married David Manning, Sr., of this place, and subsequently they removed to Worcester, where they at present reside.

Capt. Tyler Goddard, who lived just north of the meeting-house at the junction of the Rutland and Holden roads, was the first postmaster in Paxton. The office was established December 10, 1816, and he held the place till 1841. He kept a small grocery store just across the road west of his house, in what is now the new burying-ground. An anecdote is related of him that one time, in order to cure David Sweetser of the bad habit of borrowing jugs, filled one for him in which oil had been kept. *This* jug came back and with it the lost jugs, and a pretty free expression of miscellaneous statements on the part of Sweetser, to

the great amusement of Capt. Goddard. Luther Goddard, of Worcester, is a son of Tyler, and was for some years the town clerk of Paxton. The next postmaster was S. D. Harrington, followed by Otis Pierce, and in 1861 Nathaniel Clark was appointed and still holds the office. Of town clerks Ephraim Moore was first and William H. Clark, the present incumbent, the last chosen.

The Bigelows have ever been prominent in town since the advent of the Rev. Silas Bigelow. He had a brother, Ithamar Bigelow, who also lived on Asneybumskeit and he had sons Silas and Ithamar, Jr. Silas Bigelow had children: John Flavel, George Norman, Artemas E. and Adaline E. Ithamar Bigelow, Jr. had children: Ralph Earle, Walter R. and Lewis. Ralph Earle Bigelow had children: Caroline, Emeline and John C. Lewis Bigelow had children: Henry, Charles, Edward, George, Phœbe and Eliza.

In the late Civil War this town contributed seventy-four men, and of this number fifteen lost their lives while in the service. The records show that on the 26th July, 1862, a bounty of one hundred and ten dollars was voted. On August 9th the amount was raised eighty-five dollars. On December 8th the town offered one hundred and ten dollars for nine months' men, and one hundred and sixty dollars for those enlisting for three years. These offers were in addition to any bounties or gratuities proffered by the State or United States governments. There was an additional bounty offered in June, 1864, of one hundred and twenty-five dollars. In the year 1871 a granite monument was erected on the "Common" in memory of those losing their lives during the four years' contest with the Southern States. An iron railing surrounds this shaft, and within the inclosure there are four cannon donated by Congress. On this shaft are the names of twenty-one of our soldiers who died by reason of the Rebellion.

On June 14, 1865, the town celebrated the centennial of its incorporation. There was a large assemblage of the sons and daughters of the town on that occasion. There was a public meeting in the church, at which Hon. George W. Livermore, of Cambridge, Rev. John F. Bigelow, D.D., of Brooklyn, Prof. George N. Bigelow, also of Brooklyn, and Rev. George G. Phipps, now of Newton Highlands, delivered addresses. They were all natives of this town. A public dinner was served on the "Common," opposite the church, of which many hundreds partook. It was a grand gala occasion, and the reunions were many and most cordial, and the memory of them is as a sweet savor to all participating.

In 1888 the town erected a new town hall, in part out of the proceeds of the estate of the late Simon Allen, who left by will his entire property in trust to the town, which was to be used in the building of a town hall, the same to be called Allen Hall. The amount of his estate was twenty-two hundred dollars, but the prolonged illness of his widow reduced this amount to fifteen hundred dollars. During the lifetime of his widow the property could not be used for the purpose designated by the testator, but on her decease, which occurred in 1887, the Allen fund was turned over to the town treasurer, and at the annual meeting of the town in March, 1888, it was voted to add a thousand dollars to the Allen fund and go forward with the building, the town appointing the following persons as a building committee, viz.: L. Bill, William Brown, A. S. Graton, E. P. Keep and H. H. Pike.

The land for the location was given by the writer, and in the following July the contractor began his work, and by the 20th of the following October the building was completed, and was formally dedicated on November 1, 1888. The dedication address was delivered by Col. William B. Harding, of Worcester, the poem by George Maynard, also of Worcester, with remarks by Rev. George H. Gould, D.D., and Scripture reading and dedicatory prayer by Rev. Alpha Morton.

The chairman of the selectmen,[1] Ledyard Bill, received the keys from H. H. Pike on behalf of the building committee. The church choir, under the leadership of Oliver Goodnow, who for over fifty years has been connected with church music here, gave choice selections; the exercises in the main hall closing with America, in singing which, all joined. A public dinner was served in the lower hall by the Ladies' Union, of which Mrs. Nathaniel Clark is president. The building stands on the west side of the Barre Road, opposite the "Common." It is a plain appearing structure, but inside it is all that will be required for years to come. The total cost will not be far from forty-five hundred dollars. Simon Allen was born in 1806, in Holden, in the house near the foot of the big hill, on the Paxton and Holden Road, on the south side of the highway, and east of Mr. Metcalf's. He attended the Northeast School in Paxton a portion of his youth. He moved to Shrewsbury, where he married Miss Fannie Norcross. He was a boot and shoe-maker, and followed that trade while in Shrewsbury. He moved to Paxton in 1840, and bought a farm of the elder John Slade, on the Rutland Road, where George A. Brown now lives. He was a plain, unassuming, honest man, and respected by all who knew him. He died December 29, 1880, and was buried by the side of his first wife, near the west entrance to the Public Cemetery. He was twice married, but left no children.

[1] The first board of selectmen chosen in 1765 was Oliver Witt, Ephraim Moore and Samuel Brown, while the last board chosen in 1888 was Ledyard Bill, A. S. Graton and L. T. Kirby.

CHAPTER LXXXIII.

WEST BOYLSTON.

BY HORATIO HOUGHTON.

WEST BOYLSTON is situated seven miles from Worcester, by which it is bounded on the south, and is about forty miles from Boston. Its territory extends about five miles from north to south and about three and a half miles from east to west. In shape it very much resembles an Indian tomahawk without a handle. Its territory has been covered in part by the organization of six other towns, previous to its incorporation as the town of West Boylston in January, 1808. At the first incorporation of Lancaster, in 1653, its southwesterly corner boundary did not touch the present limits of West Boylston, it being near the house on the Robert Andrews place in Boylston. The extension of Lancaster in 1711 covered all of the territory of this town lying east of the Stillwater River and north of a line drawn from near the present central bridge, nearly east to near the southwest corner of the first Lancaster grant in Boylston.

At the incorporation of Worcester, in 1722, it included the territory afterwards set off as Holden in 1741. Shrewsbury was incorporated in 1727 and included all the territory lying between Lancaster and Worcester, the strip of land lying between the Stillwater River and what was afterwards Holden, of about a mile in average width and about four miles in length, receiving the name of "Shrewsbury Leg." That part of this strip now within the town of Sterling still retains the name of "The Leg." In 1768 all of this leg lying north of the Quinnepoxet River and covering the present village of Oakdale was ceded to Lancaster.

"A petition, dated May 15, 1780, asking to be set off from Lancaster to Shrewsbury, was sent to the General Court, signed by the following persons:—Aaron Sawyer, Nathaniel Lamson, Silas Hastings, John Glazier, John Dunsmore, Ezra Beaman, Nathaniel Davenport, Wm. Dunsmore, Silas How, Joseph Sawyer, Robert Andrews, Jr., Nathaniel Hastings, Oliver Sawyer, Frederick Albert, Micah Harthan, Elijah Ball, Hugh Moor, Levi Moor, Josiah Bennet, Sam'l Bigsby, Phineas How, Jacob Winn, Edmund Larkin."

Several of these men were then living within the limits of Shrewsbury, but it is probable that some of their landed estates extended into Lancaster; a part, too, were residents of territory now in Boylston and part in West Boylston. This petition was granted February 2, 1781, making a new line between Lancaster and Shrewsbury; but just where this line was located cannot now be given.

Sterling was incorporated the same year, 1781, and covered all the territory belonging to Lancaster then lying within the present limits of West Boylston. Boylston came next as a town, in 1786, and took a part of this territory from Sterling. In 1796 the "Second Precinct of Boylston, Sterling and Holden" was formed, taking from Sterling about two thousand three hundred acres, from Holden a strip of land about sixteen hundred rods long, one hundred rods wide at the north end and about one mile wide at the south end, and from Boylston all the rest of the territory was taken, now embraced in West Boylston, except the long neck of land extending to the line of Shrewsbury. This neck, which is about a mile wide at its northern end and about one hundred rods at its southern extremity, is about two miles long and covers about one-half of the grant of one thousand acres made to the town of Malden in 1665, by the colonial authorities of Massachusetts, and which is more particularly described hereafter, was added to the said precinct territory, when the town was incorporated in 1808.

It will be thus seen that all that part of the "Shrewsbury leg," lying north of the Quinnepoxet River, now embraced in the limits of this town, and covering the village of Oakdale, has been within the limits of five different towns,—first to Shrewsbury, from 1727 to 1768; then to Lancaster until 1781; then to Sterling, until 1786; then to Boylston, until 1808, when it became a part of West Boylston. Several other portions of the town have been within the limits of four different towns, and there are no portions of it which have not been in three different ones.

The natural scenery of the town is multiform, and in many places somewhat romantic in appearance, as it strikes the eye of a stranger, being diversified with hills and valleys, and in all directions interspersed with streams and springs of water, suited to the needs and wants of its inhabitants. Much of its soil is fertile, and with good management and cultivation well repays the labor of the skillful and industrious husbandman. Legendary history points to the fact that before its occupation by white men it had been peopled by Indians, and many places have been pointed out as the location of their corn-fields and dwellings, its first white settlers often finding specimens of Indian stone implements. The first white persons, of whom we have any history, locating within its territory were Jacob Hinds, Joseph Wooley, Ebenezer Frizzol, Benjamin Bigelow, Jonathan Fairbank, Aaron Newton, Ezekiel Newton, Edward Goodale, Stephen Belknap, William Whitney, Phineas Bennett, Jonathan French, Jonathan Lovell and Josiah Wilder, who came here from older towns below about 1720. These men, with their families, settled in the southeastern part of the town, and to protect themselves from any possible trouble from their Indian neighbors they built a garrison, or block-house, to which they could repair for the night as a place of security when danger was apprehended. This block-

house was situated about forty rods north of the line of the Worcester and Nashua Railroad, and about half a mile from Boylston town line. A well, connected with this fort, is still in excellent preservation, and the outlines of an old cellar are plainly to be seen. Other families soon followed these first spoken of, and within a few years are known to have had settlements in nearly all the parts of the town. There are no accounts that any of these early settlers were troubled by the Indians, and it is not known that any lived within the town limits after its first settlers located here.

The circumstances which finally led to the formation, first, of the Second Precinct, and afterwards of the town, are given in the sketch of the life of Major Ezra Beaman on other pages of this history.

At the time of the incorporation of the town there were in it ninety-eight dwelling-houses and about the same number of families, one hundred and sixty ratable polls and one hundred and five legal voters. There were three school-houses, one church, one cotton-mill, two grist-mills, two saw-mills, one clothiers-mill, one tannery, four blacksmith and one cabinet-maker's shops, two book-binderies, three stores and one tavern. There were sixty farmers, ten or twelve mechanics, several laborers, one clergyman and but one person of foreign birth.

At the first election in West Boylston, held on the first Monday in March, 1808, the following town officers were chosen: Moderator, Silas Beaman; Town Clerk, Robert B. Thomas; Selectmen, Ezra Beaman, Jonathan Plimpton, William Fairbank, Silas Beaman and Amos Lovell; Assessors, Robert B. Thomas, Silas Newton and Moses Perry; Treasurer, Ezra Beaman; Constable, Silas Beaman. At the first election for State officers, in April, 1808, there were eighty-five votes cast for Governor—Christopher Gore had sixty-six; James Sullivan had eighteen; and Levi Lincoln had one.

Since 1840 the candidates for President have received votes as follows in this town: In 1840, Whig, 169; Democratic, 36; Liberty, 17. 1844, Whig, 138; Democratic, 37; Liberty, 66. 1848, Whig, 56; Democratic, 27; Liberty, 201. 1852, Whig, 47; Democratic, 41; Republican, 184. 1856, Whig, 3; Democratic, 27; Republican, 296. 1860, Whig, 5; Democratic, 66; Republican, 326. 1864, Lincoln, 287; McClellan, 48. 1868, Grant, 279; Seymour, 18. 1872, Grant, 300; Greeley, 40. 1876, Hayes, 304; Tilden, 88. 1880, Garfield, 290; Hancock, 51. 1884, Blaine, 231; Cleveland, 110. 1888, Harrison, 221; Cleveland, 88.

The population of the town in 1885 was 2927; voters, 506; valuation, $1,173,443.

The town is made up of seven different villages, West Boylston proper covering the Central, Valley, Lower Factory, Depot and Old Common villages, and comprises about three-fifths of the town, with its outlying farm population. Oakdale, covering the village of Harrisville, makes the other two-fifths of the town. The Worcester and Nashua Railroad passing from south to north, and the Central Massachusetts Railroad passing from east to west through the town, crossing each other's tracks at Oakdale, gives the town full and constant connection of travel to all parts of the country. There are also lines of telegraph and telephone wires connecting with the main lines throughout the continent.

At the time when the precinct was incorporated, by a provision in the act, any persons, with their families, living within its limits, and who did not sign the petition for it and preferred to retain their connection with the old parishes, were allowed to do so by notifying the clerk of said Second Precinct within six months after the passage of the said act. The following-named persons availed themselves of this privilege: Jonas Temple, Jacob Hinds, Thomas Keyes, Thomas Keyes, Jr., Micah Harthan, Elijah Goodnow, Aseal Partridge, and Jesse Dana, of Boylston; Saul Houghton, Joshua Houghton, Jonas Mason and Jonathan Prescott, of Sterling.

At the incorporation of the town in 1808, three of these individuals were allowed to retain their citizenship, and pay taxes on their estates in the old town to which they belonged. They were Jonas Temple and Thomas Keyes, to Boylston, and Jonas Mason, to Sterling; and they tenaciously adhered to the privilege, so liberally granted, until their decease, when their real estate, within the limits, came under the jurisdiction of West Boylston.

The town officers for 1888 were as follows:

Town Clerk, Horatio Houghton; Selectmen, H. E. Morton, D. P. Waite, J. E. Peirce; Assessors, S. P. Hallock, J. E. Peirce, J. L. Howe; Overseers of Poor, Silas Newton, Wm. R. Walker, Francis Merriam; Treasurer, Geo. F. Howe; Collector, F. H. Baldwin; School Committee, Rev. W. W. Parker, Geo. F. Howe, S. S. Russell, J. E. Peirce, S. P. Hallock, J. M. Lord, Henry Boynton, Geo. E. Dana, Warren Howe, E. B. Berry, A. H. Murdock, Geo. B. Newton; Constables, F. H. Baldwin, James Doyle, E. A. Newton; Library Directors, Geo. L. Hyde, H. E. Morton, H. O. Sawyer, Geo. B. Johnson, H. Houghton; Auditor, Geo. L. Hyde.

MODERATORS.—The following persons were severally moderators of the annual March Meeting, for the first fifty years, from 1808 to 1858: Silas Beaman, Silas Newton, Paul Goodale, William Fairbank, Robert B. Thomas, Dr. John M. Smith, Andre Taft, J. F. Fay, E. M. Hosmer, D. C. Murdock, Benj. F. Keyes, J. C. Lovell. Since 1858 the position has been filled by D. C. Murdock, J. C. Lovell, W. N. White, Geo. H. Jefts and Geo. F. Howe, Mr. Howe having presided for twenty-one years.

CHAIRMAN OF SELECTMEN.—The following gentlemen served as chairman of the Board of Selectmen in the years from 1808 to 1858: Ezra Beaman, four years; William Fairbank, one year; John Temple,

six years; Robert B. Thomas, three years; Ezra Bigelow, three years; Joseph Hinds, four years; Francis Davis, one year; Joseph White, four years; Silas Newton, one year; Asa Bigelow, one year; Dennis Harthan, two years; Benj. F. Keyes, two years; Thomas Holmes, one year; E. M. Hosmer, three years; Lotan Cleveland, five years; D. C. Murdock, four years; Addison Lovell, one year; Jonathan Peirce, one year; L. M. Harris, one year; John Prentiss, one year; Samuel Lawrence, one year. Since 1858 the position has been held as follows: Levi Goss, one year; W. N. White, one year; C. H. Baldwin, one year; D. C. Murdoch, five years; E. F. Brigham, four years; W. B. Harris, two years; Stephen Holt, four years; L. M. Harris, one year; S. H. Smith, seven years; S. F. Hemenway, two years; Aaron Goodale, one year; H. E. Morton, two years.

The office of treasurer of the town was held during the first fifty years by the following persons: Ezra Beaman, Ezra Beaman, Jr., Barnabus Davis, Jonathan Plympton, Andre Taft, Francis Davis, John Lees, Seth White, Thomas Holmes, Ezekiel Peirce, A. E. Winter, E. B. Newton, Moses Brigham, Samuel Brown, E. W. Holbrook, Dennis Harthan, Oliver B. Sawyer, who continued to hold the office until 1862. Since that year George F. Howe has served as treasurer 22 years, and Henry A. Sawyer, 5 years.

From 1808 to the present time the office of town clerk has been held by the following persons: Robert B. Thomas, 1 year; Joseph Hinds, 4 years, Ezra Bigelow, 10 years; Francis Davis, 2 years; Seth White, 5 years; Ephraim Bigelow, 7 years; B. F. Keyes, three years; Barney Howe, 10 years; O. B. Sawyer, five years; H. F. Holt, 1 year; Edward Howe, 3 years; H. O. Sawyer, 1 year; H. Houghton, 29 years.

Representatives to the General Court.—The following persons represented the town in the House up to the year 1857, after which the district system went into operation: Ezra Beaman, 4 years; Barnabus Davis, 6 years; Joseph Hinds, 5 years; Robert B. Thomas, 5 years; Silas Newton, 1 year; Thomas White, 1 year; Silas Walker, 1 year; Dennis Harthan, 1 year; B. F. Keyes, 1 year; Levi Pierce, Jr., 1 year; Samuel Brown, 1 year; Brigham Prescott, 3 years; Addison Lovell, 1 year; Amos Child, Jr., 3 years; Eli W. Holbrook, 2 years; E. M. Hosmer, 2 years; O. B. Sawyer, 1 year; D. C. Murdoch, 2 years. The Fourteenth District of Holden, Paxton and this town, was represented in 1859 by Winson N. White; in 1862 by L. M. Harris, and in 1864, by D. C. Murdoch. The Eighth District, of Sterling, Boylston and this town, was represented in 1867 by W. McFarland; in 1870, by Stephen Holt; in 1872, by Rev. J. W. Cross; in 1875, by Geo. F. Howe. The Sixteenth District, of Boylston, Northboro, Shrewsbury and this town, was represented in 1876 by Henry Pierce; in 1880, by H. O. Sawyer; in 1884, by H. Houghton. For the Thirteenth District, composed of seven towns, and entitled to two representatives, H. E. Morton went from this town for two years, 1886 and 1887.

At the date of the incorporation of the town there were within its limits three school-houses. The first year the town voted fifty dollars as an appropriation for schools. In December, 1808, the town voted to "divide the town into four school districts, two south of the river and two north." These houses were located, one near where the present South Schoolhouse stands; the second, about eighty rods northwest of the old Common; the third near the present location of the double house in the Northeast District; and the fourth above the village of Oakdale, or near the house of Pliny W. Stearns. A fifth one was built soon afterwards on "French Hill," at the Lower Factory village. The sixth house was built in 1843, and the seventh and eighth within the next eight years. For several years the town used the schoolroom in "Thomas Hall" for a high school. It was not until after the close of the late Civil War that the town took decided steps to relieve the overcrowded condition of our schools. Four two-story and one single-story house were built, and the town now has fourteen fine school-rooms, several of which have extra recitation and play-rooms attached. There is one high school and one grammar school, both in the same building, which have sessions of about forty weeks in the year. This building has, within the past two years, been much enlarged, with additional recitation and other rooms, making it a model house. A valuable apparatus for illustrations has been collected and is being added to from year to year. A valuable library of scientific, historical, biographical and mechanical works has been started, and now numbers over two hundred volumes.

Besides these two schools, there are three intermediate, one mixed and seven primary schools, holding sessions of thirty-three weeks each during the year.

Previous to 1840 the schools had not probably averaged sessions of more than twenty to twenty-four weeks in the year. To show their gradual increase, a few items are given, and as a further contrast of causes and effects, pauper expenses for the same years are given.

In 1810 the town made an appropriation of $150 for schools. In 1840 the sum was $600. In 1888 the appropriation was $5000. In 1810 the town appropriated for the support of paupers $290. In 1840 the amount was $500, and in 1888 the sum was $2000.

The population of the town in 1810 was about 600, in 1840 about 1600, and in 1888 about 2950.

The Public Town Library was established in 1878. Previous to that year some individuals had endeavored to start an interest in such an institution, but up to that time no action had been taken by the town in the matter. To David Childs, of Wayland, a native

of the town, and his widow, Lydia Maria Childs, are we indebted for the starting influence which finally established this valuable addition to the town's property. Mr. Childs, in his will, left the sum of one hundred dollars for the town library of his native town, supposing no doubt that the town had one. His widow, who was the executrix of the will, proposed to pay this sum over to trustees provided the town would take steps to establish a library. She afterwards added a collection of about one hundred volumes to this bequest. By individual efforts and several other donations, with an appropriation by the town of six hundred dollars, the sum of over twelve hundred dollars was raised, and the institution was successfully started on a small scale. Since that year it has constantly grown, and at the present time has a valuable collection of over three thousand volumes. It has a fine, large room, as a book and reading-room, large enough for its needs for many years to come.

The vital statistics of the town since its incorporation are as follows: The number of births for the first fifty years, from 1808 to 1858, were 1694; from 1858 to 1888, 2554, making the whole number 4248. The number of marriages from 1808 to 1858 were 693; from 1858 to 1888, 1236, making the whole number 1929. The number of deaths from 1808 to 1858 were about 1100; from 1858 to 1888, 1549, making the whole number 2649. This does not include the statistics for 1888.

Over the large streams the town has five bridges. Of these, one is built of stone, with three arches, over the Nashua River at the Valley village, and was built in 1856 at a cost of about four thousand dollars. The river at this point rendered it difficult to build a permanent structure, owing to curves in the banks and of quicksands at the bottom. Much expense has been laid out since the bridge was built, in walling the banks and in flagging the bottom of the river. It is now considered a substantial and enduring structure, likely to withstand all action of the water for centuries to come. This bridge is known as the "Beaman Bridge," and is the lowest one on the river.

The next one above, at the Central village, is an iron bridge of one hundred feet span, built in 1875, at a cost of about three thousand dollars, and is considered a strong and substantial structure. This bridge is also over the Nashua River.

The third bridge is over the Stillwater River at Oakdale, and was built in 1879, of fifty feet span, and another of the same span was built over the Quinnepoxet River, at Harrisville, in 1880. Both these bridges are of iron, and believed to be strong and durable ones, certainly great improvements over the old wooden bridges of former times.

The fifth bridge is a wooden one over the Quinnepoxet River in Harrisville. It has been built but a few years, but shows evidence that it must be replaced ere many more years pass.

During the past five years the town has made two decided improvements to their streets—first, by naming and erecting the signs at the principal crossings, and second, by putting up of lamps for lighting the streets by night, on all the streets of the villages.

There are in the town a Masonic Lodge, one of Odd Fellows, a Grand Army Post, a Grange of Husbandry, a Council of Royal Arcanum and five different religious societies.

A Masonic Lodge, "The Boylston," was instituted in this town March 8, 1876, and has kept in good condition to the present time. A very neat and pretty lodge-room was fitted up for its use over the Baptist Church, where all its meetings are held.

The Centennial Lodge of Odd Fellows was organized here October 24, 1876, and holds its meetings also in the Masonic Hall. This hall was formerly a difficult one about getting an easy access to; but by the remodeling of the church, a few years since, the way to it was made much more easy, and possibly access to a membership to the two lodges has also become less difficult.

A "Grand Army Post" was organized here soon after the close of the war,—the "George D. Wells Post, No. 28,"—and has been kept in a flourishing condition ever since. An auxiliary society, "the Ladies' Relief Corps," was connected a few years since, and the two societies are doing a large amount of relief work for soldiers and their families. They have a very neat and convenient hall for their use, located at the Valley station.

A Grange, No. 106, was instituted here a few years ago, and has kept up a good-working lodge,—holds its regular meetings with full numbers and no abatement in the interest manifested at the time of its start. Thomas Hall has been fitted up for its use.

Beaman Council, No. 964, Royal Arcanum, was instituted here in 1887, and holds its regular meetings in the Grand Army Hall.

The first church (Congregational) in the territory now West Boylston was formed in 1796, consisting of thirty-three members, embracing widely different opinions relative to religious doctrines. The majority favored Arminian sentiments, while a minority were decidedly Calvinistic. Rev. William Nash, the first minister, favored the Arminian side, and on that account was opposed by the minority, who were never satisfied with his preaching. In 1802 religious conference meetings were originated and regularly held once a month by a respectable portion of the church, the meetings being open to all who wished to participate in them. "Mr. Nash, although urged to participate, refused to favor or in any way afford aid and assistance in their maintenance, the majority of the church also refusing any assistance or countenance therein."

In 1809 the first religious revival in this town occurred, and continued with great interest for several months. It caused much excitement and severe opposition, although a large portion of the people were

favorably affected thereby. The meeting-house of this society had been built in 1794, and "was dedicated to the service and worship of God January 1st, 1795," the sermon on the occasion being preached by Rev. Daniel Grosvenor, of Paxton. Several candidates were successively heard, and it was not until March, 1797, when the call was extended to Mr. Nash to settle. He was a graduate of Yale College and a native of Williamsburg, Mass. He was not ordained until October 11, 1797, with a stipulated salary of $333.33. Mr. Nash understood that a portion of the society was opposed to his becoming its minister, and in his letter of acceptance he wrote regretting "the want of unanimity," and further says: "Those gentlemen to whom my services have not been as acceptable as I could wish, I respect." "In acting agreeably to their own best judgment, they have exercised a right which belongs to every Christian, and ought not, on that account, to receive the censure or dissatisfaction of any." This opposition to Mr. Nash seemed for a while to remain dormant, but was never extinguished, and in 1812 it became so great that an attempt was made to dismiss him. In 1814 his health became seriously impaired, rendering him unable to preach or discharge parochial duties. In 1815 he was dismissed at his own request. Mr. Nash had purchased the large farm in the south part of the town, which had been known as the "David Childs Place," where he continued to reside to the time of his decease, in 1829, aged sixty years. Mr. Nash married Elizabeth Doubleday in 1801. One son and a daughter—Charles and Elizabeth—are still living in the city of Worcester.

After the dismission of Mr. Nash various candidates preached here, but it was not until December, 1820, that Rev. John Boardman, from Newburyport, was invited to settle by a vote of sixty-five to twenty-eight, and he was ordained February 28, 1821, with an annual salary of five hundred dollars. In 1834 Mr. Boardman was dismissed at his own request, and he afterwards settled in East Douglas, where he died in 1842. It was during the pastorate of Mr. Boardman that the meeting-house on the old Common, the first one built, was burned in 1831. Mr. Boardman, with a majority of the church, being of the Calvinistic faith, left that location and built the brick house on the north side of the river, where the church and society have since continued to worship.

In September, 1834, Rev. Elijah Paine, a native of Ashfield, Mass., and who had been a settled minister at Claremont, N. H., accepted an invitation to settle over this church and society, and was installed November 3d, of that year, at a salary of six hundred dollars. Mr. Paine died here very suddenly September 14, 1836, aged thirty-eight years.

In 1837 Rev. Brown Emerson was ordained as Mr. Paine's successor, at an annual salary of six hundred dollars. He was dismissed at his own request November 6, 1839.

Rev. Joseph W. Cross, who had been settled in Boxboro', Mass., was installed over this church and society March 11, 1840, at an annual salary of seven hundred dollars. He remained as pastor until March 16, 1859, when he was dismissed. Mr. Cross still remains a citizen of the town, having just passed the eightieth anniversary of his birth, being active and vigorous for one of his age. Mr. Cross has been followed by Rev. Messrs. H. M. Hitchcock, James H. Fitts, Wilbur Johnson, William W. Parker, Francis J. Fairbanks and Millard F. Hardy, who is the present pastor.

The Baptist Church and Society can date their origin back about eighty years, or about the year 1810, from which time the denomination has gradually increased to the present time. They formed their first society organization in 1813, but had no regular preaching until 1819, when a church was organized of about fifty members. Their first minister was Rev. Nicholas Branch, who has been followed by Rev. Messrs. Allen Hough, C. C. P. Crosby, Abiel Fisher, Joseph G. Binney, Lorenzo O. Lovell, Sewell S. Cutting, Leonard Tracy, Kazlett Arvine, Timothy C. Tingley, Zenas P. Wild, George R. Darrow, J. M. Follett, Charles F. Holbrook, Edwin Bromley, George Colesworthy, Isaac Sawyer, Alvan M. Crane, J. W. Brigham and L. W. Frink, who is the present pastor.

For several years this society worshipped in a small church, located in what is now the village of Oakdale. Their present meeting-house was built in 1832. About five years since this house was entirely remodeled, the old pews taken out, new windows put in, and the whole inside changed, making the house very neat, pretty and convenient. At the present time the society is engaged in building a parsonage-house in near proximity to their meeting-house.

The Methodist Society began to hold meetings here, first in different halls, then in the meeting-house of the Liberal Society, on the old Common, then in Freedom Hall at Oakdale. In 1858 they built their present neat and convenient house at Oakdale, and have, up to this day, maintained a strong and flourishing society. In 1854 Rev. David Higgins was their pastor. He has been followed by Rev. Messrs. J. H. Gaylord, I. B. Bigelow, J. W. Coolidge, S. J. Abbott, Daniel Atkins, Burtis Judd, Walter Wilkie, Wm. P. Blackmer, L. A. Bosworth, William Pentacost, William Gordon, Elias Hodge, C. A. Merrill, Wm. J. Hambleton and S. L. Rogers, who is now the pastor.

The Liberal Congregational Society was an outcome from the first religious society formed in town. There had all the time, from the first starting of that society in 1794, been in it several grades of belief, and when the first meeting-house was burned, by being struck by lightning, August 23, 1831, a permanent separation occurred.

The Calvinistic portion built the present brick house at the Valley, and the remaining portion organized a Unitarian Society and rebuilt a neat and

pretty house nearly on the spot where the old one was burned. This house, together with the brick and the Baptist house, were all completed in 1832. After this time the society never settled a minister, but for several years employed different clergymen, both of Unitarian and Universalist sentiments, to supply their pulpit. In 1859 Rev. J. H. Willis, Universalist, came here and preached until 1862, when, principally owing to many of its members going into the army, the meetings were discontinued and Mr. Willis removed to Worcester. With this exception the society had had no stated preaching for over thirty-five years. Other denominations have used the house for a few months at a time, and the society has kept up its organization to the present time by the annual choice of parish officers. The house stands in by far the best location for a public building of any one in town, fronting, as it does, on a public common.

The Catholic Society was formed here some thirty years since, and just before the Civil War built their first house of worship. For several years they had no resident pastor, priests from abroad supplying for their needs until about 1873, when Rev. Father Anthony J. Derbuel came here and remained until his decease, May 21, 1886, aged forty-nine years. He was a very genial and intelligent man, a native of France, and was liked by every one making his acquaintance. The next year Rev. Father Daniel F. Feehan came, and remained until November, 1888, when he removed to Fitchburg. Rev. Father J. V. Campeau has located here as his successor. The first church built by this society had only a seating capacity of about three hundred, and they, having outgrown its size in 1882, built their present large and commodious house near the Baptist meeting-house, it being much the largest church building in the town.

For the past year meetings have been held by the Episcopalians in a hall at the Valley, and it is said there is some talk of building and forming a permanent society here in the near future.

The town is favored with a large water-power, afforded by two streams which unite in this town, and form the south branch of the Nashua River. The first of these is the Quinnepoxet River, coming from the west through Holden, and on this stream are situated three cotton-mills and a small shoddy-mill, described hereafter.

The second stream is the Stillwater River, flowing from the north through Sterling, on which are situated the cotton-mills of the West Boylston Manufacturing Company, the most extensive one within the town. At a short distance below these mills the two streams unite, and after flowing for about two miles enter the town of Boylston. On the main river at the central village is a cotton-mill on one side of the stream and a large grist-mill on the other. About sixty rods below the last mill, the water is turned into an artificial canal and carried nearly half a mile to a large artificial basin or pond, creating the power to operate the extensive works of the Clarendon Mills, the water then flowing through a canal for about a mile before it again unites with the main river. Besides the power afforded by these large streams, there is a small stream called "Malden Brook," on which there are at present two small privileges—the first operating machinery for making excelsior and also some basket machinery; the second, a saw and shingle-mill, being the only one now operated by water-power in the town. Many years since, there was another small mill on this stream used for mechanical purposes, which was burned. On this privilege no mill has since been erected. Still another mill was erected and used for making shoddy for a few years, when it was burned, about twelve years since, and about the same time a freshet carried away the dam, and although some attempts have been made to rebuild, no work has been started up to the present time. Many years since there was a small privilege operating a small mill on Gates Brook for various mechanical work, but mill and dam were torn away about twenty years ago. Another small power was obtained by carrying the water by a canal from this brook about half a mile to the Brimhall Place, on Worcester Street, but this establishment disappeared several years ago.

The first cotton-mill to be described is that of Samuel R. Warfield, on the Quinnepoxet River, and near the line of Holden. On this privilege a saw-mill had been erected, and operated for about forty years. In 1868 Mr. Warfield, having bought the mill and other buildings, with the farm connected, put up a small building of wood, with machinery of 1500 spindles capacity, which was ready and put in operation for the manufacture of satinet warps the same year, employing about fifteen hands. This was intended as merely a temporary arrangement, as the first building was so built and arranged as to be easily changed into tenements at any time when a larger factory building of brick should be erected. In 1881 this contemplated work was done; the dam was raised, so as to increase the capacity of the pond, and a brick mill, of two stories, with the dimensions of 120 by 70 feet, was finished in 1882. Its capacity is 3200 spindles, and used for the manufacture of yarn and satinet warps, employing twenty-seven hands and using about 700 bales of cotton during a year. Mr. Warfield also erected, about the same time, a small shoddy-mill, on the wasteway below the first mill, which was burned in 1885. It was immediately rebuilt, and has been run most of the time since, giving employment to about three men.

The second cotton-mill is also on the Quinnepoxet River, and is a substantial building of stone, with brick trimmings, finished and put in operation in October, 1874, by L. M. Harris & Company. The dam for this mill was built the previous year, the whole making a new establishment, has the capacity of 5540 spindles, and it is known as the "Whiting

Mill." The third mill, on the same stream, is also owned by L. M. Harris & Company, and is of the capacity of 3790 spindles, and is known as the Harris Mill. They are used for the manufacture of light sheetings and shoe drills, using about 1200 bales of cotton yearly, and employing about 100 hands. The water-power of the two mills is rated at 213 horse-power, and within the past few years the owners have put in steam-engines of 125 horse-power, enabling them to run all their machinery at such times as water may fail. At the point where the last-named mill now stands, a saw-mill was built by Henry Holt, about sixty years ago. After a few years he enlarged his building, and put in machinery for making cotton yarn. In 1845 the Messrs. Harris bought the mill, farm and houses, and continued the manufacture of yarn for about two years. In 1847 they commenced the manufacture of cloth, and followed it until 1853, when the mill was burned. This building was of wood. Steps were at once commenced for rebuilding, and the present building of stone, on a larger scale than the one burnt, was finished, the machinery all in and was put in operation in just one year after the fire. At the time when the Messrs. Harris came here, in 1845, there were only the mill and two houses at this point. Now, in connection with the two mills, there are about twenty-five houses, several of them being tenement houses, the whole making what is known as the village of Harrisville.

The fourth establishment for the manufacture of cotton goods is situated in the village of Oakdale, on the Stillwater River, and is owned and operated by an incorporated company, known as the West Boylston Manufacturing Company, and it is much the largest establishment in the town, being of the capacity of 17,000 spindles, employing 375 persons, and using about 4,000 bales of cotton yearly in the manufacture of various fine cotton goods or fabrics.

The company was first incorporated in 1814 for the making of wire and cotton goods. The manufacture of wire was never started, and it would seem that no business was very energetically entered into, as the company charter was lost by neglecting to make the annual choice of officers. Up to this time the mill had been only a small one, built of wood. In 1823 the company was re-chartered and commenced the building of their first brick mill, finishing it in 1824.

In 1825 the first looms for weaving cloth were put into the mill, after which time all the several parts of the work of making cloth was done by machinery, and the business proved very successful for several years. About the last of the year 1839 the mill was completely destroyed by fire. In 1840 the mill was rebuilt on about the same scale and capacity. In 1868 the company built a dam of great strength and several feet higher than the old one, increasing their pond to several times its previous capacity and increasing greatly their water-power, and built an additional mill of stone. On September 7, 1871, the whole establishment was destroyed by fire, being the most disastrous fire which has ever occurred in the town. The company rebuilt the present mill in 1872. The company, during the late Civil War, changed a part of their works and made the manufacture of army blankets a very successful business. After the war they used five setts of woolen machinery in making satinets. At present nothing but cotton goods are made, and the company have commenced putting in foundations for quite an extensive addition to the main part of the mill. Besides the mills, the company owns thirty-two houses, many of them large tenement houses, a large brick store-house, store, barns, etc. Besides the waters of the Stillwater River, this company controls the waters of the Quinnepoxet River by a dam built below Harrisville, which turns the water into a canal by which it is carried into their large pond. The company also control the waters from the Washacum Lakes in Sterling, the waters of which can be raised about four feet above their natural level by a short dam, and thus creating a large reservoir, to be drawn from in time of low water. The company have also a large steam-engine for use when needed to increase their motive-power. Another great addition made to their facilities for dealing with fires was the building of a large reservoir for holding water, of the capacity of 60,000 gallons, situated on a hill much higher than their building, which is kept constantly full by pumping, and can be used at a few moments' warning in extinguishing fires in any part of their buildings, or of the village of Oakdale.

The fifth cotton-mill is situated on the Nashua River at the Central Village, and on the south side of the stream. This is the mill of E. W. Holbrook, which has a capacity of three thousand six hundred and forty-eight spindles, and employs fifty hands. On the north side of the stream is the large grist-mill of Edward A. Cowee, each party owning one-half of this privilege and power.

In the place where the cotton-mill now stands, a saw-mill was first erected several years before the incorporation of the town, and was one of the saw-mills in use at that date. A few years afterwards Ezekiel Peirce and his brother erected here a scythe-factory, putting in the first trip-hammer used in this section. This trip-hammer, with its noise and operation, for a long time was a wonder not only to the people within hearing of it, but often brought strangers from a distance to witness its wonderful performances. This scythe-factory was run until 1831, when Dr. John M. Smith and Ephraim Bigelow bought out the works and erected a small cotton-mill, which they put into operation the following year. Mr. Bigelow had previously made cotton yarn in a room over the saw-mill for several years previous to that date. Mr. Bigelow was a man of considerable mechanical ingenunity, and it was while here that was first started the germ of the remarka-

ble machines afterwards perfected by his two sons, Erastus B. and Horatio N., after their removal to Clinton (then Lancaster), about 1836, for the weaving of coach lace, counterpanes, carpets, etc.

In 1841 these mills passed into the hands of Mr. Holbrook and Oliver Eldridge, and they were run under the superintendence of Mr. Holbrook until January 9, 1848, when they were entirely destroyed by fire.

Nothing was done towards rebuilding until 1853. In that year Mr. Holbrook erected the first part of the present mill, starting it into operation the following year, in company with L. M. Harris, making light cotton sheetings, and continuing their successful manufacture up to the present time. He has, from time to time, made additions and improvements in buildings and machinery, until both are of about double their capacity from the time of their starting. He put in an engine of seventy-five horse-power in 1883.

Within the past five years Mr. Holbrook has also built a large reservoir of thirteen thousand five hundred gallons capacity above his building, to which water is pumped and kept constantly filled to be used in cases of fire. Its great utility was remarkably demonstrated during the past year, when, the grist-mill on the opposite side of the river getting on fire, with little prospects of any part of the buildings or contents being saved, the attachment of hose to this reservoir and running the same to the mill sufficed in a few minutes to subdue the flames and save nearly the whole contents of the buildings.

On the north side of the stream was erected both a grist-mill and a clothier's mill previous to or about 1761. The river at this point at that date was no doubt the dividing line between Lancaster and Shrewsbury. Micah Harthan, according to the military record of Lancaster, was engaged as a soldier in the expedition against Ticonderoga in 1758, and on his return from that unfortunate expedition no doubt engaged in the running of the two small mills at this point, and probably they were built by him. They have been widely known as the Harthan Mills, and were owned for nearly a century by the Harthans, the sons and grandsons of Micah.

Micah Harthan was born probably in Marlboro' in 1735. In the time of the Revolution his name does not appear among those enrolled as subject to do military duty, it probably being considered that his business as a clothier was of too much importance to take him away from it. He died in 1803, when the business of the grist-mill went to his son David. Both the grist and clothier's mills were burned in 1801. A new grist-mill on improved plans was erected at once, and a small fulling-mill was also built and run for a number of years by Oliver Moore, who ran this mill until his death in 1831. It was afterwards used for a few years by Samuel Flagg & Co. as a machine-shop. In 1842 Charles M. Harris came here from Rhode Island, and in company with Mr. Wilder used this mill for the business of making cotton-yarn, which was continued until 1847, when this and the grist-mill were burned. At the time of this fire machinery had been put in the upper story of the grist-mill for making twine and wicking; both this and the grist-mill being run by Childs & Dinsmore.

The cotton-mill was never rebuilt, and for about three years nothing was done towards rebuilding the grist-mill. During this time a run of stones was put into the machine shop of Mr. Holbrook, on the opposite side of the river, by James E. Wood, who run it until the new mill on the old site was started in 1851. In 1850 Mr. Ruel G. Cowee came here from Gardner and built the present mills, which have the best reputation for making flour and grinding all kinds of grain of any mill in the region.

For several years the upper story of the mill was used for mechanical purposes, making weather-strips &c., but for the last twenty years the whole of the first buildings, with many additions, have been used for the greatly increased business. Mr. Cowee died October 5, 1882, since when the business has been carried on by his grandson, E. A. Cowee.

The sixth establishment, or cotton-mill, is what is now known as the "Clarendon Mills," situated at what is known as the Lower Factory village. The waters of the Nashua River at this point were turned into a canal and carried about half a mile from their natural course into a large artificial basin, and, after driving the machinery of this mill, flow in a canal about a mile before again uniting with the main stream. This work was first started by Major Ezra Beaman about 1793, to operate a saw and grist-mill. The saw-mill remained in operation until about 1872. The grist-mill was in a few years removed, and the first cotton-mill was started in the town; just the date of its starting cannot be learned, but it had been in operation several years before the incorporation of the town, in 1808. Up to 1819 nothing had been done beyond making yarn by machinery. All of the weaving had been done by hand-work on the old looms, worked by females at their homes, and yarn from this mill was carried many miles away from the mills, was woven in the looms by the fireside of many a country home and returned as cloth to the mill. In 1819 twelve looms were put into operation in this mill, and from that date there was a rapid increase or growth of the cotton manufacture in this town, and which made it the leading industry, as it will long continue the leading one of the town. About that date a company was incorporated for this mill, under the name of the "Beaman Manufacturing Company," and continued its existence until 1873.

In 1847 and '48 the company enlarged the capacity of their pond or basin to more than double its first condition, removing the old wooden building, working it over into several tenements, and built the main part of the present mills of brick. This was only one

story above the basement. The two wings, of two stories—also of brick—were added in 1854. In 1874 a change was made in the ownership, and the company was reorganized under the name of the "Clarendon Mills." This mill has a large steam-engine attached, of sufficient power to run one-half of the machinery in times of low water, or when otherwise needed. In 1881 they added a building for a bleachery of thirty-two by sixty feet, and two stories high, thus enabling them to finish the goods made ready for the market. They manufacture at present counterpanes, sheetings, corset-jeans and sateens, making ladies' fine dress goods from Nos. 30 to 50 yarn. The mills are of the capacity of 10,950 spindles, and give employment to one hundred and ninety operatives. For many years they have been under the superintendence of Mr. George M. Lourie as resident agent. They are delightfully situated in what has ever proved to be a very healthy part of the town; and, with its pretty pond, buildings and avenues lined and shaded by several varieties of trees, many of them planted near a century since, it presents to the eye a view both beautiful and romantic. Passing travelers, at about sunset of a pleasant day, often remark this pleasing appearance as their eyes take in this view from the upper railroad station in this town. A pleasing item in connection with these mills is worth recording. Miss Parney Underwood began work in them in 1822, and worked constantly for a period of about sixty-three years. She has not worked in them for three years past, but still remains hale and vigorous for one of her age.

Next to the cotton manufacture, the bottoming of boots has for many years been the leading industry of the town. This business had become one of importance in 1842, at which time there was probably about two or three hundred pairs of boots bottomed per day for Worcester manufacturers, in this town. This business continued to increase until, a few years before the Civil War, there were over two thousand pairs of boots so bottomed daily for Worcester parties, and continued with about the same amount of work until about ten years ago, when the business began to decrease, and now but few boots are bottomed here for Worcester men.

In the year 1850 a boot manufactury was erected near the upper railroad station in this town, and was in operation about twenty-three years, making some fifty cases of boots per day. Since 1875 it has been vacant. In 1856 another establishment was started on the north side of the river, making from fifty to one hundred cases per day until January 23, 1866, when the shop was burned.

A still larger shop was erected the same season, and steam-power was added. After that time they increased their business, making some seasons as many as two hundred cases per day up to 1878. Since that time a much smaller number of boots has been made in this shop, but the business has been regularly carried on.

About 1860 an establishment was commenced at Oakdale for the manufacture of ladies' shoes, employing some twenty hands, with steam-power. This business was continued until 1878, when the shop was closed. Since that year the shop was used, a year or more, for making men's shirts. The business was afterward moved to Leominster.

In former years the manufacture of grain-cleaning and fanning mills was carried on here to a small extent.

The manufacture of hand-made oak baskets has been carried on in this town for more than seventy years. Formerly a two-bushel basket was as large as was made or wanted. Now they are made of the capacity of thirty bushels for factory use, and machinery is used to work out some of the larger parts of the baskets. At this time from ten to twelve persons are employed in this business.

The manufacture of school apparatus was begun here over sixty years ago, and a few years afterwards the manufacture of a small machine called a "Warper Stop Motion" was begun by the same parties, and carried on until about one year ago, when the business was removed to Clinton. The making of school apparatus had been given up for many years previously.

Another business followed for the past twenty-five years has been the manufacture of whatnots, brackets, and a variety of house ornaments, in which both steam and water-power have been used. The same parties have built a few church and parlor organs within a few years.

A steam mill, for sawing lumber, planing and matching boards, and the manufacture of packing-boxes, was started at Oakdale about five years since, and employs five or six men all the year.

The following histories of individuals are of those men who have for their lifetime been connected with the growth and prosperity of the town, and to whose energy, thrift and plans it owes its existence and present standing:

Ezra Beaman, Esq., more generally known as Major Beaman, was the eldest son of Jabez Beaman, and was born in Bolton, October, 1736. The father, having purchased a large tract of land, removed here with his family in 1746, where he lived until his death in 1757. Major Beaman then became proprietor of the homestead and began that career of usefulness and success which contributed so much to the formation of the town. In 1758 he married Persis, daughter of Deacon Cyprian Keyes, of Shrewsbury, with whom he lived about thirty years. She died in 1788, leaving six children—Jabez, Ezra, Levina, Persis, Betsey and Eunice. He afterward married Mary Boylston, of Charlestown, who survived him and died June 6, 1813, aged sixty-two years.

Major Beaman was endowed by nature with a strong mind, possessing a remarkable spirit of enterprize, together with great energy and resolution,

which enabled him to devise and execute various schemes and plans, not only for his own prosperity, but also for the interest and advantage of the community around him. His designs seldom failed to result auspiciously and in accordance with his desires and anticipations. He possessed and held a large amount of real and personal property, thereby constituting him by far the wealthiest man of the then inhabitants of the town. He was not only an active, leading man in his own vicinity, but sustained a prominence and wielded an extensive and controlling influence in the community at large. Whenever a project of a public nature, having the benefit of the community as its object, was originated and brought up for consideration, he was the first to be consulted as to its importance and practicability, when his judgment and expressed opinions generally had the effect to cause the adoption of the scheme or its rejection and abandonment, thus clearly demonstrating and unmistakably manifesting the high estimation in which he was held by the leading portion of his fellow-citizens for his practical wisdom and sound judgment. Many of the public roads in this vicinity were projected by him, and although it has been handed down that he met with a strong and determined opposition, time has shown that most of these highways were located where they have proved to be of the most advantage to the after-growth of the town and county. Major Beaman was a patriot, a firm and ardent friend to his country, being one of the active and unflinching spirits of the American Revolution. He early took a decided stand against tyranny and oppression, taking up arms in favor of the rights of his country, marching to the battle-field to resist the encroachments of the enemy. He was with the American army at Cambridge in 1775, and performed a conspicuous part during that memorable period. He was ever ready to render aid and assistance in any emergency, not only by his influence, but when circumstances required, he promptly devoted his time, his property and his personal exertions for the purpose of sustaining and pushing forward the arduous struggle for American independence. It would seem that he was one with many others who had virtually pledged their lives, their property and their sacred honors in favor of obtaining liberty, justice and equal rights for themselves and their posterity.

In looking back and judging at this day, it seems to the writer that the leading trait in his mind and character was thoroughness and durability—everything was done to last for many generations.

He began in early life to set, in and along the highways adjacent to his own lands, a variety of shade trees,—elms, maples, buttonwoods and others. One of these buttonwood trees, set when he was thirteen years of age, is now an enormous one of its kind, measuring at its base over twenty-two feet in circumference. The many trees set by him now form one of the great beauties of our town, especially of that part of it in and around what are now the grounds of the Clarendon Mills corporation. In the highway, and against lands formerly owned by the Beamans, stands an enormous "White Oak" tree, which must be now several centuries old. Tradition says it was an ancient boundary tree, some believing that it was on the line of the extension of Lancaster in 1711, and of the Davenport farm. Certainly Major Beaman made it a boundary tree in selling land, and having the wish to preserve and insure its existence against the axe of any future vandal, he filled its trunk with large spikes, driving many pounds of iron into it. This tree is still thrifty and growing, and measures around its base twenty feet eight inches, and at six feet from the ground about fifteen feet in circumference.

In 1764, Major Beaman built the large and commodious dwelling-house on what is now called East Main Street, at the Valley, in this town. This house was built in a thorough and substantial manner, of the best materials, and was at the time, no doubt, one of the best houses in its vicinity. It was designed for a public-house and, as a remarkable fact, it was kept as such by the two Ezra Beamans for about a century.

About sixteen years since, the main part of this establishment, being in the way of the line of one of our streets, was moved about thirty rods away and fitted up as a separate house; all of its timbers being sound and in good condition, it promises to last another century if properly cared for. The large "Ell" of the old house was fitted up in its old location and makes a good substantial farm-house. One of the barns, eighty feet in length, has also been moved across the street and fitted up for tenement-houses, and thus changing very much the appearance of the old place.

Another feature of the old place was a large stone watering trough, erected over a century ago by Major Beaman, supplied by an aqueduct leading from a spring about forty rods away, with a constant stream of cool water, coming from an iron spout in a stone column towering above the trough, on which was ever found hung a dish from which the traveler could slake his thirst. This trough has been moved from its former location across the street, and still remains as a noted resort for thirsty horses and other beasts, but the old time "dipper" for man's use has long been missing.

To Major Beaman is the town indebted, more than to all others, for its existence as a town. The inhabitants of Boylston having decided to build a new meeting-house, a difficulty arose in regard to its location. The majority were in favor of building near the location of the old house, while a large minority, led by Major Beaman, wished to build about half a mile northwest of the old house, and nearer the centre of the territory of the town. It becoming apparent that no compromise could be effected, the minority

seceded and built a new house on what is now known as the "old Common" in West Boylston, in 1793 and 1794, and petitioned the Legislature for an act of incorporation as a town. In this effort they were joined by persons both from the towns of Sterling and Holden. Each of the three towns strongly opposed the movement, and it was defeated. They then applied for incorporation as a precinct, or parish, and this was granted in June, 1796, and it was made the "Second Precinct of Boylston, Sterling and Holden." In the survey, by Silas Holman, of the territory at the time of the first application, 4075 acres were claimed as being in Boylston, 2367 acres in Sterling, 3646 acres in Holden and 1392 acres in Worcester. The petition for a separate precinct was signed by forty-three voters of Boylston, twenty-three from Sterling, nineteen from Holden and three from Worcester. The act of incorporation did not include any of the territory from Worcester. At a meeting held by these people, December 17, 1792, it was first decided to build a meeting-house, and in order to raise funds for the purpose, it was voted to sell the projected number of pews at auction, and sixty-six pews were thus sold for the amount of $1938.25. Of these, Major Beaman bid off thirty-one. At an adjourned meeting, held February 4, 1793, it was decided "to build a belfry to their house," and on the 13th, 14th and 15th days of June, 1793, the frame of the house was raised. About this time Major Beaman proposed that, for the amount realized for the pews sold, and the ownership of those unsold, he would finish the house. The language of the record gives this account of the result:

"This" proposition "was agreed to, and within the term of about eighteen months from the time it was raised he accomplished the work in a very decent and faithful manner, and at an expense far exceeding any pecuniary compensation which he can expect or hope for in return." Major Beaman also projected and built the dam on the Nashua River, with the canal, of near a half-mile in length, into which the water is turned and taken to the artificial pond, now owned and used by the Clarendon Mills Company, making it one of the most valuable water-powers in the town. On this he erected a grist-mill and a saw-mill, which were used as such until after his death. At the incorporation of the town, in 1808, Major Beaman, at the meeting held the first Monday in March, was chosen chairman of the Board of Selectmen and treasurer. He was also chosen as the town's first Representative to the General Court, and he was, each following year, re-elected to these offices, holding them to the time of his death, June 4, 1811, in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

At his death all of his children were living, and his property was equally divided, after his widow's dower was set off. She only survived him about two years, when all of his property came into the possession of his children. Jabez, his eldest son, who left no issue, died in 1812, about one year after his father. In the settlement of the real estate left by Major Beaman, three commissioners, consisting of Silas Holman, of Bolton, with James Longley and Jotham Bush, of Boylston, were appointed to appraise and divide the real estate, and by a reference to their report, the following facts are gathered. There were twelve parcels of real estate, consisting of 819 acres, with buildings, all valued at $35,765; thirty pews in the meeting-house on the old Common, valued at $1212; two horse-sheds, $48, and one pew in Boylston meeting-house, $30.50. None of this real estate was sold, but after one-third of it was set off as the widow's dower, some parts of it were set off to each of the six children, the largest proportion to Ezra Beaman, Jr., who was to make each one's portion equal by the payment of money. By the death of the widow and of the eldest son, Jabez, within two years after this division, Ezra Beaman, Jr., came into possession of the homestead and the greater proportion of the landed estate, which he held during his long life.

The last Ezra Beaman never married, but lived to the good old age of ninety-two years and seven months, his decease occurring July 24, 1863. In many respects he was like his father, and always seemed to have his father's life and example before him; often quoting his words and telling of his acts, and priding himself in "doing everything just as his father did." He was a generous man, a good and useful citizen, respected and liked by every one. At his death the name of Beaman became extinct in this town. He was the last one of his name, and since that time one thing after another has been changed until very little is left to remind us of the name. A number of years before the death of the last Ezra a movement was started to have the name of the town changed to "Beaman," and by a large majority, at a meeting called to act on the matter, a vote was passed in its favor; but finding that the then only representative of the name was strongly opposed to it, the matter was dropped. The first incorporated cotton-mill in town was for many years known as "The Beaman Manufacturing Company," but in its reorganization, a few years since, it took the name of the "Clarendon Mills." The old farm was cut up and sold to many different parties, leaving only one hundred and forty-five acres, with a remnant of the old buildings, as the only portion of the old place now intact. In naming the streets of the town, three years ago, one short street received the name of "*Beaman.*"

William Thomas was one of the early settlers in this town, on a small farm on what was then called "Shrewsbury Leg," now owned by J. B. F. Prescott, in the village of Oakdale, where he lived until his decease in 1810, aged eighty-five years. He possessed a peculiar relish for literature and science, and devoted much time to reading and study. He had a

peculiar taste for astronomical research and calculation, and this no doubt had a great influence in shaping and forming the character of his eldest son, Robert Bailey Thomas, Esq., born in 1766 and died in 1846, aged eighty years. He resided in the house in Oakdale now occupied by Charles M. Harris. He was a prominent man in the town, was its first town clerk, several times chairman of the Board of Selectmen, represented the town in the State Convention of 1820 for revising the Constitution, and was several years a member of the State Legislature. He was a justice of the peace, and for many years did all the conveyancing and other legal writing for his townsmen. He originated and established the *Farmers' Almanac* in 1793, annually preparing and furnishing the matter for that popular and widely-known manual to the end of his life. He accumulated a large property, and being very liberal and public-spirited, contributed much towards the welfare and growth of the town. He was the largest contributor towards the building of the largest hall in the town, and it was named "Thomas Hall" as a compliment to him. This hall was intended for school and religious purposes, and it has been used by the town for over forty years for all of its public meetings. Mr. Thomas leaving no children, and dying intestate, his property was divided between his widow and two children of a brother. He married Hannah Beaman, of Princeton, who survived him and died in 1855, aged eighty-one years.

Thomas Keyes, Jr., was born in the town April 20, 1802, and died October 30, 1831, aged twenty-nine years. He was the son of Thomas and Lydia Keyes, and grandson of Thomas Keyes, who settled here in 1767. Very early in life he manifested a strong inclination for invention and mechanical work, but as his friends intended and expected that he would lead a farmer's life, those traits were discouraged, and it was not until after his majority that he could devote any time to his natural inclinations. Had he lived a few years longer there is little doubt that he would have achieved a name that would have been a world-wide one. Astronomy was one of his favorite studies, and his great mechanical ingenuity led to the construction of the orrery, an instrument since becoming well known, for the purpose of illustrating the movements of the solar system. It is so simple and easy of management that it has become one of the most valuable instruments in use for the purpose it was intended for. With the orrery, one of his last designs was the construction of an apparatus which was to embrace the Lunarium and Tellurium on a different plan from any then known. Unfortunately, the traces of the designs which he left were so obscure that it was impossible for any one to understand them well enough to complete it. A board on which he had begun to trace these plans was the last work of his life, he being suddenly stricken by the disease from which he never recovered. Another invention of his was a stop-motion, a machine used in the warping of cotton and woolen yarns. This machine was afterward improved and perfected by his brother-in-law, David C. Murdock, and for about half a century was the only machine used for the purpose, and was in use in every cotton-mill in this country and many in Europe.

Mr. Keyes was very much interested in education, and exerted a great influence among his associates in the promotion and sustaining of lyceums and debating societies. It was a leading trait in his character to fully communicate information and especially to explain to others any discoveries he chanced to make.

He married Eveline Murdock April 10, 1827, who died at the age of twenty-four years.

David C. Murdock was born here December 21, 1805, and died October 15, 1886. He was the son of Deacon Artemas Murdock, and spent all of his long and useful life in this town. He was a natural mechanic, and learned the trade, and worked several years as a machinist. About the time of the decease of his brother-in-law, Thomas Keyes, Jr., before spoken of, he engaged in the manufacture of school apparatus and other small machines, made mostly for J. M. Wightman, of Boston, and continued the business until 1868, when his establishment was burned, and losing all his tools, patterns and models, this work was never resumed.

Soon after the death of Mr. Keyes he made improvements on his stop-motion machine, and so perfected it that it had continued to grow in favor until it had been introduced into nearly every cotton-mill in the country. On rebuilding, after the fire in 1868, he gave his whole attention to this machine, and had almost a monopoly of making any machines for tending warping of cotton yarn. Mr. Murdock was a man of much intelligence, and all his life-time exerted a great influence in town and public affairs.

He served many years as chairman of the Board of Selectmen, being in that position during the time of the late Civil War, when his activity and exertion went far towards the town's doing with credit its full share of carrying to success that great struggle. He sent two of his sons into some of the first regiments raised in the county, who served throughout the war, both reaching captain's positions. He served as a representative to the General Court four years, for many years was on the School Board and for nearly all his life, after thirty years of age, he was connected, in some capacity, with the town government. He married Adeline King, also of this town, October 6, 1829, who survived him less than a year. She died June 30, 1887.

Eli W. Holbrook, was born in Rutland, Mass., in 1809, and first came to this town in 1818, when about nine years of age, a poor boy entirely dependent on his own thrift and energy to obtain a living, he being the eldest of several children. His mother,

E. W. Holbrook

with six children, living in Rutland, had, up to this time, supported her family by weaving cotton cloth in a loom worked by hand, at her home, coming or sending to West Boylston for the yarn, and returning the cloth. She removed here in the above year and continued to weave in the hand-loom for about four years, or until the work that was commenced on power-looms in 1819 had increased, in 1822, to such an extent as to do about all of this part of the work. Eli went at once into the mill here and commenced his long life-time connection with the cotton manufacture, which is more fully noted in the history of the different mills in town, on other pages of this history. Mr. Holbrook continued all his life to be one of the leading men in the town. With a genial and kindly disposition he united a large benevolence and public spirit, spending much time and money in improving the public ways, by grading, setting out of trees, and other work thereon. He was a large contributor towards the support of the Gospel and many benevolent institutions, and was ever a leading member of the Congregational Society. His kindly nature ever made him a favorite with all the young folks, and he was ever noted as retaining the services of his employés for long periods of time. He was connected with the town's government for many years, serving as selectman, assessor, and in other positions. He represented the town two years in the Legislature. He was very successful in his business and accumulated a handsome competence. April 30, 1835, he married Miss Adeline Worcester, of this town, with whom he lived over half a century. She died February 5, 1887. He suffered several of the last years of his life from failing eyesight, but otherwise lived an active life until a few weeks before his death, which occurred November 26, 1888, being but a few days short of seventy-nine years of age. He leaves two daughters and five grandchildren.

PHYSICIANS.—Dr. Amariah Bigelow was the first practitioner to settle within the limits of the town. He came here in 1780, and married Persis, daughter of Major Ezra Beaman. He lived on the farm at the south part of the town, which, for long years, has been known as the John Temple farm. He died very suddenly in 1787, leaving a widow and three children. His widow afterwards married John Temple, still remaining on the farm where she began life with Dr. Bigelow until her death, in 1832.

Dr. Uriah Bigelow came here in 1788, and, after remaining a few years, went to Central New York, where he died at an advanced age.

Dr. Nicholas Jenks, from North Brookfield, settled here in 1809. He lived in what is now Oakdale, where he also kept a store. After a stay of ten years he removed to Southbridge.

Dr. John M. Smith settled here in 1819, where he remained fifteen years, when he, too, went to Southbridge, and died there in the meridian of life.

Dr. Jacob Moore settled here in 1828, and died in 1831. He was a young man very much liked by every one, and gave much promise of usefulness in his future career. He married a sister of Dr. John M. Smith.

Dr. Sherman Smith, a brother of Dr. John M. Smith, came here in 1831, and remained for a few years, and then went to Walpole, N. H., where he died suddenly in 1852.

Dr. Samuel Griggs came here in 1832, and stayed here until 1846, when he removed to Westboro', where he afterward died.

Dr. Ephraim Lovell was a native of this town, being a son of Amos Lovell. He began practice here in 1841, and continued until the time of his death, in 1869, although, for the last four years, he was in failing health, and had an assistant. He was a man of a very amiable character, and was greatly beloved by every one who knew him.

Dr. George W. Warren came here as a successor to Dr. Griggs in 1846. He was a graduate of Amherst College, coming here as his first place for practice, and still remains, having followed his profession for more than forty years. Within the past two years he has associated with himself his son, Dr. Ernest L. Warren, a very promising young man in the calling.

Dr. John S. Andrews came here from Sterling, and remained several years previous to 1859, when he sold out and removed from town.

Dr. Franklin L. Hunt came here in 1859 as the successor of Dr. Andrews, and remained until he joined the army in 1862, as elsewhere noted.

Dr. Charles A. Wheeler settled here two or three years before the war, and he, too, went into the army, as noted in the military records.

Dr. Lemuel H. Hammond came here as an assistant to Dr. Lovell in 1866, and removed to Worcester in 1869, where he still has an extensive practice.

Dr. E. C. Peck came here as a successor to Dr. Hammond, and remained until 1882, when he went from town.

Dr. Warren Pierce came here from Sterling about 1873, and remained until 1881, when he removed to Plymouth, where he still remains in the practice of his profession. Dr. Pierce was one of the most skillful physicians who had ever lived in the town.

Dr. William A. Earle came here in 1881, and still remains, having established an extensive practice.

During the past twenty years several French Canadian physicians have come here and remained a few months and then have gone elsewhere.

Three or four others, native-born doctors, have tried the field, but have not succeeded in establishing a foothold, and after a trial of a few months have left the work to the old incumbents.

The accounts of a few individuals who were natives of the town and who received a liberal education, fitting them for a professional life, is here given very briefly.

Ephraim Hinds, son of Benjamin Hinds, was born

in this town (then Shrewsbury), in 1780. He was a lawyer and lived away from town, following his profession until about sixty years of age, when he again came to this town, buying a small farm, on which he lived until his decease, June 18, 1858. He left three sons and one daughter.

John Reed, son of Capt. John Reed, was born here about the year 1800. He was fitted for and entered Harvard College, where he proved himself to be one of the smartest young men of his class. But owing to his great propensity for fun and causing the faculty much annoyance and trouble, his father was notified "that it would be best to take his son away." He, however, had managed to obtain an education ranking him as a great scholar for his age. He followed the business of teaching for several years, being very successful. He left town during the late war and soon after died.

Dr. Ephraim Lovell, son of Amos Lovell, Jr., was born here in 1812. He studied for and fitted himself for a physician. He settled here in 1841, and followed his profession very successfully until his decease in 1869.

Rev. William Murdock, son of Artemas Murdock, was born here in 1812. He was a graduate of Amherst College, and was settled afterwards for several years in the ministry at Candia, N. H. Having a difficulty about his throat which prevented the use of his voice in a great measure, he returned to this town about the year 1852, and went to work for his brother, David C. Murdock, where, from his great natural mechanical ability, he ever seemed as much at home as in the pulpit. He died very suddenly November 13, 1879, aged sixty-six years, four months, ten days, leaving a widow, two sons and one daughter.

Sylvanus Morse, son of Joseph Morse, was born here about the year 1800, received a college education and was the principal of Bradford Academy for several years. He returned to this town, and opened a family school in 1845, and was quite successful for a few years, when he sold out and again left town.

Dr. George W. Peirce, son of Levi Peirce, was born in 1819. He studied medicine and established himself in the town of Leominster about 1845, where he was a successful practitioner for many years. He died in that town in 1885.

Henry F. Harris, born here August 19, 1849, son of Charles M. Harris, graduated from Tufts College, and has been for several years in successful practice as an attorney in Worcester, Mass.

Edward A. Murdock, son of David C. Murdock, was born here May 24, 1854, studied medicine, and first established himself at Waltham, and afterwards removed to Spencer, Mass., where he is in the very successful practice of his calling.

Louis Cutting, born here November 11, 1849, son of John S. Cutting, has for the past two or three years been studying law and is now located in Worcester, where he has been admitted to the bar.

Alfred Lovell, son of Addison Lovel, born December 28, 1851, graduated as a civil engineer at the Technical School in Worcester, about the year 1875, and is now located at Rustic, N. J.

Albert W. Hinds, son of Albert and grandson of Ephraim Hinds, Esq., has recently graduated from Brown University, and is fitting himself for a teacher. He was born in this town November 30, 1864.

Elmer F. Higgins, born January 21, 1862, and Tracy L. Newton, born February 20, 1867, both natives of this town, are now students at Brown University.

David Bigelow Lovell, son of Portland Lovell, born here March 22, 1865, is a student at a medical school in New York City.

Llewellen Drake, born in Maine, and a graduate of our High School in 1885, and Harry L. Peirce, born here November 1, 1870, and was a graduate of the school in 1888, have both entered Colby University, at Waterville, Me.

MILITARY.—One of the first settlers of this town of whom we have any account as having enlisted for any of the military movements was Benjamin Bigelow, who enlisted as a soldier in 1745, in the expedition for the capture and reduction of Louisbourg, then belonging to France, and considered the Gibraltar of America. The capture and possession of this place was regarded at the time as a great achievement, and highly important in its advantages to the British Crown. On his return from this expedition Mr. Bigelow brought with him several articles of iron manufacture, some of which are yet in use on the farm which he then occupied, and which is now in the possession of Thomas N. Keyes.

Ephriam and Ithamar Bennett, sons of Phineas Bennett, one of the earliest settlers of this town, enlisted as soldiers in the army sent to Ticonderoga in 1758, and attempted to capture the fortress at that place. They were in the so-called "Morning Fight," which resulted, after four hours of hard fighting, in a disastrous defeat to the English army, and both of these two young men were killed in the terrible conflict.

At the commencement and during the progress of the war for the American Revolution the inhabitants of the district now comprising the town of West Boylston were zealous and active in all the efforts made to obtain and secure for the Colonies liberty and independence. Major Ezra Beaman was a prominent and leading spirit in this important and patriotic work, and nearly every one around him was also firm and determined in favor of freedom and the rights of the people.

On several special and important occasions the citizen soldiers here turned out, readily leaving their families and business to engage in the service of their country, and that without pay or remuneration, other than the satisfaction of having discharged their duty. During the continuance of the war several men here

enlisted and joined the regular army at different periods, all of whom, with one exception, served out their time, returned home and lived to enjoy the blessings and advantages resulting from the toils and suffering which they had bravely endured. The names of these enlisted men were Ezra Beaman, John Bixby, Joseph Bixby, Zachariah Child, Joseph Dwelley, William Fairbank, Oliver Glazier, Benjamin Hinds, Jr., Jason Hinds, Ebenezer Inglesby, Ebenezer Pike, Paul Raymond, Isaac Smith, John Temple, Nathan Wilder and John Winn.

Of these men, the history of Ezra Beaman is given in another place; of the two Bixbys, no reliable account of their subsequent life can be found. Their father, Samuel Bixby, came from Woburn and settled here about 1750, and both he and his wife died in 1800, since which time no one of the family seems to have lived in the town.

Zachariah Child was born in 1763, being the eldest son of David Child, who was the owner and proprietor of the farm afterwards owned and occupied by Rev. William Nash, the first settled minister here under the precinct formation. Mr. Child was a young soldier, but served with credit, and after an honorable discharge settled on a small farm adjoining his father's, and in 1784 married Lydia, daughter of David Bigelow, of Worcester, and had a large family of children. He died in 1845, aged eighty-one years. His wife survived him and died in 1849, aged eighty-five years. For many of his last years Mr. Child was in the receipt of a pension.

Joseph Dwelley was born in Worcester, and after the war he purchased a farm in this town, the same afterward owned by Dea. James Fiske, which he owned and occupied about forty years, when he sold out and removed to Oakham, where he died in 1840, aged seventy-five years. He enlisted into the army when only fifteen years of age, served faithfully during the last three years of the war, enduring cheerfully many hardships and trials. He was in all the movements which resulted in the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, and received an honorable discharge at the war's close.

William Fairbank was born in 1758, being the youngest son of Jonathan Fairbank. He was a farmer and occupied the farm now owned and occupied by James W. Robbins. He was a man of ability and prominence in the town, being often chosen to offices of trust and responsibility by his fellow-townsmen. During the last years of his life he received a pension from the government. He died here in 1840, aged eighty-one years.

Oliver Glazier was born in 1763, and was the son of John Glazier, of Boylston. In 1785 he married Rachel Hastings, of Boylston. They had ten children, all of whom outlived their parents. His wife died in 1841, when he went to Northboro' to live with his eldest daughter, with whom he continued to live until his decease in 1855, aged ninety-two years, living the longest of any of these soldiers.

Benjamin Hinds, Jr., and Jason Hinds were sons of Benjamin Hinds, and soon after the war are said to have gone to Maine and settled there. They were brothers to Jacob and Joseph Hinds, who both settled in this town and had families, but at the present time there is but one representative of the name in town, Solon Hinds, son of said Joseph Hinds, now over eighty years of age.

Ebenezer Inglesby. The only account we can give of him: is that he settled in this town about 1750, and removed therefrom in 1794. "He married a daughter of Aaron Newton and had a large family of children."

Ebenezer Pike settled in this town about 1760, and died here at an advanced age. "He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and served his country faithfully."

"Paul Raymond was an early settler here, but removed from town previous to 1780." Probably he did not live here after the close of the war.

Isaac Smith was born about 1755, and came to this town soon after the close of the war, when he married Prudence Cutting, and settled on a farm one mile west of the old Common, where he lived until his decease in 1824. Of him it is said "He was a soldier of the Revolution, and performed good service during that memorable struggle; and by the faithful discharge of duty, and the fatigue and hardship endured, he merited and ought to receive the gratitude and veneration of future generations. He was truly one of those brave spirits who, by their persevering efforts and untold sufferings, helped to consummate our nation's independence."

John Temple, the oldest son of Jonas Temple, of Boylston, was born in 1762 and died in 1841, aged seventy-nine years. He was, next to Major Beaman, of these Revolutionary heroes, the one most identified with the town's growth and prosperity. He first married Lois, daughter of Micah Harthan, who only lived one year after her marriage. In 1793 he married Persis, daughter of Major Beaman, and the widow of Dr. Amariah Bigelow, with whom he lived until 1832, when she died, leaving two children by Mr. Temple and two by Dr. Bigelow. Mr. Temple was an enterprising and successful farmer, possessing and occupying an extensive farm in the southerly part of the town, which had been previously owned by Dr. Amariah Bigelow. Mr. Temple was all his life a prominent citizen of an energetic temperament, which enabled him to act with promptness on matters of importance. "He was chosen several successive years as chairman of the Board of Selectmen, and frequently was called to the performance of other important duties of a public character. After the decease of his second wife he married Polly Dakin, of Boylston, who survived him and died in 1856."

Nathan Wilder, son of Abner Wilder, was born in 1760 and died in 1822, aged sixty-two years. Of him we only have this meagre history: "He married and had children, some of whom were living twenty-five years after his decease."

John Winn, son of Jacob Winn, was born in 1760 and died in 1843, aged eighty-three years. He married Abigail Cross, of Boston, who survived him and died in 1853, aged eighty-nine years. Mr. Winn was a cooper by trade and occupied, during his life, the premises now owned by Mrs. Cranson Cook, on the road to Lancaster. Mr. and Mrs. Winn had several children who survived them, but at the present time no one of the name is a resident in the town. And it is a singular and remarkable fact that of the sixteen Revolutionary soldiers of this town there is not a single descendant of the same name now living in the town.

We have no records of any persons having enlisted or of serving in the second war with England in 1812, but as other towns of the county were called upon to furnish men for temporary service, this town may have done so; but at a meeting held on the 3d day of July, 1812, the following votes were passed by nearly a unanimous one of the meeting, only two voting adversely: "That the town disaproves of the late declaration of war against Great Britton." Also chose the selectmen and town clerk a committee to prepare certain resolutions, expressive of the sense of the town.

In the Mexican War two young men volunteered and went with the army to Mexico. George Flagg, son of Francis Flagg, was in most of the hard battles which resulted in the capture of the city of Mexico. He was taken sick while on his return and died in the hospital at New Orleans July 26, 1848, aged twenty-four years.

Charles W. Allen, son of Daniel W. Allen, served through the war with credit and came home after its close; he remained here about two years and then went to California, where he died November 12, 1867.

West Boylston, in common with the towns of the whole North, was thoroughly aroused at the first indications that the South would rebel against its lawful government, and all such steps were at once taken to render all the aid to the constituted authorities to maintain the integrity of our Union, in the power of the town to show and maintain. Many meetings were held, volunteers for the army were encouraged to enlist, money was raised for their equipment and for the care of the families of all who had one to leave. Our young men were urged to drill and otherwise perfect themselves for soldiers, and in fact all persons in town—men, women and children—seemed to vie with all others in their efforts to meet the needs of the hour. At the first legal meeting held by the town, after the fall of Fort Sumter, April 29, 1861, the town voted to appropriate two thousand dollars for the equipment of a military company. It also voted to pay the men for the time spent in drilling, also to pay all the needed aid to families of men who should volunteer. The town also chose an efficient committee to attend to all the necessary work. As a consequence the town had volunteers in nearly all of the first regiments that went into the field, having men in all the regiments raised in the county. During the war the town sent into the army two hundred and fifty-two men. Of these, twelve were commissioned officers and two were surgeons. The commissioned officers were: Major Alonzo D. Pratt, of the Thirty-fourth; Major Addison A. Hosmer, of the Twenty-eighth; Captain Pelham Bradford and Captain Woodbury Whittemore, of the Twenty-first; Captain Charles C. Murdock, of the Twenty-fifth; Captain George L. Murdock, of the Thirty-fourth; Captain C. Alden Pratt, of the Forty-second; Lieutenant, William D. Toombs, of the Second; Lieutenant Harlan P. Houghton, of the Thirty-fourth; Lieutenant James Conner, of the Forty-second; Lieutenant Albert M. Murdock, of the Fifty-seventh, all Massachusetts infantry regiments; and Lieutenant Elliot F. Brigham, of the Fourth Massachusetts Cavalry. Only one of these officers lost his life while serving in the army. Lieutenant Albert M. Murdock, while leading an assault on Fort Steadman, at Petersburg, Va., March 25, 1865, was almost instantly killed. His last words were, "Save the flag, boys." He was a very promising young man, the only son of Cyrus Murdock, only nineteen years of age when he left the Highland Military School at Worcester to join his regiment in the last year of the war. He took part in all the hard battles of the Wilderness and around Richmond, and ever showed himself a cool and brave officer.

Several of the other officers received wounds in the many battles they were engaged in, and most of them won their promotions by their services; but all came home and, so far as known, are all still living and filling responsible positions in life.

The two surgeons were Dr. Franklin L. Hunt, of the Twenty-seventh, and Dr. Charles A. Wheeler, of the Twelfth Regiment.

Dr. Hunt was a young man of talent, of a very genial disposition and greatly beloved by all his acquaintances. He had only been in the practice of his profession three years when he joined his regiment at Newbern, N. C., in August, 1862. On November 18, 1862, while riding just outside the lines at Washington, N. C., he was fired upon and killed by straggling guerrillas. His body was recovered, brought home and buried at Douglas, his native town. He left a young wife and two children.

Dr. Wheeler served through the war, came home and afterwards resumed his practice in Leominster, in this county, and still remains in that town.

Probably no soldier of the great Civil War was better or more widely known than Sergeant Thomas Plunkett. He came to this town when about twelve

years of age and lived here until the commencement of the war. He enlisted from the town as a member of Company E of the Twenty-first Regiment, and saw much hard service and fighting previous to the battle of Fredericksburg, Va. In this battle he was the color-sergeant of his regiment and had both arms shot away by a fragment of a shell. Notwithstanding the great loss of blood and the delay before his wounds could be attended to, his indomitable will carried him through, and he survived his injuries and lived until March 8, 1885, receiving from every one love and respect for his patriotism, courage and great physical loss. He held positions of trust at the Custom House and State House in Boston several years before his death, and was at his post at the State House nearly up to the day of his death, although his friends urged him to retire. His death was announced in the House of Representatives March 10th, when it was voted "to appoint a committee of eight to attend his funeral," and also "that a guard should be detailed by the Sergeant-at-arms to carry the colors which were borne by Sergeant Plunkett at the battle of Fredericksburg to the funeral," which was held in Mechanics' Hall in Worcester, and drew together a concourse of people large enough to twice fill that great hall. The Governor and staff, a large number of the State officials, many members of the General Court, many military companies, different Grand Army corps and citizens from all parts of the State came together to do this brave soldier honor. He left a wife and two sons.

After his recovery from his wounds his many friends raised for him such a sum of money as rendered him independent during his lifetime. He resided in this town several years after his return and marriage, but for the last few years he was a resident of Worcester, Mass.

At one time efforts were made to have him promoted, and an application was made to Governor Andrew to give him a commission. This would have been gladly done, but after much thought and deliberation, that noble Governor says, "No! as *sergeant* he has achieved his wide reputation, and as such he will be longer remembered, *so let him be ever known as Sergeant Plunkett.*"

During the war the town paid for recruiting and other expenses, with the amount of State aid paid to families, about forty thousand dollars, besides which, the ladies of the town raised, in various ways, upward of twelve hundred dollars in money, and sent stores of clothing, etc., to the hospitals at several times during the great struggle.

The following-named soldiers were killed or died while connected with the army:

Charles F. Bigelow, Co. D, 24th Regt., came home sick from Charleston, S. C., and died soon after.
George L. Bigelow, of the 34th Regt., died in Andersonville Prison.
William H. Blunt, Co. D, 2d Regt., was mortally wounded at Gettysburg.
Amos W. Broad, Co. C, 15th Regt., supposed to have been lost at sea.
Isaac Child, Co. D, 2d Regt., killed at Antietam, Md.
Benoni H. Colvin, Co. E, 42d Regt., came home sick and died soon after.
Frederick Colvin, Co. D, 2d Regt., killed at Winchester, Va.
Joseph E. Esterbrook, Co. K, 53d Regt., died at New York.
Patrick Fitzpatrick, Co. E, 42d Regt., died at New Orleans.
Harlow Getchell, Co. C, 15th Regt., wounded at Antietam, and died in hospital.
John H. Horan, Co. E, 21st Regt., died at Newbern, N. C.
Leonard T. Hosmer, Co. E, 21st Regt., died at Washington, D. C.
Geo. B. J. Hosmer, Co. D, 2d Regt., transferred to Signal Corps; died at Newbern, N. C.
Dr. Franklin L. Hunt, of the 27th Regt., killed by guerrillas, at Washington, N. C.
Jonas C. Keyes, Co. G, 2d H. A., died in Andersonville Prison.
Charles H. Kidder, 7th Light Battery, died at Memphis, Tenn.
Thomas Lynch, Co. G, 2d H. A., died in Andersonville Prison.
Leonard F. Mahan, Co. E, 42d Regt., died at New Orleans.
Mercail Mallett, Co. G, 57th Regt., killed in the battles of the Wilderness, Va.
Lieut. Albert H. Murdock, 57th Regt., killed at Fort Steadman, Va.
Geo. B. Newton, Co. D, 2d Regt., died at Baltimore, Md.
Samuel E. Pratt, Co. A, 15th Regt., died at Yorktown, Va.
Joseph T. Smith, Co. K, 15th Regt., mortally wounded, and died at Antietam.
John B. Tallman, Co. C, 34th Regt., killed in Shenandoah Valley.
Martin N. Trask, Co. I, 25th Regt., died at Fortress Monroe.
Thomas Watson, Co. K, 2d Regt., killed at Cedar Mountain, Va.
James Welsh, of the 34th Regt., died at Florence, S. C.
Newton Wellman, Co. E, 21st Regt., died at City Point, Va.
William F. Wilson, U. S. Engineer Corps, died in hospital at Point of Rocks, Md.
Alfred M. Whyte, Co. D, 2d Regt., died of wounds, at Antietam, Md.
Nelson Wright, Co. E, 42d Regt., died at New Orleans.

FARMS.—There are in town about eighty farms of from thirty to two hundred acres each, on which the business of farming, in its various branches, is nearly the exclusive occupation of their owners; while there are about twenty smaller farms of fifteen to thirty acres each, which occupy the time of their owners only a part of the time, the business being combined with, usually, some mechanical work. A majority of the larger farmers make the production of milk their principal business. This is sold from door to door in town early each morning. Several routes are supplied daily in Worcester, while many of the large farmers at the north part of the town send their milk by railroad to Boston. But little, comparatively, of butter and cheese are made. Considerable attention is given to raising vegetables and small fruits for home and Worcester markets. The great grain staples of corn, wheat, rye and oats are not raised to as great an extent as fifty years ago.

From old records we learn that during the period from 1760 to 1820 not less than three thousand bushels of rye were annually raised in the town, with about the same quantity of corn and oats, and during the winter season much of this was taken to Boston market, where the farmers could realize $1.25 per bushel for the corn and rye. Large quantities of cider, too, were made, every family feeling the necessity of "putting in" for home use several barrels. Large quantities of this, too, were taken to market, selling at from one to two dollars per barrel. Nearly every large farmer considered that a cider-mill was a necessary

appendage to his farm. Sixty years ago there were not less than thirty of these mills in town; now there is but one. Sixty years ago grafted fruit-trees were almost unknown; now, but few apple-trees of natural fruit are allowed to grow.

HILLS.—Of the different hills in the town, "Malden Hill" is the most prominent and is much the largest and most elevated. This hill originally lay entirely in Holden, the line between Holden and Boylston running easterly of it. The early settlers of Holden gave it the name of "Mount Carmel," but in the memory of old people it has always been called by its present name. In changing the line between Holden and West Boylston, in the formation of the precinct in 1787, and the town in 1808, the line was changed and fixed on the easterly side of this hill for its entire length. Just how this hill received its name seems to have been forgotten by all of our old people.

We now offer the following history of facts, believing that it will show when and why it was done. In 1665 the Colonial authorities made a grant of a tract of one thousand acres to the town of Malden, to help support the Gospel, which is described and located as follows:

> One thousand acres of upland and meadow, about two miles distant southwesterly from the southwest corner of Lancaster Bounds, as also about a mile distant Southwesterly from the lands formerly granted and laid out unto Capt. Richard Davenport, beginning at the south end of a high, rocky, pine hill, at a little red oak marked M, and from thence a line upon an East South East point, 212 rods, unto a pine marked M, and from thence a line upon a South point 640 rods; and from thence a line upon a West North West point 370 rods; and from thence a line upon a North by East point, six degrees Easterly, 620 rods; and these four lines so run making up the full compliment of the aforesaid one thousand acres, as is more plainly described by a Plott.

In 1736 the location of this tract of land came into the courts of this county in a dispute between Malden and Shrewsbury parties, the latter contending that "Malden Hill" was the hill named, and that the tract lay southerly of its southerly point, while the Malden parties contended that it lay nearly two miles easterly of that point. In the long and somewhat bitter quarrel the name of Malden was given to the hill and also to the brook rising in Holden and flowing around its southerly end, then along its easterly side to the Quinnepoxet River, and these names have ever since attached to both hill and brook. The location of the Malden grant was decided, after the matter had been in the courts about two years, in favor of Malden. Said location will be found in another page of this history. Malden Hill is very rocky and uneven, with but little good grazing land. It contains some fine granite quarries.

"Wellington Hill" was the name given to the long hill in the southerly part of the town, extending for a distance of about two miles north and south, over the ridge of which the line dividing this town from Boylston runs. The name of "Bond Hill" has for many years been given to this hill by the people of both towns.

"Davenport Hill," in the northeastern part of the town, also lies partly in this town and partly in Boylston. The high hill in the north part of the town has been sometimes called "Carter's Hill," but is not often spoken of as having any name. A new road has recently been built, nearly over its summit, from Oakdale, opening a beautiful prospect from its location, and it is suggested that "Prospect Hill" would be an appropriate name for it. Another high hill, extending southerly from the old Common, is usually spoken of as "Keyes' Hill."

All four of these last-named hills are considered to be some of the best farming and grazing lands in town. "Pine Hill" is located in the easterly part of the town, and is a small, rocky hill, only producing a stunted growth of pine and shrub oaks. "Eames Ledge" is the name given to another rocky hill, lying directly south of the Worcester and Nashua Railroad, where said railroad was cut through the "big ledge." This was really the "high, rocky pine hill" named in the old grant of "Malden farm," in 1665.

The views from many points on these hills, into and over the valleys of our rivers, present to the eye of the beholder some very pleasing and picturesque scenes. At some points there seems to be barely room for the streams and a narrow road; then a wide expanse of beautiful intervale opens to the eye, with grand old trees here and there, and rows of buildings on their margins. These intervales are probably some of the best farming lands in the county, and in extent cover several hundred acres, the largest one being below the junction of the Stillwater and Quinnepoxet Rivers, and extending into the town of Boylston.

PLEASURE RESORT.—Pleasant Valley has been one of the most attractive and romantic places in the town to show to strangers. Situated in the southeasterly part of the town, and entirely surrounded by forests, is a small circular valley of about four acres, with hills on all sides, except at one end, where a carriage-road makes access easy; it seems like a natural amphitheatre, with a natural growth of short green grass, on a surface seemingly as level as art could make it. In spring and summer it always presents to the eye a charming and beautiful spot. A singular fact in relation to this ground is that no tree or shrub has ever sprung up and grown from it, and nothing but the same short, wild grass has covered its surface. It has ever been the resort for parties of pleasure, coming from far and near to spend a few hours in this pleasant retired spot. Many years since, when travel between Worcester and points north was done by stages, one of our genial old stage-drivers would often take his load of passengers the mile from his route to show them the beauties of Pleasant Valley. It was no doubt once the bed of a pond, and, owing to some underground leakage, was drained. In the spring of the year, and in times of great rains, quite a stream

of water runs towards it, but finds some underground passage, and never fills this basin. About a hundred rods from it, and seventy to one hundred feet lower, at the edge of the intervale, is a remarkable spring of water, nearly as cold as ice-water, and constantly flowing through quicksand at all times of the year, in a volume of force to fill a pipe of three to six inches. Whether there is any connection between the two or not may be difficult to prove; but the theory has been suggested that the water going in from above finds icy chambers beneath, melting enough to pass off through the spring below. Both valley and spring have been, since the town was settled, places of attraction, both to old residents and visitors.

Remarkable Longevity.—Mrs. Sarah Goodale was born in the town of Marlboro' in 1714, and married Edward Goodale, one of the early settlers of this town. They had five sons and one daughter—all born within twelve years of each other. The father died when about forty years of age, leaving his family in possession of a farm, with very little other property. Mrs. Goodale being a strong, robust woman, determined to keep her family together, and succeeded so so well that she was enabled to pay to each one on coming to their majority their full proportion of the value of the estate, although she herself had become the *bona fide* owner of the homestead, She had become their legal guardian, and had assumed the control of the farm and business. These children all lived to old age, and in their turn manifested the same dutiful care and respect for their honored mother, during the latter portion of her life, which she had bestowed on them while in their childhood and early years. She died here in 1810, being in her ninety-seventh year, and at that time the oldest person who had died in the town. Her children all survived her and died as follows: Moses died in 1815, aged seventy-five years; Elizabeth died in 1837, aged ninety-six years; Aaron died in 1817, aged seventy-four years; Paul died in 1828, aged eighty-one years; David died in 1832, aged eighty-two years; Peter died in 1834, aged eighty-two years. This mother and all of these children were professors of religion, and manifested through all their lives a due regard for its principles in their treatment of each other and the world at large.

At the close of the first half-century of this town's existence, in 1858, Miss Sarah Harthan was the oldest living person in the town. She was the eldest child of Micah Harthan, and was born in Lancaster in 1763, where she resided for eighteen years, then resided in Shrewsbury five years, afterwards in Boylston twenty-two years, and during the remainder of her life her residence was in West Boylston. It is a remarkable circumstance that during the first sixty years of her life she was a resident of all the four towns named, and never changed her place of abode. She died in the fall of 1858, aged nearly ninety-six years.

"Anthony Taylor, son of Eleazer Taylor, of Boylston, was born in 1749, came to West Boylston in 1808 and lived here until his death, in 1819. He was a large, stout-built man, and supposed by his cotemporaries not to be surpassed in muscular strength by any man in New England. In early life he performed several extraordinary feats, the relation of which might seem to challenge the belief of the most credulous. Yet, the credibility of those persons who witnessed and have given an account of these wonderful exhibitions of power and strength manifested and put forth by this man, render it quite certain that nothing more than the truth has been related about his great strength. One instance of his extraordinary muscular power was given while he was serving with the army at Cambridge in 1775. Approaching a field-piece, he lifted it from the ground and would have put it on his shoulder had not others interfered, both to save himself and the cannon from injury. Other accounts relative to his uncommon physical force were often cited and believed by persons of indisputable testimony." Had this great force of body been directed by a like force of mind, we should, no doubt, have now been able to record the history of a remarkable personage; but we find in the records of the town for the year 1809 that the town voted "to put up at auction the town's poor, to be taken by the lowest bidder," and "Anthony Taylor was bid off by Jonathan Plympton at one dollar and three cents per week." In 1818 the price paid to Aaron Goodale was two dollars per week. The last year of his life Anthony Taylor, with six other paupers, were all bid off by "Jacob Hinds, to be cared for, for the year ensuing, for the sum of two hundred and sixty dollars," which sum was "to include clothing and nursing," and was not "to be reduced if any of the number should die before the year's end." This practice of "auctioning off" the town's poor was followed for several years later, but for the past fifty years other and less annoying methods of arranging for their care has prevailed.

Samuel Whitney is believed by his descendants to have been the first white man that lived on the territory of what is now West Boylston. He certainly came here alone from Lexington, Mass., early in the last century, and made an opening in the northwest part of the town, on lands which, for several generations, have been owned and occupied by descendants of his, the Masons. He came here with only a dog for a companion, and using a great hollow log as the main part of his house, lived here alone for four years, excepting in the winter seasons, when he returned to his family at Lexington. He was sometimes visited by Indian neighbors, but never had any trouble with them. After being here two years, early one fall morning he imagined he could hear a voice calling pig! pig! and was so impressed by it that he took his dog and gun and, crossing the Quinnepoxet River and following a southerly course about two miles, found another white man, a Lovell, who had been living

there about six months. That morning his pig had strayed away and he had been using his voice, to its loudest extent, in calling it.

After living on his clearing alone four years, Mr. Whitney brought his family to the place and settled down for a permanent home. They had three daughters to afterwards grow up and marry, the first one to a Thomas, the second to a Whittaker, the third to a Mason, the descendants of the last living on the same spot up to the present time.

THE EARTHQUAKE.—The Great Earthquake, as it has been termed, happened late in the evening of November 18, 1755, and as it left its only traces within the limits of this town, it can be claimed as exclusively local, even although at the time of its occurrence the territory where its effects are, and long will be visible, was within the limits of Holden, and before that town's incorporation, of Worcester. "At the time of its occurrence it produced great commotion, alarm and consternation. Dwelling-houses were shaken so severely as to cause kettles and other things to rattle and make much noise, plates and other articles were thrown from shelves, and people who had retired found their beds rocking like cradles." Soon afterwards it was discovered that a large piece of land of some acres in extent, situated in the northwest part of this town (then Holden), had sunk several feet; an acre or more seems to have sunk from forty to seventy-five feet. Some accounts of the occurrence, which have been heretofore given, say "that trees and stumps were split, parts of which were found at opposite sides of the opening." A visit to the spot at the present day will give the visitor a good idea of what happened, with the extent of the convulsion. The location is on the banks of the Quinnepoxet River, about forty rods above the mills of S. R. Warfield, and near to Holden line. At this point there was a high bluff of from fifty to eighty feet high rising from the river's bank. The opening, as now seen, is but a few feet above the river's bed, but on its other side, being somewhat oval in shape, it rises abruptly in many places at least seventy feet, being as steep as the earth would naturally fall. These banks are now covered by a growth of trees of large size. A road has been made down one side of this opening, and a good growth of grass is cut in the pit each year. This earthquake was felt over a large extent of territory, from Chesapeake Bay to Halifax, but this was the only location where any of its effects were so fully manifested. It happened in the same month and year with the terrible convulsion which destroyed a large portion of the city of Lisbon in Portugal. The year following this earthquake a terrible sickness raged in this vicinity, which, at the time, was attributed to this convulsion. It was confined mostly to young people and children, a large number of whom died.

THE HARD WINTER.—The winter of 1780 has ever been spoken of as "the hard winter" by those whom some of our present citizens remember as recalling its severity. It was remarkable for the great depth of snow, and the severe cold which continued for several months, or from November until near the 1st of April. Snow had fallen early in November before the ground had frozen, and all the succeeding storms were of snow, no rain falling for a period of over five months. Towards the last of December a snow-storm commenced and lasted several days, covering rocks, fences and buildings to such an extent that no roads were opened for several weeks. No teams were used, wood for fires was cut from day to day and transported on hand-sleds, by men and boys wearing snow-shoes. This, too, was the only mode of communication between neighbors, when any heavy articles were moved; all grain to and from the mills was taken in this way—in fact, all travel was limited to snow-shoes and hand-sleds as the means of passing from one point to another.

This great accumulation of snow remained about two months, when, the weather moderating somewhat, it began to settle and eventually all vanished without any fall of rain, leaving the ground warm and dry, ready for cultivation. No records appear that give any indication that the season following was in any way a remarkable one, but, on the 19th of the following May, we have an account of a remarkable phenomenon recalled as "The Dark Day." Early in the morning of that day the atmosphere had the appearance of being filled with a dense fog of yellowish hue, rolling about in large masses, constantly rising and moving along. It was so dark at midday that it was necessary to use lighted candles while people ate their dinners. So strange and novel was the appearance on that day that many were struck with consternation, and nearly all work and business came to a standstill. The night following was an uncommonly dark one, but nothing unusual followed this phenomenon, after that one day and night.

On September 23, 1815, occurred what has been termed the "Great Blow," which proved very destructive in this vicinity, causing great damage to fruit and forest trees, buildings and fences. Fruit of all kinds was nearly all blown from the trees, while large numbers of fruit and forest trees were uprooted and destroyed. Traces of this tempest are to be seen to this day, where large trees were uprooted. It was undoubtedly the most destructive tornado which has occurred in New England since its settlement by white men, as it extended over a large portion of it.

About fourteen years since a whirlwind or tornado, starting in the southwest part of this county, swept through this town with great force, leaving a path of only a few feet in width, tearing up, twisting and breaking all trees in its course, several of which were of large size. Fortunately, no persons and only two buildings were in its path, and the buildings were only struck on one side. After passing through this

C. M. Harris

Louis M Harris

town it appeared to have spent its force, but traces of it were seen for eight or ten miles beyond the limits of the town to the northwest.

In 1790 there were four families within the limits of what is now West Boylston, and all living in the same neighborhood, whose children, in the aggregate, numbered forty-five, all of whom, with two exceptions, lived to mature life, were married and had from five to ten children each.

On the farm of the late Addison Lovell, on Malden Hill, is an apple tree grown from a twig, which, with others, was bound to the yoke of a pair of oxen which came with the first Lovell to this spot, as its first settler, over one hundred and fifty years ago The tree is still in a bearing condition.

The location of the two old grants of land made by the Colonial authorities, more than two hundred years ago, were located as follows, it being understood that, owing to the imperfect compasses used in former times, as well as the taking of difficult measurements and the disappearance of the marked boundaries, an exact location cannot be now given of these tracts of land.

Davenport Farm.—This was a tract of land of six hundred acres, granted to Capt. Richard Davenport in 1658, who was at that time in the military employment of the government, and was afterwards killed by lightning at a fort in Boston harbor. This tract was a right-angled triangular shaped lot, with its longest line extending nearly east and west on the old south line of Lancaster, about two miles, with its western end somewhere between our present stone bridge and the central bridge, and with its two shorter lines, of about four hundred and forty and four hundred and seventy rods, meeting near the present boundaries of Boylston and West Boylston, and showing that this tract covered all of the large intervale farms on the Nashua River, beginning at the west end, with the old Beaman farm, in this town, and extending easterly over the intervening farms, with the old Davenport farms, in Boylston, at its eastern extremity. After-surveys of this tract showed that it contained nearly nine hundred acres.

Malden Farm.—This was a tract granted to the town of Malden in 1665, of one thousand acres. This tract was about two miles long, two hundred and twelve rods wide at its northerly and three hundred and seventy rods at its southerly end. The tract was afterwards about equally divided from south to north by a line running on the present boundary line between Boylston and West Boylston, commencing at the corner of Shrewsbury and running northerly, over Wellington or Bond's Hill, to the first angle on the old Dunton farm, thus showing that this tract was located, one-half in the present town of Boylston, the other half in West Boylston, with a corner at its southwest angle extending into Worcester.

In looking back, at this day, to the time when these two tracts were located, with the idea that at that time both must have been in a complete wilderness, it seems wonderful that they should prove to be the best land in the region of their location. The Davenport tract covers what has proved to be intervale land, second to none in the State, except perhaps the Deerfield meadows.

The Malden grant, too, covers some of the best upland and meadow farms in this town and Boylston, both showing that the men and explorers who located these tracts were men whose instincts and sound judgments were strong ones.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

LINUS M. HARRIS.

The subject of this sketch, Linus M. Harris, the senior member of the firm of L. M. Harris & Co., was the son of Henry and Waty (Smith) Harris, and was born in Scituate, R. I., October 24, 1814. He was the eldest child of the large family of a poor man, who was only able to give him the benefit of what schooling he could get from attending the winter terms of a common country school until he was fourteen years of age, when he went into a cotton mill as "back boy," and commenced a connection with the cotton manufacture which has continued to the present day. In addition to his boyhood schooling, he attended a school the winter after his eighteenth birthday. His experience in factory life, as a boy, was commenced in the Richmond mill in Scituate, R. I., where he worked three years; then in the Sprague mill, at Smithfield, R. I., one year; then with the Blackstone Manufacturing Co., at Mendon, Mass. (now Blackstone), two years; then at Woonsocket, R. I., ten years (up to 1845), when he came to West Boylston.

While living at Woonsocket he married Miss Armilla E. Rounds at Providence, R. I., October 24, 1838, it being the twenty-fourth anniversary of his birth. Before leaving Woonsocket they had three children, all of whom died before the family came to Massachusetts. In 1845 Mr. Harris came to this town and commenced business in the Holt Mill at Harrisville, as noted elsewhere, where he remained about nine years, when he went into business with E. W. Holbrook at the Central Village, on the rebuilding of his mill in 1854. In 1865 Mr. Harris left the Holbrook Mill and resumed the principal management of the mill at Harrisville, which he still retains, together with the Whiting Mill, built a few years afterwards. Of these two mills he is an equal owner with his brother, Charles M. Harris, and brother-in-law, Alfred Whiting. He is also one of the owners in the large mills at Oakdale, known as the West Boylston Manufacturing Company, and also of two smaller mills in Holden on the Quinnepoxet River. Mr. Harris has

been a very successful man in his business, having accumulated a handsome competence, and has ever been an active and influential man in public and town affairs, serving several years on the Board of Selectmen and going to the General Court as Representative, etc.

Both Mr. Harris and his wife are still vigorous after a married life of over fifty years. Since living in West Boylston, three daughters and one son have been born to them, all of whom are living and are active, influential members of the community where they live, the youngest being now about thirty-six years of age.

CHARLES M. HARRIS.

Charles M. Harris, son of Henry and Waty S. Harris, was born in Providence, R. I., August 3, 1822. The family moved soon after to Scituate, R. I., where, when old enough, young Charles went to school about eight weeks in the summer and winter, or as long as the money raised for schools would last, eked out by the teachers being boarded around among the families who had children to send to school, the school-rooms being fitted up with oak slabs for seats, which were raised so high from the floor that the feet of the smaller children would hang several inches above it. This style of schooling continued until he was about thirteen years of age. After that time he was fortunate enough to get two short terms of school in the winter when a year or two older. This constituted all the school attendance of the subject of this sketch. At six years of age he was put into the Richmond Cotton Mill at Scituate, to work between schools, where by working from fourteen to fifteen hours a day his services were considered worth *fifty cents per week* or a trifle over *half a cent an hour*. His wages gradually increased to seventy-five cents, one dollar and one dollar and twenty-five cents per week up to the time when he was fourteen years of age, and from that time they continued to advance until, at twenty years of age, he was receiving from six to seven dollars for a week's work.

From the Richmond mill he had gone to the Sprague mill at Smithfield, R. I.; from there to the Blackstone mill at Mendon, Mass.; then to Woonsocket, R. I. In the spring of 1842 he began the manufacture of thread in company with David S. Wilder at Woonsocket, and in the fall of that year they came to West Boylston, and buying the small mill at the central village, began the manufacture of satinet warps. They also leased a mill in Holden, in which they carried on the same business. In 1845 he sold out his interest in these mills and formed a partnership with his brothers, who had bought the "Holt mill" at Harrisville. The next year he, with his brother Gideon, went to Scituate, R. I., and leased the old Richmond mill, in which he began work as a boy, where they remained about two years, when they returned to Harrisville, largely increased the capacity of the mill there and were doing a good business up to the time when the mill was burned in 1851. The mill was rebuilt, the machinery was all in and work was resumed again in a year from the date of the fire. In 1857 Mr. Harris went to Poquonnock, in the town of Windsor, Ct., and run a mill three and a half years, and from there went to Savage, Howard County, Md., and, in company with another party, run a mill one year and a half, then came back to West Boylston, having been very successful in business at each of these places.

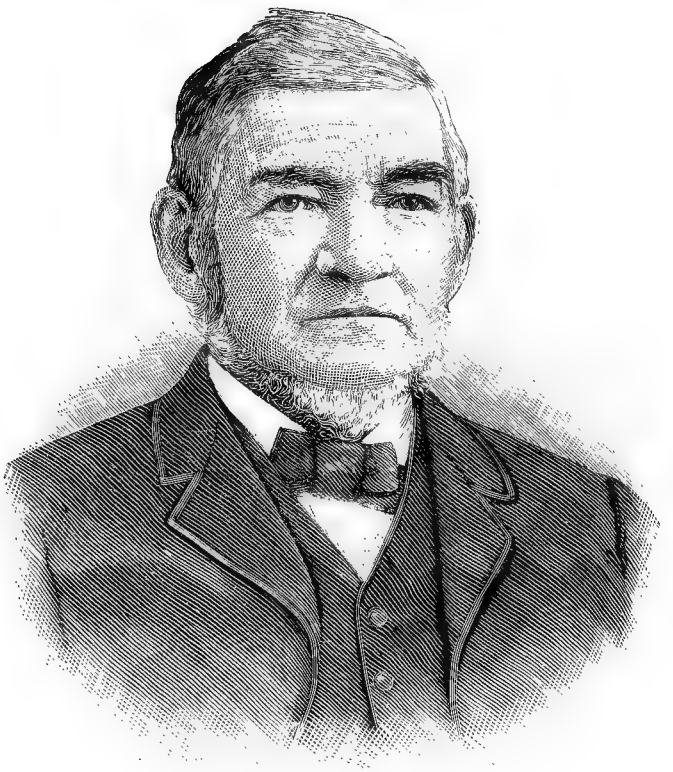
In 1861 he, with his oldest brother, Linus M. Harris, and J. H. Lane, of New York, bought the large mills of the West Boylston Manufacturing Company, at Oakdale, and he assumed the general management of the business. Here he has remained up to the present time. The history of these mills is given on other pages of this history, and does not need repeating. There is little doubt that the growth and success of the business of this company is largely owing to the business talent and large executive ability of Mr. Harris since his connection with it. In November, 1848, he married Miss Emily Dean, who is still living. They have had three children, all now living. Henry F. is a lawyer in Worcester; Charles M., Jr., is a superintendent in the mill, and Emily A. is the wife of Alonzo R. Wells.

SAMUEL R. WARFIELD.

Samuel Randall Warfield, son of Luther and Alcey Thompson Warfield, was born in Mendon, Mass., September 28, 1821. He received a good education in the common and high-schools of his native town and Millbury, Mass., his father moving to Millbury when Samuel was twelve years of age. He began work in a cotton-mill there and when twenty years of aye was a "mule fixer." Soon after he was promoted to overseer of the weaving-room. In 1851 he began business at Millbury for himself in the manufacture of thread or yarn, and continued it until 1856. In October of that year he went to Perkinsville, Vt., where he followed the same business eight years. He then went to Griswold, Ct., and remained in the same business about three years.

He bought the property in this town in 1868, his oldest son, Edwin R. Warfield, coming here to superintend the building up and starting of the works. This son failing in health, Mr. Warfield came here three or four years afterwards and has ever since remained here.

Edwin R. Warfield died November 10, 1876, aged twenty-seven years. He was a very energetic and capable man, and his loss was a sad one to his father. It interfered much with the plans he had made for the future. Those plans, however, so far as they related to the developing of the fine water-power in this town, have been since carried out, as is shown in the history of his mills on other pages of this history.



Mr. Warfield has proved himself to be a very energetic and capable man of business, and has been a very successful one. He is still hale and hearty, promising to remain so for many years to come.

He married Miss Eliza Jane Maxwell in February, 1843, who is still living. They have had four children, two of whom died while young. The fourth, Austin H. Warfield, is now about thirty-six years of age, is married, and is an active business man, associated with his father in his present business.

CHAPTER LXXXIV.

BLACKSTONE.

BY ADRIAN SCOTT, M.D.

1. PURCHASE OF THE TERRITORY.—The legal title to the soil of what now forms the town of Blackstone was passed from the aboriginal owners to people of the English name in the deed delivered to Moses Payne and Peter Brackett, of Braintree, by an Indian chief, on the 8th day of September, 1662.

To the whole of the purchase then made the name of Mendon was soon afterwards given. The town of Blackstone, the last of several towns carved, in whole or in part, out of that territory, was really marked out by the establishment of the so-called South Precinct in 1766, but it was nearly eighty years later before the town was incorporated.

It contains almost exactly one-fourth part of the land granted in that original deed, and its proportional price would be the sum of six pounds sterling, which we will trust was duly and faithfully paid to the natives in current coin of the realm of King Charles II.

2. ITS BOUNDS AND AREA.—The South Precinct of the town of Mendon was separated from the First Precinct by a vote of the General Court, November 8, 1766. The bounds are given as follows: Beginning at the southwest corner of Mendon, then on Uxbridge three miles one hundred and twenty-eight rods to a stake and stones on Capt. Daniel Taft's farm; thence turning and running east eight degrees south to stake and stones by road leading from Thomas Taft's to John Boyce's; continuing the same course to a stake and stones by road leading from Dam Swamp to Ens. Benjamin Darling's; continuing the same course to a stake and stones on the east side of Rehoboth Road, south of Darius Daniel's orchard; then the same course to a pine tree at Bellingham line, with Daniel Taft's and Joseph Day's farms on the north side of line.

The area thus included is stated to be 10,295 acres by Mr. H. F. Walling, who made a survey by order of the town in 1854. The westerly line, as stated above, is 3 miles 128 rods; the northerly, 4 miles 248 rods; the easterly, 3 miles 100 rods; and the southerly, about 4 miles 230 rods. The latter line, as part of the disputed boundary between Massachusetts and Rhode Island, has fluctuated much.

3. TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY.—The whole town lies in the valley of the Blackstone River, which flows through its southern section. Northerly from the river the surface rises - in some places with abruptness—and continues to rise beyond the town's limits. Two-thirds of its area is included in this description without much variation from the course of four or five small streams trending southerly into the river. Fox Brook, the largest of these streams, has its head-waters in several brooks issuing from the spurs of Chestnut Hill, the largest, or main stream, issuing from the extensive Pine Swamp between Caleb Taft's and the Uxbridge line. The eastern third of the town is occupied by the Mill River valley, itself a tributary of the Blackstone, but not reaching it within the town limits. This stream has also in much of its course steep, precipitous banks, the intervales being generally where smaller streams are received as tributaries. The largest and most important of these is Quickstream, which rises in an extensive swamp beyond the town limits in Bellingham. Second in size is the Hop Swamp Brook, rising in Mendon, and in its southeasterly course draining the locally famous Dam Swamp.

The town has no natural lakes or large ponds, and the area occupied by its streams is stated by Mr. Walling to be ninety acres. The highest land is found in the extreme northwest, in the hills collectively known as Chestnut Hill. More isolated are the Daniels Hill, north of the centre of the town, and Waterbug Hill, a little southwest of the centre. East of Mill River, Candlewood Hill stretches north and south a distance of about two miles. Pond's Hill overlooks the village of Waterford, and presents abrupt sides, both towards Fox Brook on the west and Blackstone River on the south.

The rocky bed underlying these hills is mainly gneiss, with some granite in the northwest. In all parts of the town granite boulders are found, and these afford material for walls. But no quarry of good granite is known to exist within the town limits. In the Mill River valley the hills in many places have the conical appearance of sand dunes near a sea-coast, and many of them are composed of quite pure white sand.

In the Mendon town records, under the year 1700, it is recorded that votes were passed in relation to iron ore and an iron mine in the southern part of the town. It is plain, however, after a careful consideration, that this must have referred to Iron Mine Hill in Cumberland. By records a little earlier and later it appears that even Woonsocket Falls were then claimed as within the town, and a similar exercise of squatter sovereignty claimed Iron Mine Hill. It does not appear that any metals have been found in the

soil of Blackstone beyond the quantity known to chemists as "traces."

4. Flora and Fauna.—The chestnut, birch, maple and walnut are the predominant forest trees in the town, although the pine swamps have been of great value in the past. Oaks of several species are found rather plentifully, and numerous other woods have representatives. The denuding of the forest surfaces, through the demand for fire-wood and lumber, has had its usual effect upon the streams and indirectly upon the fertility of the meadows and the quality of the crops grown upon them.

No larger game than the red fox now haunts our woods, although in colonial times wolves and deer were plentiful. Woodchucks and skunks are great pests to the farmers, and rabbits are still to be found in young pine and other undergrowth.

5. Soil and Productions.—The town offers a great variety of soils, from one of almost pure sand to rich, deep loam. Mill River Valley has in the northern end of the town light, sandy soil, free from stone, easily worked and giving early crops. But dry weather seriously affects and sometimes ruins crops. The lower end of this valley is now but little used as tillage land. Fifty years ago, by a system of trench irrigation, the meadows southward from the Old Forge Pond were made very productive. The central and western parts of the town present a better soil, but a very rocky one. The Chestnut Hill region, with its famous Benson Great Meadow, has some good farms, but they require on the part of their owners unremitting toil of the most arduous kind. South of the Blackstone River again the soil is lighter, but gradually grows stonier as one approaches the Rhode Island line.

The raising of cattle, hogs and sheep, once the predominant farming interest of the town, has nearly ceased. The production of milk to sell in the villages and market gardening with the same end now occupy nine-tenths of the farmers. There are a good many orchards growing fine fruit, but the number of trees is slowly diminishing. There are a few good cranberry bogs, but the crop is uncertain unless artificially protected from the frosts.

6. The Earliest Settlers.—The town of Mendon was settled under the proprietary system, each settler having his grant, his common right in all the unappropriated land, and his share when any section was divided. It is probable that the earliest settlers took up their abode here not far from the year 1700. They entered the town from two points—on the west at Chestnut Hill, whence they passed down to the Blackstone River at Millville; on the east they settled up and down the Mill River as far as Woonsocket Falls. Exact knowledge as to the earliest proprietors is perhaps unobtainable. Some who came very early, however, are mentioned in the records so definitely that we can grasp the fact.

In the Mendon records we find that Jonathan Richardson had land laid out on the lower course of Mill River in 1700 and upon Quickstream in 1702. Of this man we know nothing further, save the fact that in 1699 he received the usual bounty per head from the town of Mendon for killing five grown wolves. It is probable that this pioneer in the pleasant fields of the coming East Blackstone was accompanied by other proprietors and those who were not proprietors. Two years before, in 1698, the Rehoboth road was laid out down through the Mill River Valley from Mendon town to the Dedham line, corresponding nearly to the Bellingham line. Elm Street in our days represents this most ancient of our legal highways. By family tradition rather than by any records we know that the founders of the two families of Daniels and Thayer were fairly settled in the northeastern portion of the town about 1710, and owned and occupied the land in that section by proprietor's rights.

We find the heads of these families distinctly recorded in 1718, when the selectmen laid out a road from the Coverdale place to Hop Brook, at the present residence of Sylvanus White, forming what is now the northerly half of Blackstone Street. Eleazer Daniels, Josiah Thayer and Lieut. Samuel Thayer asked land damages on account of this new highway, and were granted the same out of common land.

Two years before this, in 1716, the town appointed a committee to lay out a road from the iron works to Dedham. These iron works were probably the forge established by Jonathan Richardson at the easterly end of the Forge Pond, on Mill River, and the road then laid out would be the Bellingham Street of the present.

With the settlement of this Mill River valley, and its reduction to fertile fields, grew up the need of a grist-mill in the neighborhood. The first mention of this mill is in 1753, when it was spoken of as something well known under the title of Cargill's Mill. James Cargill belonged to the Society of Friends, and in the lists of Quakers prepared for the town August 30, 1756, his name appears. Not far from this time the grist-mill became the property of Seth Kelly, who came to Mendon from Sandwich, in Barnstable County, and married a daughter of David Daniels, son of Eleazer, previously mentioned. This mill has since been known as Kelly's Mill, having remained in the hands of his lineal descendants. A saw-mill was added at an early date, and in the first quarter of the present century a cotton-mill was built to be run by the same water privilege. In 1809 Seth Kelly the younger and James Paine erected a wooden mill for manufacturing cotton goods on the south side of Park Street, just below the old forge. About 1823 was built the machine-shop of Paine & Ray, on the Quickstream, on the location of the satinet-mill at present owned by Mr. Perrin. Some four or five years later Caleb Colvin built a small cotton-mill of brick, and Messrs. Paine & Ray one of wood, locally

known as the Squat Mill, near the junction of the Quickstream with Mill River. From about 1825 to 1835 this portion of the town was blessed with great business activity and success. Colonel Joseph Ray owed his military title to the fact that he was colonel of a militia regiment composed of companies from Mendon, Uxbridge, Milford and Douglass.

The first post-office in what is now the town of Blackstone was established in 1822 at Five Corners, with Samuel Allen as postmaster, and with the name of South Mendon post-office. Daniel Kelly was soon after made postmaster, and the office was transferred to his house at the foot of the Handy road. Upon Mr. Kelly's death, in 1826, Elbridge G. Daniels was appointed postmaster, and held the position until 1850, the post-office being kept in his house opposite the Coverdale stand. The name of the office was changed to North Blackstone in 1845.

The people of the Mill River section of the Mendon South Parish seem to have been largely Anabaptists and Friends. Until the beginning of the present century the latter had attended the meeting in Mendon village, where the Friends built a meeting-house in 1729. In 1799 Samuel Smith, a well-to-do farmer belonging to the society, conveyed a piece of land to trustees for the erection of a meeting-house on the southern margin of his farm. Here, in 1812, was erected the building still standing, and meetings twice in the week were held here with the greatest regularity for many years. This meeting absorbed the membership from Mendon Meeting when the latter was discontinued in 1841. The Anabaptists were associated with others of that view in the town of Bellingham, and never erected any house in East Blackstone.

Turning now to the westerly side of the town, we find that, traditionally, at least, the Southwick family is the oldest of the white settlers within the town's limits. That name is intimately associated with those of Aldrich and Taft in South Uxbridge, and undoubtedly families of those three names owned land within our limits before the new settlers came down from Mendon way. South of the Blackstone River the Mendon proprietors, about 1700, found themselves in conflict with a proprietor, acting under authority from the Providence Plantation, of the name of Samuel Comstock. The Southwicks, it is presumed, were settled upon grants of land received from him.

North of the Blackstone, and at Chestnut Hill, the earliest names seem to be those of Benson and Darling. In the village of Millville, encroached upon by Main Street, just beyond the residence of Willard Wilson, is a neglected burying-ground, containing seven tombstones, whose inscriptions are still legible in whole or in part. These bear the names of Benoni Benson, died in 1761, aged 71 years; Abigail Benson, died in 1751, aged 32 years; Hannah Goldthwaite, died in 1800, aged 70 years; John Goldthwaite, died in 1800, aged 69 years; John Darling, died in 1760, aged 75 years; Daniel Darling, died in 1745, aged 64 years; ——— Darling, died in 1746.

These are said to be the oldest inscriptions upon gravestones in the town, and point to a settlement early in the eighteenth century. From the Mendon records, under date of May 16, 1732, we learn that Samuel Thompson then owned a grist mill on the island, at what is now Millville. He bargained with the town to maintain the bridge from the island to the south bank of the Blackstone River, provided the town would build and maintain the bridge on the north side. From this will date the first lay out of Central Street, in Millville. Towards the close of the century a fulling-mill was built here, and in 1814 Esek Pitts built the first woolen-mill ever erected upon the Blackstone River. The Island Mill was erected in 1835. The Stone Mill, destroyed by fire in 1874, and since partially rebuilt, was erected by Collins Capron in 1825. The entire river privilege was bought out by Welcome Farnum in 1845, and the brick mill was added by him directly after to the combination already existing. The forging of axes and scythes was a Millville industry early in the century.

A post-office was first established in Millville in 1827 and Willard Wilson was postmaster at three different times, viz.: 1827–42, 1845–49, 1853–61. Preston Warfield was the postmaster in 1842–43, and George Staples, 1843–45. Preserved L. Thayer was twice postmaster, 1849–53 and from 1861–73.

The first church erected in Millville appears to have been the one on Central Street, of which the basement is now occupied as a store by Thomas T. Smith. It was built in 1833 by the Methodist Reformed Church Society. In 1838 a second church was erected by the Presbyterians on Bow Street, but the society was short-lived and the church building became the property of the Methodist Episcopal Church about 1850.

It must be remembered that the original settlers of this section and their descendants were in general either Friends attending the South Uxbridge Meeting, or Presbyterians attending the Chestnut Hill Meeting. The latter was the religious centre of the South Parish, incorporated in 1766. Its substantial wooden meeting-house, built in 1769, is still standing in a well-preserved condition. On the 14th September, 1768, Rev. Benjamin Balch was settled as its pastor; but owing to disputes with his people about the "provisions and other necessaries of life," especially fire-wood, included in the loose end of the arrangement for his salary, he fell into the contempt of his parishioners and fled in the night, March 27, 1773, to the town of Dedham. No settled pastor was had after him until the Rev. Preserved Smith came in 1805. He remained seven years and his memory is blessed. The society became extinct before the Millville Church was built.

The valuable water-powers at Millville and Woon-

socket had been occupied and used for nearly a century each before a yet more valuable one, intermediate between them, was taken advantage of and developed by the Blackstone Manufacturing Company. This company, consisting of Nicholas Brown and Thomas P. Ives, the surviving partners of the old-time commercial firm of Brown & Ives, with Samuel Butler, Cyrus Butler and Seth Wheaton, purchased some two hundred and sixty acres of land on both sides of the river about the year 1804. These men were all residents of Providence, R. I., and had made fortunes in commerce before turning their attention to manufacturing. The section of land thus purchased was practically uninhabited, and the first building erected by the new owners of the soil was a large building to afford shelter and cooking facilities for the workmen, known as the Cook House. It was long since demolished, but stood somewhat north of the present Arcade Building. Work was pushed upon dam, mill and tenement houses, but it was not until 1809 that the mill was completed and work was begun. At first and for a good many years the cotton was spun at the mill and the weaving was done on hand-looms in the lonely farm-houses scattered through the surrounding country.

A respected fellow-townsman, whose memory of Blackstone Village dates back to the year 1820, gives the following description of it as it was at that date. A street, corresponding to our present Main Street, crossed the mill-trench to the north of the site of the iron bridge, passing through the lower ground. The high bluff, now known as the New City and the High Rocks, was common land crowned with a thick growth of oak wood, but having no houses. Westward of our Mendon Street, from the company's barn northward to the tavern stand at the four corners, were very rough rocky pastures and wooded swamps. Eastward were heavy woods close up to the road, full of game in those days, wood pigeons, partridges, rabbits and gray squirrels. Yankee Yard was then an open lot without a house. Back Street (now Middle) had eight houses and Mill Street (now Church) was pretty nearly as now, save that no church was there nor Arcade, the site of the latter being a sand-bank. Farther down, from the site of Masonic Hall eastward to Fox Brook, Main Street became a mere cart-path through swamp and woods. The Rhode Island side of the river was reached over a wooden bridge occupying the site of the present one on Mendon Street in the rear of Blackstone Mills. As to the mill itself, only the old, or No. 1 Mill of the present buildings, existed. Where now stand the stone mills of later date were then several wooden buildings, containing a grist-mill, saw-mill, blacksmith-shop and machine shop with a wood-shop above it. Hereabouts stood also a gambrel-roofed house occupied as a residence by superintendents and overseers. This was afterwards moved to the corner of Mendon and Canal Streets and is now the boarding-house. A little up the intervale stood a house where the cloth was bleached and calendered, while the old brick tenement house with wooden extensions, north of Main Street and beside the New York and New England tracks, was built and used for years as a dye-house, its location being determined by a fine spring of water in the rear of it. On the ground now occupied by the tracks of the Providence and Worcester Railroad, from the counting-room towards the iron bridge and on that occupied by the Blackstone Station, stood a row of buildings. First, a stone boarding-house nearly fronting the present counting-room site; secondly, a stone store almost on the site of the railroad station-house; thirdly, a stone store-house; and fourthly, quite up under the bluff, were sheds for horses and the hand fire-engine. This row of buildings has entirely disappeared, but they played a very important part in the village life of 1820. The store especially was a depot of supplies for the country round about. Blackstone had its hotel at that date in the second house above the Arcade, on what is now called Church Street, and a landlord in the person of one William Bussey. The Cook house was occupied by one Southworth at this time, who made shuttles there. The old vestry building, now revamped to do service as a public library building, was both church and school-house. The school was kept in session for forty weeks in the year, the long winter term of sixteen weeks always being taught by a master. For text-books a full equipment numbered only a Webster's Spelling-Book, a Columbian First Class Book, a Daboll's or Adams' Arithmetic, Morse's Geography (abridged), Murray's English Grammar and a New Testament. In the average New England winter the Blackstone Company used to have much trouble in keeping its great stone mill warm, although four-foot wood was crowded into its numerous fire-places without stint. A trial of box iron stoves gave not much better results, and the problem was not settled until Lehigh coal came to the rescue. The superintendent was a man named Tripp, who had lost the sight of one eye, a driving business man, well-liked by the mill-help. As superintendents' names we find Tripp's succeeded by Whipple, Waterman and Hartshorn down to 1833, when Holder Borden came under the new title of agent of the Blackstone Manufacturing Company. He was succeeded by Silas H. Kimball in 1834, who remained in charge until 1853, and was succeeded by Henry C. Kimball, his son, the present agent. Four large additions to the mill-buildings, forming by themselves a connected group apart from the No. 1 Mill, were erected in 1841, 1845, 1847 and 1854 respectively.

In 1820 no village existed in what we call Waterford. Only three farm-houses were to be found in all that section—Peter Gaskill's (now David's), Cogswell Chase's, not far from the present residence of Daniel Chase, and Elisha Gaskill's, just eastward of Chase's, near the brook. Pond Hill was covered with a heavy forest growth, predominantly pine, in which the wild pigeons found a congenial home. The snaring of

pigeons in the season for the market was an important business with Peter Gaskill, who even in those days was not unmolested by mischievous boys.

In 1825 Welcome and Darius D. Farnum built a satinet mill which in local terms was afterward known as Waterford No. 3. This mill was an extremely profitable investment from the start. The present No. 2 Mill was built in 1828 to supply it with cotton warps, and was used for that purpose for ten or twelve years. No. 1 Mill, just across the town and State line, was built in 1835. The erection of these mills and their steady profitable manufacture of woolen goods soon produced a village of wage-workers in their immediate vicinity. Just at the time the Farnums began their local enterprise the canal from Providence to Worcester was being built. The only mention of this canal in the Mendon records is under date March 6, 1826, when it was "Voted that Washington Hunt be an agent to call on the Blackstone Canal Company to make good the damage done to the road between Fox Brook and Rhode Island line." The growth of Waterford village was rapid. A post-office was established there in 1831 with James Wilson, Jr., as postmaster. He was succeeded in 1833 by Darius D. Farnum, and the latter by Welcome Farnum in 1841. The office was discontinued in 1850, when the villages of Blackstone and Waterford, having coalesced by natural growth, united in a post-office on the "Square." Blackstone village had its first postmaster in 1825 in Daniel Kelly; its second in 1831 was James S. Warner, and its third in 1837, and up to the union, John Cady.

In 1822 there was organized the Mendon Free-Will Baptist Church of Christ, which held its meetings in private houses and the old vestry at Blackstone until the building of the Blackstone Church in 1836, when it held its meetings for some four years in that building. Finally in 1841 this society erected its own home in the Waterford Church, at the corner of Main and Blackstone Streets. Its first regularly settled pastor was Elder Maxcy W. Burlingame, who remained with the society from 1831 to 1846. In 1845 it was re-named the Free-Will Baptist Church of Waterford.

The old vestry at Blackstone has been twice mentioned. This building, erected by the Blackstone Manufacturing Company some time previous to 1820, was used for many years as both school-house and church. In 1836 the company built a fine wooden church building, which was used by the Waterford Society for several years. In 1841 the Blackstone Congregational Church was organized with Rev. Michael Burdett as its first pastor and he remained with the society until 1852. The Blackstone Company has steadily sustained this church with liberal assistance, giving the use of its building to the society and maintaining it in repair.

Under date of August 22, 1791, the Mendon records contain the report of a committee of ten who had been appointed to redistrict the town into school districts. This committee reported the bounds of thirteen districts, of which seven appear to have been in the South Parish. The following are the words of the report defining what is now the Five Corner District: "Beginning at the Wid. Margaret Daniel's, excluding her, thence east on the Mill River to where David Handy lives, including him, thence to Hop Brook bridge (so called) on Smithfield road, thence to Benjamin and Nicholas Thayer's, including them, thence northward to the first bound." The East Blackstone and the Harris Privilege Districts were combined as follows: "Beginning at Hop Brook bridge, thence to Anthony Chase, including him, thence to Cumberland line, thence to Bellingham line, thence to Jotham Pickering's, including him, thence to Ichabod Pickering's, including him, thence to Seth Kelly's, including him, thence to first mentioned bound." The Waterford and Blackstone Districts were defined thus: "Beginning at George Gaskill's, including him, thence to Cogswell Chase, including him, thence up stream to the Great River until it comes south of Matthew Darling's house, thence to Jacob Aldrich's, including him, thence to Gideon Thayer's, excluding him, thence to the first-mentioned bound." Millville District was divided in two by the Blackstone River. The southern section is bounded: "Beginning at Uxbridge line, where it crosses the Great River, thence down stream the Great River to the Colony line, thence west on said Colony line to Uxbridge line, thence on Uxbridge line to the bound first mentioned." The northern section was bounded: "Beginning at Uxbridge line directly west of the Widow Warfield's house, thence to Benjamin Blake's, excluding him, thence to Matthew Darling's, including him, thence south to the Great River, thence up stream said river till it comes to Uxbridge line, thence to first mentioned bound." The Chestnut Hill District, less extensive than at present, was bounded: "Beginning at Nathaniel Taft's, including him, thence to Col. Joseph Chapin's old house, including him, thence to Uxbridge line to Jacob Taft's, including him, thence to Levi Young's, including him, thence to Jesse Tourtelotte's, including him, thence to first mentioned bound," which appears to be a section of the North Parish. Now Mendon: "Beginning at Timothy Alexander's, including him and Simon Alexander, thence to David Legg's, including him, thence on Uxbridge line until it comes directly west of the Widow Warfield's house, thence to Asa Blake's, including him, thence to Benjamin Blake's, including him and his son, Zaccheus, thence to the first mentioned bound." Between the Five Corners District and the district just described was another district now divided between them: "Beginning at Damp Swamp road, where the Parish line crosses, thence to Timothy Alexander's, excluding him, thence to Benjamin Blake's, excluding him, thence to the road south of said Benjamin Blake's house, thence to Gideon Thayer's, including him, thence east to Hop Brook bridge, thence up

stream said brook to the first mentioned bound." As thus defined the school districts remained until September 2, 1811, when the town accepted the report of a committee, advising the union of the two sections at Millville into one district, and the constituting of the village property of the the Blackstone Manufacturing Company a new district. The first part of this change did not prove acceptable, for on the 5th of June, 1812, it was "voted to set off all the inhabitants on the west side of Blackstone River, except Esek Pitts, Daniel Southwick and Nathaniel Capron, as a school district." On the 28th of June, 1824, the school districts were again defined, but substantially as already described. Prudential school committees were first chosen on 25th of August, 1827, and on that date the number of districts was unchanged, but at their election, April 15, 1833, two new districts are added—Pickering's, or Harris Privilege, and Waterford. A few years later we find the whole number of districts in the South Parish to be eleven, and with that number the town of Blackstone began its corporate existence. Both Chestnut Hill and the Five Corners had school-houses shortly after 1790.

THE DIVISION OF THE TOWN OF MENDON.—The question of the division of Mendon into two towns makes its appearance in a petition to the selectmen late in the year 1815. A town-meeting was desired—1. To see if the inhabitants will vote to have the South Parish set off into a town by itself. 2. To choose a committee to agree upon the division line of said town. 3. To act upon any other business relative to said division that the town shall see fit. Signed by John Pond, Henry Thayer, John Thompson, Smith Daniels, Elisha Thompson, Lewis Allen, Daniel Darling, Timothy Chase, Nicholas Thayer, Luther Warfield. A warrant drawn upon this petition called a town-meeting at the South Parish (Chestnut Hill) meeting-house on the 1st day of January, 1816, and on that day Joseph Adams was chosen moderator, and the proceedings were summed up in the one line of the clerk's record: "Voted to adjourn this meeting without day."

At this time Blackstone Village was beginning to exist, and its people felt it a hardship to be obliged to travel six or seven miles to reach the town-meetings when held in Mendon Village. On the other hand, the development of the new village called for increased expense upon bridges and highways, as well as a new school. Thus, in the first ten years of this century, the town of Mendon raised an average of $580 a year for the repairs of bridges and highways. In 1810 it was $700, in 1812, $1000, and in 1816, $1200, and the average for the second decade was $930 a year. Similarly during the first decade an average of $460 was yearly appropriated for schools, and in the second $620. In 1820 the appropriation was $800, and it did not drop below that figure in the following years. When Waterford Village started into existence in 1828 the school money was raised to $1000. To the people of the North Parish this swelling of the taxes was unwelcome because the money raised extra went to the southern part of the town. From 1820 to 1840 the Mendon records show almost every year's action taken at town-meeting in relation to laying out new roads, relaying old ones, or building bridges in the South Parish. Sometimes this action was negatived. The older settled portion of the town frequently put a veto upon the schemes for improvement proposed by its growing southern half, and, when it did so, murmurs of discontent and threats of secession would arise.

One improvement long struggled for was the section of Mendon Street between the town-house and the Samuel Verry homestead. For residents upon what is now known as Milk Street there was no means of reaching Blackstone village except by coming east by the Five Corners or by going over Waterbug Hill. On the 5th of May, 1823, a committee of three was appointed to consider and report on a road between the two points named. At an adjourned meeting on the following 2d of June the road was rejected. It came up with ill fortune time after time, until on April 7, 1828, when it was "voted to accept of a road laid out near Nathan Verry's house to near John Mann's house (tavern), provided the petitioners build the road and pay all land damages for the sum of three hundred dollars." From this hard bargain the town somewhat relented, for on May 4, 1829, an extra one hundred dollars was voted for completing this road. When the county road was in contemplation from the Uxbridge line to Blackstone Mills, at a town-meeting May 16, 1825, Warren Rawson was chosen an agent to oppose the new road "in every stage of it." This struggle to preserve the old order of things on the one hand, and on the other to create a new market and a new centre of human interest, could have but one issue. But it was long delayed and the fight had many curious episodes. On the 26th of September, 1823, a town-meeting warrant had the article, "To see if the town will vote to be divided into two separate towns," and the vote as recorded was forty-five yeas and sixty-two nays. On the 1st of March, 1824, a similar article was dismissed the warrant without a test vote. September 12, 1825, it was voted to choose a committee of ten persons, five from each parish, to take into consideration and consult on measures relative to a division of the town and make report at the next town-meeting. On the part of the South Parish was chosen Ichabod Cook, Asa Kelly, Elijah Thayer, Nathan Verry and Esek Pitts. The appointment of this committee caused great excitement, and town-meetings were held October 3d, November 28th and December 9th, remonstrating against division, appointing committees to oppose division before the General Court, and a committee "to take into consideration the inconveniences complained of by a portion of the inhabitants in regard to the at-

tendance upon town-meetings and the transaction of municipal business." Finally, at a meeting held December 15th, the committee appointed September 12th reported against division, and the report was accepted, one hundred and eighty-three yeas to seventy-eight nays. Meanwhile, June 30th of this same year, Seth Hastings and one hundred and eighteen others had put in a petition that Mendon North Parish be incorporated as a new town; and on the 19th, 20th and 21st of October, 1825, a special committee of the General Court visited Mendon to give the subject a hearing. When this committee reported to the Committee on Towns, February 7, 1826, the report recommended that the petition be granted. Meanwhile the opponents of division had sent in four petitions against it, with the names of Joseph Adams, James S. Warner, Rufus Aldrich and Jesse Tourtelotte heading them respectively, and containing a total of about two hundred and forty names. In the records of Massachusetts General Court for 1826 is the following curious record:

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS }
In Senate, June Session, 1826. }

Upon the suggestion of the Committee on Towns that the Petition of Seth Hastings and others for a new town, cannot be found, it was Ordered, that the Committee have further time allowed them until the next Session of the Legislature to report on the subject matter of said Petition and that the Petitioners have leave to file a new Petition in the meantime.

Attest: PAUL WILLARD.

The friends of division did not hesitate to declare there had been foul play on the part of their opponents, and that the petition of Seth Hastings had been stolen. But the outcome was so ludicrous, and the majority of the people so strongly opposed to dividing the town, that the petition was not filed anew. In the spring town-meetings of 1827 the matter was discussed somewhat and then allowed to die a natural death. The quarrel went on, however, in regard to new roads, the place of holding town-meetings and other subjects of public policy. The town-meeting question was compromised by holding some of the meetings at the Chestnut Hill meeting-house, some at the Coverdale tavern, and the more important ones at the old meeting-house in Mendon village. When the latter building was sold and demolished in 1843, meetings were voted to be held at Marsh's Inn instead.

A new disturbing question arose the next year, when it was voted to build a town-house. Naturally, both ends of the town wanted it, but for it to be located in either end would entail great trouble and expense in reaching meetings, upon a large proportion of the voters. The centre of the town was still a wilderness of forests and swamp,—the Dam Swamp heretofore mentioned. However, at a meeting on December 2, 1843, it was "voted that the town-house be built in Nicholas Thayer's pasture, where a road from Samuel Very's cider mill will communicate with a road from Artemas Thayer's road to Millins Taft's." This location would have necessitated building two new roads in order to reach the new town-house; so some half-hour later it was reconsidered, and then "voted, that the town-house be located at, or near, the corner of the roads by Samuel Very's cider mill." At subsequent meetings the same year this vote was attacked, and finally, when it came the turn to hold a meeting at Mendon village, the action taken December 2d was annulled. With the new year the fight was renewed, and the frequent town-meetings held in different quarters of the town were a series of farces, each reconsidering what its predecessor had done, and annulling it. Before the middle of 1844 petitions were again in circulation, praying for a division of the town. The order of notice from the General Court was read before a town-meeting held January 30, 1845, and the meeting voted 239 to 168, not to oppose the division.

Welcome Staples, the town's representative to the General Court, was instructed to vote for division, and Washington Hunt, John G. Metcalf, Aaron Burdon and Henry A. Aldrich were chosen agents to defend the petition before the Committee on Towns. The body of the petition was as follows:

The petition of the undersigned, qualified voters in the town of Mendon, in the county of Worcester, respectively represent that the population of the town, by the last census, was 3,524, since which time it has greatly increased; that the town is divided into two parishes, viz.: the First, or North Parish, and the Second, or South Parish, by a territorial line running nearly east and west; that the principal portion of the population is located at the extreme north and south parts of the town; that the town has no town house nor any convenient place near the centre of the town to hold town meetings or to transact town business; that the town is well located to divide into two towns, there being a thin population along the dividing line of the parishes, and a range of hills and wild, uncultivated land; that the inhabitants of the two parishes have different interests and are engaged in different occupations and that it will greatly accommodate the inhabitants if the town was divided into two towns.

The petition was signed by Joseph G. Davenport and 766 others. Against the division a counter-petition was filed, the body of which was as follows:

The undersigned, freeholders and legal voters of the town of Mendon, do respectfully and urgently remonstrate against the division of the town of Mendon into two towns by your honorable body on the petition of Joseph G. Davenport and others, or on any other petition, present to your honorable body the following reasons for so remonstrating:

1. The geographical dimensions of the town is not above the average of towns in our county of Worcester, being 21,060½ acres within its claimed boundaries.

2. Rhode Island claims a part of our territory, and which claim is now pending for adjudication in the Supreme Federal Court.

3. The division of the town will cause great inconvenience in the School Districts.

4. The town has an almshouse establishment amply sufficient for the town, as it now is, with paupers, which may lead to expensive and vexatious litigation if the town is divided.

5. The petitions have been prematurely presented to your honorable body, as we understand the Revised Statutes. There has never been any notice served upon this town up to this day. Some of the petitioners for a division (we understand) have stated that unfair means were used to obtain their signatures. Almost all our transient male population (if our information is correct), from twenty-one years upwards, have been induced to petition for a division of the town, and whether they are all voters is very questionable; and we think that more than one-third of the population of Mendon are transient people, leaving a large propor-

tion of the freeholders to defend themselves against a measure in which these can have but little interest.

This petition of remonstrance was signed by Obadiah Wood and three hundred and thirteen others.

A bill was reported by the Committee on Towns, February 26, 1845, went through the usual stages and became a law by the signature of the Governor, March 25, 1845:

AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE.

Be it enacted, &c., as follows:

SECT. 1. All that part of Mendon, in the county of Worcester, which lies south of the line dividing the South Precinct from the First Precinct in said town, as established by an act of incorporation in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-six, shall be, and the same is hereby incorporated into a separate town, by the name of Blackstone; and the said town of Blackstone is hereby vested with all the powers, privileges, rights, and immunities, and subject to all the duties and requisitions to which other towns are entitled and subjected by the Constitution and laws of this Commonwealth.

SECT. 2. All the real and personal estate belonging to and held in common, by the inhabitants of the present town of Mendon, shall be sold, and the proceeds thereof shall be applied to the payment of the debts and charges now due and owing from the town of Mendon; and the surplus, if any, shall be divided between the said towns of Mendon and Blackstone, according to the valuation next preceding the passage of this act; and if the said proceeds, together with the money now in the treasury and available debts due the town, shall be insufficient to pay the debts and charges aforesaid, said town of Blackstone shall pay her proportionate part, according to the valuation aforesaid.

SECT. 3. All persons legally settled in the present town of Mendon who are now, or who may hereafter become chargeable as paupers, and all persons who may hereafter become legally settled in either of said towns of Mendon and Blackstone and become chargeable as paupers, shall be supported by that town within the territorial limits of which they may have gained a legal settlement, or in which their settlement may have been perfected.

SECT. 4. The inhabitants of the town of Blackstone shall be holden to pay all State, county and town taxes legally assessed on them to the treasurer and collector of the town of Mendon; and all moneys now in the treasury of said town, or that may hereafter be received from taxes now assessed, or directed to be assessed, shall be applied to the purposes for which they were raised and assessed, the same as if this act had not passed.

SECT. 5. The town of Mendon shall pay to the town of Blackstone a just proportion of the Surplus Revenue of the United States, received by the town of Mendon, to be apportioned according to the census taken by authority of the State, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven, in pursuance of "An Act concerning the deposit of the Surplus Revenue," and the town of Blackstone shall receive, in payment of their proportion, any bonds and notes secured by mortgage on real estate within the limits of said town of Blackstone; and the said town of Blackstone shall be holden to refund to the town of Mendon the proportion of said Surplus Revenue so to be received by them whenever the town of Mendon shall be required to refund the same to the Commonwealth.

SECT. 6. The said town of Blackstone shall remain a part of the town of Mendon for the purpose of electing a representative to the General Court, to which the town of Mendon is entitled, until the next decennial census of the inhabitants shall be taken, in pursuance of the thirteenth article of the Amendments of the Constitution. And the meeting for the choice of such representative shall be called by the selectmen of Mendon; and the warrant shall specify ten o'clock in the forenoon as the time when the polls at such elections shall be opened; and the same shall be opened accordingly, and be closed by one o'clock in the afternoon of the same day.

SECT. 7. The selectmen of Blackstone shall make a true list of persons belonging to said town qualified to vote at every such election, and the same shall be taken and used by the selectmen of Mendon for such election, in the same manner as if it had been prepared by themselves. Such meetings shall be held in the towns of Mendon and Blackstone respectively, in alternate years, commencing with the town of Blackstone; and the selectmen of Mendon shall appoint such place for meeting to be held in Blackstone as the selectmen of Blackstone shall, in writing, request.

SECT. 8. Any justice of the peace within and for the county of Worcester is authorized to issue a warrant, directed to some principal inhabitant of said town of Blackstone, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants thereof, qualified to act in town affairs, to meet at such convenient time and place as shall be appointed in said warrant, for the choice of all such officers as towns are, by law, required to choose in the months of March or April annually.

SECT. 9. This act shall take effect from and after the passage of the same. Approved by the Governor, March 25, 1845.

A true copy.

Attest, JAMES P. HAYWARD, *Town Clerk.*

THE TOWN ANNALS.—1845.—The first town-meeting of the new town was called by Dan Hill, a justice of the peace, on the 27th March, 1845, two days after the Governor's signature was affixed to the act of incorporation, in a warrant directed to Washington Hunt and giving warning only of a choice of town officers. At the meeting, which was held April 5th, in the meeting-house at Chestnut Hill, at one o'clock in the afternoon, Jared Benson was chosen moderator, and the following annual officers were elected: Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Emory Scott, James Comstock, Jared Benson, Daniel Southwick, Hezekiah Harrington; Assessors, Welcome Thayer, Daniel S. Southwick, Jared Benson, Jr.; Overseers of the Poor, Willard Wilson, Samuel Verry, Caleb Taft; School Committee, Louis Cook, Orrin Sargent, Earl Joslin; Constable, Rufus Hayward; Treasurer, James P. Hayward. This meeting was adjourned to April 19th, at the same time and place, when, under a new warrant, twelve hundred dollars were appropriated for schools, six hundred dollars for support of the poor, six hundred dollars for town incidentals, and eight hundred dollars for highways and bridges. Laban Bates was chosen assessor in place of Welcome Thayer, excused. Voted to repair highways by allowing each man ten cents per hour, oxen and cart ten cents per hour, for plough five cents per hour. Voted to choose a committee, one from each original school district, to report at an adjourned meeting what alterations in the school districts are necessary. Laban Bates, of 5th; Emory Scott, of 6th; Horace Benson, of 9th; Caleb T. Wilson, of 10th; Samuel Verry, of 11th; Peter Gaskill, Jr., of 12th; Lyman C. Curtis, of 13th; Hezekiah Harrington, of 14th; Libbeus L. Wood, of 15th; Enos Hayward, of 16th, and Eli Kelly, of 18th, were chosen said committee. Rufus Hayward bid off the collection of taxes at auction for seventeen dollars. It was voted not to choose any tythingmen, that the selectmen should be the Board of Health, and that this meeting adjourn to April 26th, at two in the afternoon, at Henry Coverdale's house. There voted to purchase Millens Taft's farm for the poor of Blackstone at three thousand dollars. Very little else was done at this meeting and it was adjourned to May 3d, when the committee on school districts made a report, which was accepted, and the following prudential committee was chosen. No. 1 (Chestnut Hill District), Horace Benson; No. 2 (Verry District), Millens Taft; No. 3 (Five Corners District), Eben-

ezer Chase; No. 4 (Upper Canada District), William A. Kelly; No. 5 (Lower Canada District), Lyman Paine; No. 6 (Pickering District), Libbeus L. Wood; No. 7 (Waterford District), Welcome Farnum; No. 8 (Blackstone District), Silas H. Kimball; No. 9 (Town-House District), George W. Hunt; No. 10 (North Millville District), Newbury Darling; No. 11 (South Millville District), Lyman C. Curtis.

It was getting to be a troublesome matter for all the voters to travel either to the extreme northeast corner (Coverdale's) or the extreme northwest corner (Chestnut Hill) to a town-meeting every week, so at a meeting called at the Verry Tavern, so called, on the 7th of June, it was voted to choose a committee to take into consideration and report at this meeting the location and size of a building for a town-house. Dan Hill, Dr. Abel Wilder, Willard Wilson, Jared Benson and Francis Kelly were chosen and forthwith reported, "that it is expedient to build the house seventy feet by fifty, with about eighteen feet posts, and that it be located on such spot of ground, near the Verry Tavern, as is suitable and can be obtained on fair terms." This report was accepted, and Dan Hill, Washington Hunt and Jared Benson were chosen a committee to build.

Another meeting was immediately called for the purpose of reconsidering, but it failed of its purpose, and the present town-house was at once built. It was completed in season to be used the 10th November, following, at the annual election of State officers.

The Surplus Revenue of the United States received through the town of Mendon, and amounting to $4,-803.45, was disposed of by voting to loan it on security satisfactory to the selectmen.

The selectmen during the year erected stone-bounds on the westerly side of each highway, between Mendon and Blackstone, and perambulated the bounds with the selectmen of Uxbridge, Mendon and Bellingham.

The assessors for 1844 in Mendon, through Preserved S. Thayer, reported the valuation and polls in the South Parish as follows: Real estate, $548,299; personal estate, $366,025; total, $914,324. Polls, 696.

The assessors for 1845 in Blackstone reported for that year: Real estate, $635,660; personal estate, $442,286; total, $1,077,946. Polls, 792. Rate on $1000 was $2.60. Poll-tax, 68 cents.

On November 10th, before voting for State officers, the voters of Mendon and Blackstone, in the latter's new town-hall, balloted for Representative. Rufus Hayward, of Blackstone, had 163; Alanson S. Freeman, of Mendon, had 96; Charles L. Harding, of Blackstone, had 75; scattering, 6; and there was no choice.

November 24th, a second meeting was held for choice of Representative. Rufus Hayward had 191, Alanson S. Freeman had 96, Charles L. Harding had 22, scattering 27, and Rufus Hayward was elected.

1846.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen Emory Scott, Daniel Southwick, Moses Daniels, James A. Baldwin, Samuel Thayer; Assessors, Preserved S. Thayer, Arthur Cook, Jr., Millens Taft; Overseers of Poor, Willard Wilson, Caleb Taft, Hiram Metcalf; School Committee, Arthur Cook, Jr., Horace Thayer, Dan A. Comstock; Town Treasurer, James P. Hayward.

The annual March meeting passed a resolution in favor of the Boston and Southbridge Railroad, then petitioned for before the General Court.

The stone arch bridges over the canal at Millville and over Fox Brook, at Waterford, were built this year.

Rev. Benjamin D. Peck was settled pastor over the Waterford Free-Will Baptist Church, where he remained about two years.

On the 9th November the voters of Mendon and Blackstone were to meet in Harrison Hall, Mendon, to elect a representative to General Court. The Mendon voters opened the polls promptly at 10 A.M., cast their ballots and closed the polls before the majority of the Blackstone voters arrived. There was no choice. The Blackstone men organized a new meeting and elected Dan Hill; but he was refused a seat in the General Court, and the two towns went unrepresented that session, as Mendon refused to call another meeting for an election. In the opinion of Mr. Dan Hill and most of the Blackstone people, this manœuvre was in the interest of a railroad company proposing a terminus in Woonsocket, R. I., instead of Blackstone.

The Blackstone River Lodge of Odd Fellows, No. 106, was organized.

1847.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Dan Hill, Caleb Thayer, Rufus Hayward, Stephen J. Sherman, Samuel Chase; Assessors, John Cady, William Legg, Ebenezer Chase; Treasurer, James P. Hayward; School Committee, Arthur Cook, Francis S. Weeks, Rev. Benjamin D. Peck; Overseers of Poor, the selectmen.

The town unanimously voted resolutions to be presented to the General Court in favor of the railroad from Boston to pass through Blackstone Village, and appointed Dan Hill its agent to present it.

At the April meeting Emanuel N. Paine was chosen selectman in place of Caleb Thayer, and Preserved S. Thayer assessor, in place of William Legg, declined to serve.

At the April meeting there was an article "to see if the town will consent to an alteration, or new location, of the county road in the village of Millville over a portion of an ancient burial-ground near the residence of Willard Wilson." And the town voted that this article "be referred to the selectmen to examine, and grant the request of the railroad company, if they see fit." The railroad here referred to was the Providence and Worcester, which put its first train through the 17th of September following.

The Blackstone (No. 4) Mill and the Lincoln House

were built this season, which was further rendered notable by the settlement in town of Paul P. Todd, the eminent attorney and legal adviser.

A Methodist Society was formed at Waterford, with Jeremiah N. Hanaford as pastor, and meetings were held for about two years in "Odd Fellows' Hall," now the residence of Thomas Campbell.

1848.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Dan Hill, Emanuel N. Paine, Hezekiah Harrington; Assessors, Arthur Cook, Willard Wilson, Lyman Paine; Overseers of the Poor, Millens Taft, Lyman Paine, Whitney Alexander; School Committee, Rev. Benjamin D. Peck, Arthur Cook, Thomas Davis; Treasurer, James P. Hayward.

Early in the year (January 10th) the town voted "That the Selectmen be authorized to loan $700 of the 'Surplus Revenue' money for one year, without interest, to Oliver Johnson, of New York (or to some other person whom they may deem suitable), to enable him to procure a printing-press and appurtenances for publishing a newspaper in this town. And for security they are to take a mortgage on said press and appurtenances. It being understood that the paper is to be conducted independent of party, both in politics and religion." The paper thus inaugurated under town auspices was a weekly four-page paper, called the *Blackstone Chronicle*, first issued February 26th. It failed before the 1st of the following October, and the town had to take the press and type.

Canal Street was laid out by the selectmen October 13th, accepted by the town October 21st, and was built at once by Welcome Farnum. Federal Street was laid out by the selectmen October 21st, and was accepted by the town November 7th.

The union meeting of the two towns to elect a Representative to the General Court again failed to make any choice November 13th, as did also a second meeting November 27th, although at the latter meeting the Blackstone voters combined on Samuel V. Stone, and gave him 245 votes in a total of 499.

Rev. Benjamin D. Peck, removing from town, was succeeded in the Waterford Parish by Rev. Thomas Brown, and on the School Committee by Rev. Michael Burdett.

1849.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Millens Taft, Lyman Paine, Daniel Southwick; Assessors, Arthur Cook, Richard Battey, Joseph Southwick; Overseers of the Poor, Whitney Alexander, Richard Battey, James Comstock; School Committee, Thomas Davis, Dr. Moses D. Southwick, Arthur Cook; Town Treasurer, James P. Hayward.

At a thinly attended town-meeting, held May 19th, the school district system was abolished, and votes passed looking to the purchase of school-houses from the districts, and the building of new houses by the town. This radical step was reversed at the adjourned meeting, August 18th.

The St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church was organized May 14th at Millville, with Rev. John W. Birchmore as pastor. Some trouble having arisen in the Methodist Reformed Church in the same village, certain members withdrew, and called Rev. Daniel Fillmore as minister.

The meeting, November 12th, to elect a representative to the General Court, resulted in no choice, and again the two towns were unrepresented.

The Blackstone Savings Bank was incorporated April 20th, but failed to do any business. The Worcester County Bank was incorporated May 1st, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, by Welcome Farnum, Silas H. Kimball and Dan Hill. It was located for many years in Blackstone Block, a large brick structure erected this year by Welcome Farnum.

On the 15th of May the long-awaited first train over the Boston road arrived in Blackstone from Walpole. The road was then known as the Norfolk County Railroad, and its completion had been due almost solely to the iron will of Welcome Farnum.

Napoleon J. Smith put out his shingle in the village as attorney, and remained some two years.

1850.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Emory Scott, Jared Benson, Jonathan F. Comstock; Assessors, Arthur Cook, Jared Benson, Jr., Rufus A. Benson; Overseers of the Poor, Caleb Thayer, Millens Taft, James P. Hayward; School Committee, Dr. Moses D. Southwick, Emanuel N. Paine, Daniel Wheelock; Treasurer, James P. Hayward.

School Districts Nos. 10 and 11, the two sections of Millville, were joined this spring into one district, No. 10. This district then proceeded to build a new brick school-house on Central Street, now owned by the town.

The liquor question puts in its first appearance in Blackstone town-meetings, and Millens Taft, Frederic M. Ballou and Jared Benson, Jr., were chosen a committee to enforce the license law of the Commonwealth.

The small-pox broke out among the people working in Eli Kelly's factory at Upper Canada (East Blackstone), and the town voted a general vaccination, a hospital and a quarantine of the sick.

St. Paul's Church was founded in the autumn, the first place of worship constructed by the Roman Catholics in the town, although for more than fifteen years previously services had been held in private houses. Rev. Charles O'Reilly was its first priest.

St. John's Protestant Episcopal Society saw the corner-stone of its beautiful stone edifice laid by Bishop Eastburn July 16th.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Millville was organized March 3d.

Rev. Martin J. Steere was installed as pastor at the Waterford Church.

The North Blackstone post-office was removed to Lower Canada, and Moses Kelly became its new postmaster.

Bridge, Waterford and Cross Streets were laid out and accepted August 31st. The two latter form our present Market Street.

Park Street was accepted October 26th.

Caleb Thayer was chosen Representative to General Court November 25th.

1851.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Laban Bates, Henry S. Mansfield, Jr., Richard Battey; Assessors, Emanuel N. Paine, Frederic M. Ballou, Moses D. Southwick; Overseers of Poor, Whitney Alexander, Lyman Paine, Ariel Thayer, Jr.; School Committee, Dr. Moses D. Southwick, Martin I. Steere, Thomas Davis; Treasurer, Alexander Ballou.

Representative Caleb Taft was instructed to vote against a division of the county of Worcester, which matter was being agitated.

Lincoln Street, from Fletcher's store to the Jacob Southwick house, was laid out wider by the selectmen and was accepted April 7th.

The Fugitive Slave Law of 1850 awakened the following protest, written by Daniel Hill, Dr. Moses D. Southwick and Thomas Davis, and adopted by the town April 7th:

Resolved, That we adhere to the doctrine that "all men are born free and equal," not because it is a sentiment, solemnly declared by our fathers, in defence of which they pledged "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor," but because it is, as declared by them, a self-evident truth, applicable to every age and to every race; and those, and those only, who have sacrificed their convictions on the altar of ambition or self-interest, would deprive the African of this God-given birthright.

Resolved, That the Fugitive Slave Law, recently enacted by Congress, is not only contrary to the fundamental principles of our government, but it is an act which attempts to transform us into slave catchers, requiring us to sacrifice the noblest feelings of our nature, which prompt us to aid the weak rather than the strong, and by no means to strengthen the arm of the oppressor.

Resolved, That the attempt to justify this Law on the plea that it is necessary to preserve the union of these States, is but declaring that this Union cannot exist on the principles of Justice, Humanity and Righteousness (and therefore is not worth preserving), a declaration which we are unwilling to admit.

Resolved, That so great and indiscriminate is our abhorrence of slavery, if one who had basely sold himself to Southern slave holders should escape from his keepers and seek our protection, we could not so far "conquer our prejudices" as to "perform the disagreeable duty" of rendering aid in returning him into bondage.

Resolved, That we regard it as the duty of the Legislature of this Commonwealth, now in session, to pass an act, without further delay, securing to all persons, claimed as fugitives from labor, "the privilege and benefit of the Writ of Habeas Corpus" and the "right to a trial by Jury," and in all Constitutional ways protecting them against the atrocious provisions of this abominable Fugitive Slave Law.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to our Representative in the General Court, with a request that he present them to that body.

"Our Representative," Mr. Caleb Thayer, was at that time balloting in the Legislature for Charles Sumner as Senator in the National Congress, a result secured on the twenty-sixth ballot. This was the time of the famous coalition between the Democrats and Free Soilers. A largely attended Teachers' Institute was held in April.

St. Paul Street was laid out October 4th, and accepted by the town November 10th.

Laban Bates was chosen Representative to the General Court at the meeting, November 24th.

James Mason having mysteriously disappeared from Waterford, a town-meeting was held December 9th, and a reward of fifty dollars offered for the recovery of his body, and five hundred dollars for evidence convicting any one for taking his life.

Napoleon J. Smith took down his shingle in Blackstone village as attorney-at-law, and William L. Southwick first put his out.

Rev. Nelson Goodrich succeeded the Rev. Mr. Fillmore as pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Millville.

1852.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Laban Bates, Richard Battey, Henry S. Mansfield; Assessors, Willard Wilson, Richard Battey, Welcome A. Thayer; Overseers of the Poor, "Voted not to choose any Overseers of the Poor;" School Committee, Martin J. Steere, Thomas Davis, Dan A. Comstock; Treasurer, Alexander Ballou, in place of James P. Hayward, excused.

At the April meeting Dr. Moses D. Southwick was chosen to the Board of School Committee in place of Dan. A. Comstock, excused, and to the Board of Assessors in place of Willard Wilson, excused. Dan Hill and Aaron Burdon were chosen additional assessors. The County Commissioners had re-located the County road (Main Street) over the Blackstone Company's mill trench and the Providence & Worcester Railroad, and the town opposed the re-location.

Rev. Martin J. Steere was chosen Representative to the General Court at the adjourned meeting, November 22d.

Rev. Michael Burdett closed his connection with the Blackstone Congregational Church February 10th, and Rev. Joseph W. Backus was ordained as his successor September 29th.

Rev. John E. Gifford became pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Society of Millville, and in the same, village Rev. Spencer M. Rice became rector of St. John's Protestant Episcopal Church, May 17th.

St. Paul's Church was completed in its original form and dedicated by Bishop Fitzpatrick.

1853.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Millens Taft, John C. Scott, Lyman Paine; Assessors, Willard Wilson, Ara Paine, Welcome A. Thayer; Overseers of Poor, Richard Battey, John G. Gatchell, Albert Fairbanks; School Committee, Spencer M. Rice, Rev. Joseph W. Backus, Dr. William M. Kimball; Treasurer, Andrew Comstock.

Willard Wilson was elected delegate to the State Constitutional Convention. Dr. William M. Kimball having declined to serve on School Committee, Francis Kelly was elected.

With the increase of population came an increase in the number of grog-shops, and the constables were directed to prosecute those who violated the law. A lock-up was now first voted.

The Blackstone Manufacturing Company, February

14th, gave a bond to the town to keep in repair the western abutment of the New City bridge for ten years, the town on its part withdrawing opposition to the re-location of the County road (Main Street) at that point.

On April 4th an article in reference to a map of the town was referred to the selectmen. This must refer to the map "Surveyed by Order of the Town, by H. F. Walling, 1854," a very accurate map.

After three separate attempts to elect a Representative to the General Court there was no choice, and the town was not represented in the Legislature of 1854. The law requiring only a plurality for election was passed in 1854, and thereafter there was no further trouble on this score.

Darius Bennett was made postmaster of the Blackstone office and remained therein until 1861. Willard Wilson for the third time became postmaster at Millville.

The Blackstone River Bank, of Millville, was incorporated March 30th by Edward S. Hall, Charles E. Hall and Spencer M. Rice, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, but it never materialized.

The Union Hotel was built and gas main laid from Woonsocket to Blackstone Village.

1854.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Millens Taft, Eleazer W. Barrows, Seth T. Aldrich; Assessors, Dan. Hill, Emanuel N. Paine, Dan. A. Comstock; Overseers of the Poor, James P. Hayward, Richard Battey, Asa Paine; School Committee, Rev. Joseph W. Backus, William B. Rice, Rev. Edmund M. Tappan; Treasurer, Moses Farnum (2d).

In February the town voted a remonstrance against the Charles River Railroad (eventually Woonsocket Division, N. Y. & N. E.), and sent Dan. Hill to present it to the Legislature. Just at this time Welcome Farnum was making his last desperate endeavor to push through to New York City a western extension of his Norfolk County road. He succeeded—and failed; not through lack of wisdom in making a wise plan, but through the business stringency now beginning, which culminated in 1857, and the failure of promised assistance from others at this critical juncture.

Dan. Hill was excused from acting as assessor, and William Cook was elected. By a vote of 119 to 82 was adopted an act of the General Court of 1854 establishing a Police Court.

Dr. J. C. Rutherford was appointed physician to the Board of Health (Overseers of the Poor) at a salary of five dollars per annum.

Silas A. Burgess, Esq., opened an office at Blackstone for the practice of law.

John S. Haradon was elected to the General Court as representative November 13th.

Blackstone No. 5 Mill, the last of the large additions, was built this year.

Rev. Edmond M. Tappan succeeded Martin J. Steere as pastor of the Waterford Free-Will Baptist Society.

By the failure of Mr. Farnum, the Millville manufacturing interests on the Blackstone passed into the hands of Edward S. and Charles E. Hall.

The St. John's Episcopal Church was consecrated December 7th.

1855.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, John C. Scott, Rufus A. Benson, Lyman Paine; Assessors, William Cook, James B. Hall, Joseph G. Ray; Overseers of the Poor, Willard Willson, John B. Salisbury, Welcome A. Thayer; Town Treasurer, Eleazer W. Barrows; School Committee, Rev. Edmund M. Tappan, Dr. George E. Bullard, Alexander Ballou, Jr. Dan. Hill was justice of the Police Court.

A war had now broken out against the Police Court, and at a meeting February 1st Lyman Legg was chosen agent to secure a repeal of the act establishing it.

It was voted to purchase five hundred of Mr. Walling's map and that each tax-payer might have one for sixty cents. This was all reversed at another meeting on the 8th. It would appear that very few of Mr. Walling's maps were actually circulated in the town. After two more meetings the town voted Mr. Walling two hundred dollars for publishing the map.

John Cady was appointed liquor agent under the new law, and Dr. George E. Bullard another. The latter settled in town this year.

Henry S. Mansfield was chosen representative to General Court.

March 18th, Rev. Joseph W. Backus resigned his ministry at Blackstone, and was succeeded in September by Rev. Thomas E. Bliss. Rev. John A. M. Chapman was assigned to the Millville Methodist Society, and Rev. Alfred B. Goodrich was called to the St. John's Society.

The Blackstone Library Association was organized October 4th at the house of Mr. Welcome Farnum, whose wife, sister to the historian, George Bancroft, took great interest in the matter, and secured many valuable donations from literary friends of her brother. The original list of officers was as follows: President, Thomas Dermot; Recording Secretary, James K. Comstock; Librarian, George B. Allen.

A visit of a special committee of the Legislature sent out to examine and report upon the condition of the Boston and New York Central Railroad put up for dinner at the Union House April 17th, and scandalized the natives by bringing with them "36 bottles Extra Champagne Wine and 48 bottles of Brandy."

1856.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Lyman Paine, Joseph Southwick, Seth T. Aldrich; Assessors, James B. Hall, Arthur Cook, Albert Gaskill; Overseers of the Poor, Willard Wilson, John B. Salisbury, Welcome A. Thayer; School Committee, Rev. Edmund M. Tappan, Dr. George E. Bullard, Rev. Thos. E. Bliss; Treasurer, Walter Thorpe.

The Police Court was abolished April 1st.

The rapid growth of the three villages—Waterford, Blackstone and Millville—had strained the old arrangements for schooling children, both in respect to rooms and the amount of money. The Blackstone Manufacturing Company had erected an elegant building with four school-rooms the year preceding, and given its use to the district. The rural districts had dwindled in population until several of them numbered scarcely more than a dozen children of school age. It cost as much for each of these schools as for one in the village with sixty to eighty pupils. To remedy this inequality, it was proposed to reduce the number of districts, and a committee was appointed to report upon the feasibility of doing so.

Emanuel N. Paine was elected Representative to the General Court.

The Waterford stone dam, near the Union House, was built by Daniel F. Simmons. The dam, together with the abutments, is one hundred and sixty feet long, of solid masonry, faced and capped with wrought stone.

At the first anniversary meeting of the Blackstone Library Association the officers reported fifteen hundred volumes secured, "only about 100 volumes belonging to the department of novels and tales." Lectures were given during the fall and winter under the auspices of the association, amongst the lecturers being Wendell Phillips, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Rev. Theodore Parker, Rev. Thomas Starr King and others.

The Blackstone Athenæum, a rival library association, was organized February 26th. Rev. Asa U. Swinerton was assigned to the Methodist Society, Millville.

The Blackstone River Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons organized under dispensation January 1st.

1857.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, John C. Scott, Andrew Comstock, Caleb Colvin; Assessors, Arthur Cook, Estus Lamb, Joseph Tucker; Overseers of the Poor, Willard Wilson, John B. Salisbury, William A. Dodge; School Committee, Rev. Edmund M. Tappan, Rev. Thomas E. Bliss, Dr. George E. Bullard; Treasurer, Charles W. Baker.

Estus Lamb having declined to serve as assessor, David Brayton was chosen. The committee in charge of re-districting the town into school districts made a radical report, reducing the number of districts to five. This report was at first accepted, and then, at a subsequent meeting, reconsidered and rejected.

Samuel Thayer, Jr., was chosen Representative to the General Court. Rev. William N. Morrison was assigned to the Millville Methodist Church. Rev. Charles O'Reilly, of the St. Paul's Church, died in September, and was succeeded by Rev. Edward J. Sheridan.

1858.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Richard Battey, Welcome Thayer, John B. White; Assessors, Arthur Cook, Daniel N. Chase, William Legg; Overseers of Poor, James P. Hayward, Caleb Taft, Channing Smith; School Committee, Arthur Cook, for one year, William L. Southwick, two years, Moses D. Southwick, three years; Treasurer, Moses Farnum.

Channing Smith having declined to serve as overseer, Ebenezer Chase was chosen. The Blackstone Manufacturing Company had brought suit against the town for over-assessment, and Dan Hill was appointed general agent by the town to defend the suit. An article to see if the town would establish a high school was dismissed. John B. White was chosen Representative to General Court. Rev. Justus Erskine succeeded Rev. E. M. Tappan at Waterford Baptist Church. Willard Wilson became trial justice.

About the middle of May Rev. B. G. Northup, agent of the State Board of Education, lectured in the New City School-house, afternoon and evening, to teachers. The afternoon lecture covered methods of instruction, dwelling especially upon President Dwight's advice to the young man to "open his eyes." The evening lecture was upon the subject of moral and intellectual culture.

Early in May occurred a great strike among the operatives of the Waterford woolen-mills. The Nos. 1 and 2 Mills were run at this time by Evans, Seagrave & Co., and the No. 3 Mill by Bradford & Taft. The two former had been stopped all winter, but the latter had run steadily, being the one bright spot in the hard times of the past year. The strike, which was general in the three mills, was caused by a reduction of 20 per cent. in the rate of wages.

The papers in Massachusetts discussing large trees gave, after due inquiry, the precedence to Blackstone. The largest tree in the State at that time was supposed to be the elm standing near the Nicholas Thayer homestead. The trunk measured 22 feet about near the ground, and 20 feet around 10 feet above the ground. It spread from the trunk with seven large branches, giving a shade 125 feet in diameter.

1859.—Town Clerk, James P. Hayward; Selectmen, Emanuel N. Paine, William Kelly, Mowry Lapham; Assessors, Arthur Cook, Sylvanus H. Benson, Joseph G. Ray; Overseers of Poor, John B. Salisbury, William Sargent, William A. Kelly; Treasurer, Moses Farnum; School Committee, Joseph Thayer, for three years.

Silas A. Burgess was chosen selectman and Richard Battey assessor in place of William Kelly and Joseph G. Ray respectively, as the latter did not take the oath of office. District No. 2 was annexed to No. 9. Joseph G. Ray was chosen Representative to the General Court. At this time Blackstone by itself formed the Twenty-first Worcester District.

About the middle of May occurred the sad casualty by which Miss Georgiana Brown, of Pawtucket, a teacher in the New City School, and Miss Frances Cady, only daughter of Mr. John Cady, formerly

postmaster, were drowned by going over the Blackstone dam while out boating with Mr. Walter Thorpe.

Some time in March a rabid dog owned in Concord, Mass., passed through the village, biting numerous other dogs and two or three persons. About the 10th of April a boy named Thomas Quinlen, fourteen years old, one of those bitten, died with all the symptoms assigned to hydrophobia.

During the year Mr. Freeman Hurd was engaged in building the Edward Harris New Privilege dam across Mill River in the southeast corner of the town, flowing many acres of meadow land in Blackstone.

Rev. William H. Bowen became pastor at Waterford Baptist Church, and Rev. Charles A. Merrill was assigned to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Millville.

1860.—Town Clerk, Dr. George E. Bullard; Selectmen, Richard Batty, Mowry Lapham, Joseph G. Ray; Assessors, Arthur Cook, David Brayton, Sylvanus H. Benson; Overseers of the Poor, William A. Kelly, Lyman Legg, Hiram Daniels; Treasurer, Moses Farnum; School Committee for three years, Henry C. Kimball. James P. Hayward was chosen assessor in place of David Brayton, who declined serving. Mr. Hayward also declining, and Arthur Cook failing to take the oath, the latter was re-elected and Marius H. Warfield was chosen. Mowry Lapham resigned in September and Millens Taft was chosen selectman for the unexpired term. Charles H. Fletcher was chosen Representative to the General Court. February 22d, Rev. John V. Lewis became pastor of St. John's Society at Millville.

The Blackstone Block was built by Welcome Farnum in 1849. In planning a building for the Worcester County Bank, for which a charter had been procured, Mr. Farnum, with his characteristic enterprise, concluded to put up this large block, containing stores, offices and a large hall for public meetings and entertainments. His original plan was to locate it on Main Street and to have a building just one hundred feet in length; but failing to make satisfactory terms for the purchase of a lot, it was placed upon its present site, where the size of the lot limited the building to eighty-two feet. This block was subsequently mortgaged to Edward S. Hall, of Millville, and after Mr. Farnum's failure was transferred to Joseph Almy, of Slatersville. In 1859 it was sold at auction and purchased by Dan Hill, who deeded it to Albert Gaskill in 1863. In 1870 he sold it to Charles A. Pierce, and the latter disposed of it in November, 1874, to Mr. William Keely, in whose possession it has since remained.

1861.—Town Clerk, Dr. George C. Bullard; Selectmen, Emory Scott, John C. Scott, Daniel N. Chase; Assessors, Millens Taft, Libbeus L. Wood, Willard Wilson; Overseers of the Poor, Rufus Hayward, John G. Gatchell, Lyman Legg; Treasurer, Richard K. Randolph; School Committee for three years, Henry S. Mansfield; for one year, William L. Southwick.

The people living in the old Second School District being aggrieved at the vote annexing them to No. 9, secured at a special meeting, February 9th, a re-division assigning three families to District No. 3.

The first evidence in the town records of the existence of Civil War occurs in the warrant drawn April 23d, in which occurs an article "To see if the town will vote to appropriate any money in aid of citizens of this town who may volunteer their services to the United States to suppress rebellion or invasion, and who shall be called into active service for said purpose and to aid the families if in destitute circumstances, or to act in any way relative to the same."

At the meeting held May 1st it was voted to adopt the following resolutions offered by Dan Hill, Esq.;

The President of the United States having called upon all good citizens to aid him in his efforts to enforce the laws and suppress an insurrection which threatens to overthrow the Government: We, the citizens of Blackstone in Town Meeting assembled, deeply impressed by the perils that beset us, but with unfaltering confidence in God and the Right:—Inspired by the cherished memory of the heroic deeds and manly sacrifices of our patriotic Fathers, and impelled by a solemn sense of duty which we owe to our posterity, no less than to ourselves—declare our readiness to aid, to the full extent of our ability, in sustaining this Government and in crushing the rebels that assail it. And we hereby "pledge our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor," that, come weal or come woe, we will never prove recreant to the Government to which we justly owe allegiance, and from which we derive so many blessings—a Government which is the only formidable foe of Despotism and Tyranny, and the last hope of Civil and Religious Liberty in the World. In this "irrepressible conflict" between Freedom and Slavery, every pulsation of our hearts is for Freedom, and in her sacred cause we are ready to give battle—our watch-word "The Government and the enforcement of the laws,"—our banner the Stars and Stripes.

Upon the firing upon Fort Sumter immediate steps had been taken to raise a company, and after several exciting meetings, a company of ninety-six, afterward known as Company K, Fifteenth Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, was enlisted and drilled under command of Captain Moses W. Gatchell, with Edwin B. Staples, first lieutenant, and Caleb H. Arnold, first sergeant. The men were mustered in July 1st, the officers August 1st, and the regiment was sent to Maryland, where it was placed on the right wing of the Army of the Potomac. October 21st, at the battle of Ball's Bluff, Captain Gatchell and three privates in the company were killed. Lieutenant Staples resigned the following year to accept a position in the Fourth Regiment Massachusetts Cavalry, in which he gained the rank of major. Caleb H. Arnold became second lieutenant of Company K, January 3, 1863, and died of wounds received at the battle of Gettysburg, July 20, 1863. Mellville Howland, acting as first sergeant and lieutenant, died in Maryland, August 28, 1862, and Thomas Furnald, succeeding him as first sergeant, was killed at the battle of Antietam, September 17, 1862, as were six others in the company. George W. Bolster became second lieutenant June 9th, and first lieutenant November 7, 1862, and resigned March 18, 1863.

A large number of Blackstone men enlisted in

companies raised in Woonsocket, and served in various Rhode Island regiments as well as in other Massachusetts regiments than those named.

Owing to the change in administration, Darius Bennett, the postmaster at Blackstone, was supplanted by Sylvanus H. Benson, and Willard Wilson, at Millville, by Preserved L. Thayer.

Rev. George M. Hamlin was appointed to the Methodist Society at Millville.

1862.—Town Clerk, George E. Bullard; Selectmen, John C. Scott, Emory Scott, Joseph G. Ray (this board also acted as Assessors and Overseers of the Poor); treasurer, Richard K. Randolph; School Committee, Frank Kelly, three years, John V. Lewis, two years, Dr. Wm. H. Kimball, one year.

The earlier meetings of this year were mainly taken up with discussions of the manner in which aid should be given the families of soldiers now in the service. July 17th was held a meeting to take measures to raise forty-two volunteers under the call of President Lincoln. This was just after the failure of General McClellan on the Virginia Peninsula, and extra inducements were needed. The town voted to call in and place on deposit in the Worcester County Bank three thousand one hundred and fifty dollars of the "surplus revenue," and that every man volunteering before August 10th should be paid a bounty of seventy-five dollars. The matter was the subject of two more meetings, the bounty for men enlisting for three years being made three hundred dollars, and for those enlisting under the new call for nine months a bounty of one hundred dollars was voted.

Joseph G. Ray having moved out of town, Estus Lamb was elected August 30th to the Board of Selectmen. Channing Smith was chosen Representative to the General Court.

Captain Daniel W. Kimball, Company K, Fifty-first Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers, had enlisted sixty men, and wanted overcoats for them, which the town voted November 5th, appropriating ten dollars apiece, and John S. Needham to furnish them. The Fifty-first was a nine months' regiment.

August 23d, Rev. George M. Hamlin and Dan Hill were appointed to the Board of School Committee in place of Rev. John V. Lewis resigned, and Dr. Wm. M. Kimball declined to serve.

Rev. J. A. Howe was called to the pastorship at Waterford, and Rev. George Rumney to St. John's Society at Millville, in place of Mr. Lewis. In June Rev. John E. Edwards was called to the Blackstone Society.

1863.—Town Clerk, James K. Comstock; Selectmen, James P. Hayward, Lewis W. Taft, Sylvanus H. Benson; Assessors, William A. Northup, Lyman Paine, John C. Hobbs; Overseers of the Poor, Hiram Daniels, Andrew Kelly, Channing Smith; Treasurer, Moses Farnum; School Committee, Le Roy Chilson, three years, Edwin Jenckes, one year.

James P. Hayward declined to serve, and William A. Northup was elected selectman. Lyman Paine declining to serve as assessor, Arthur Cook was chosen. Charles A. Wright became trial justice.

Early this year broke out the "Hickey Hall" school war, waged by Dan Hill of the General School Committee against the Blackstone Manufacturing Company. The bitter conflict ended with the company still in possession of their own school-house, and the committee letting their wrath coruscate in a most unique annual report.

The subject of State aid to the families of soldiers and sailors came up from time to time, and was settled on the liberal side. Limited at first to families of volunteers, residents of the town, in the army, it was extended to volunteers in the navy, to the families of drafted men, to those not residents in the town, and was made perpetual to the families of those killed, or who died in the Union service.

James K. Comstock was chosen Representative to the General Court. Rev. Lewis B. Bates was appointed to the Methodist Church, Millville. The Kelly cotton-mill at Upper Canada (East Blackstone), hitherto used to manufacture bagging, was converted into a woolen-mill.

Tuesday, July 21st, arrived home Company K, Fifty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, Captain Daniel W. Kimball, and they were given an ovation. They had served at Newbern, N. C., on the Virginian Peninsula and, during their last month, with the Army of the Potomac in Maryland. On Wednesday, July 22d, the company re-assembled to attend the funeral of Lieutenant Caleb Arnold, Company K, Fifteenth Regiment, who had died of a wound received at the battle of Gettysburg.

1864.—Town Clerk, James K. Comstock; Selectmen, Sylvanus H. Benson, John S. Needham, Andrew Kelly; Assessors, Arthur Cook, Silas A. Burgess, Estes Burdon; Overseers of the Poor, Hiram Daniels, Channing Smith, Clovis L. Southwick; Treasurer, Moses Farnum; School Committee, Rev. J. Erskine Edwards.

April 16th the town voted to borrow $7500 to be applied by the selectmen as bounties of $125 apiece to the men volunteering to fill the town's quota under the calls of the President, dated October 17, 1863, and February 1, 1864. Sylvanus H. Benson had been made recruiting officer for the town at $3 per day, and his energetic labors kept the town's credit pretty well up with the various calls, and earned him the sincere gratitude, in this respect, of his fellow-townsmen.

Night police were enjoyed by the village people from shortly after the March meeting until May 21st, when the police were ordered paid up and discharged by the town. At this meeting too, it was voted "that the clergymen, lawyers, doctors and selectmen of this town, irrespective of denomination, be appointed a committee to use to the utmost extent their powers of moral suasion to do away with the sale and consumption of intoxicating liquors."

July 14, 1864, the President called for more soldiers, and Blackstone's quota was fifty-six, of which only ten were already secured. The town voted, August 19th, $5750, in order to give each of the remaining forty-six a bounty of $125. H. K. Merrifield opened a law-office. John S. Needham was elected Representative to the General Court. Dr. Moses D. Southwick was also elected Senator for the Southeast Worcester District. Arthur Cook was appointed trial justice. Rev. E. W. Porter began his first ministry at Waterford this year. The Kelly & Paine cotton-mill in East Blackstone, owned and run by Andrew Aldrich, was burned in March. Waterford No. 1 was burned this year, causing great loss to the wage-workers of that village.

February 6th died Dr. Abel Wilder, for more than forty years engaged in the practice of his profession in this community. Dr. Wilder was born in Ashburnham, Mass., June 24, 1786. He was the seventh son in a family of twelve children and was brought up to hard work on the farm until he was fifteen, when he was apprenticed to shoemaking. After he was twenty-one he set himself to acquire an education, and when twenty-four he began studying medicine, attending lectures at Dartmouth College, and supporting himself by teaching school. He began his practice in Winchendon and married there. He went to Swansey in 1815, removed to Walpole in 1819, and came to Blackstone in 1823, where he remained until within a few months of his death, which occurred at the home of his son in New York. He had a family of twelve children, eight of whom survived him.

February 7th died Dr. Horatio Stockbridge, in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He was the son of Hon. David Stockbridge, of Hanover, Mass., where he was born. The family descends from John Stockbridge, who came from England in the ship "Blessing" in June, 1635, and settled in Scituate, Mass. In 1804, at the age of sixteen, he was sent to Harvard, College and remained two years. He studied medicine with Dr. Freeman Foster, of Scituate, and Dr. James Mann, of Wrentham. He first practiced in Berwick, Maine, afterwards in Medway, Mass., and came to Blackstone in 1819. Here he remained until 1833, when he opened his long famous apothecary shop in Woonsocket. His son Horatio Stockbridge survives him.

April 16th died in Mendon, where he had but recently moved, Dan Hill, a native and, save a few months, always a resident of Blackstone, whose life for a long period of years was closely identified with the history of the town. As a member of both branches of the State Legislature, as justice of the Police Court, and in the various offices and agencies which the town could bestow, he always commanded respect, not only by his marked abilities, but his unswerving integrity and uprightness of purpose.

1865.—Town Clerk, James K. Comstock; Selectmen, Andrew Kelly, John S. Needham, Arthur Cook: Assessors, Arthur Cook, William A. Cole, Estus Burdon; Overseers of Poor, Hiram Daniels, Channing Smith, Clovis L. Southwick; Treasurer, Richard K. Randolph; School Committee, Ellis T. Haywood.

At a meeting January 21st the town voted $4,250 to be divided in bounties of $125 to each of the thirty-four men in the town's quota under the call of the President, December 19, 1864.

April 3d it was voted to establish a High School forthwith, and that the School Committee procure a suitable room for such school. That Henry C. Kimball, Laban Bates and Millens Taft be a committee on building a High School-house, and that it be located on or near the corner of Church and Mendon Streets, in Blackstone village, provided the Blackstone Manufacturing Company will give the lot to the town for this purpose. The High School was begun in September in the grammar school room of the New City building, with Daniel A. March, a graduate of Amherst College, as principal. It was also voted to redistrict the town according to the plan submitted by the School Committee, which reduced the number to eight by dividing No. 4 between Nos. 5 and 3, and re-numbering so that Chestnut Hill was No. 1; Five Corners, No. 2; East Blackstone, No. 3; Pickering, No. 4; Waterford, No. 5; Blackstone, No. 6; Town House, No. 7; Millville, No. 8.

Estus Lamb and Henry S. Mansfield were added to the committee on the High School building. C. G. Keyes, Esq., opened a law-office in the Arcade. Hiram Daniels was chosen Representative to the General Court. James K. Comstock was appointed postmaster at Blackstone Post-Office. Jerome B. Bolster took an office at Blackstone as attorney-at-law.

May 23d, Bernard Creighton, of Waterford, brought home a sick daughter from Dedham, who proved to have the small-pox. From large exposure twenty-three cases resulted, with seven or eight deaths.

The Waterford No. 1 Mill was rebuilt three hundred and fifty feet long and fifty feet wide.

1866.—Town Clerk, James K. Comstock; Selectmen, Estus Lamb, Henry C. Kimball, Silas A. Burgess; Assessors, Estus Burdon, Hiram Daniels, Clovis L. Southwick; the latter declined, and William A. Cole was chosen; Overseers of the Poor, Clovis L. Southwick, Lewis W. Taft, Moses A. Daniels; Treasurer, Moses Farnum; School Committee, Jerome B. Bolster.

Voted to accept of the list of by-laws in relation to truancy offered by Silas A. Burgess, Esq. Estus Lamb and Henry C. Kimball having declined to serve as selectmen, Millens Taft and Libbeus L. Wood were chosen. The committee on building a High School-house reported a plan of building, and the proposal of the Blackstone Manufacturing Company to give the town a lot so long as certain conditions were fulfilled. The report and proposal were both accepted, and six thousand dollars was appropriated for the building, which was continued in the charge of the same com-

mittee of five. Ellis T. Hayward having resigned from the School Committee, Dr. Moses D. Southwick was chosen. About three weeks later, April 21st, an attempt was made to reverse the town's previous action in regard to High School building, but without success. The "Harris Road" (the southern half of present Farm Street) first came under discussion at this meeting, and Francis Kelly, Millens Taft and William G. Hadley were appointed a committee on the part of the town to build the road. The order of the County Commissioners upon the road occupies the first twenty-one pages of Vol. 3, Town Records. May 19th, the town resolved vigorously against the road and instructed its committee to fight for a reversal of the County Commissioners' decree.

Rev. William Kellen was appointed to the Methodist Society at Millville.

John S. Needham was chosen Representative to the General Court.

By the lamented death of Jerome B. Bolster, October 27th, there was a vacancy on the Board of School Committee, which was filled by the appointment of Rev. E. W. Porter.

In the month of March, Patrick Hughes disappeared, and three weeks later his body was found in the Blackstone River. Foul play was suspected, but not proved.

1867.—Town Clerk, James K. Comstock; Selectmen, Henry K. Merrifield, Stephen S. Benson, Welcome A. Thayer; Assessors, Estes Burdon, Robert J. M. Chase, Lyman Paine; Overseer of the Poor, Clovis L. Southwick, Edmund O. Bacon; Treasurer, Moses Farnum; School Committee, William A. Cole, 1 year, Henry C. Kimball, 2 years, Sylvanus H. Benson, 3 years.

Voted to abolish the school districts. This vote led to a series of votes at the following meeting, April 6th; the most important in the whole history of the town. It was ordered that the Blackstone Manufacturing Company's school-house at the New City be purchased, that steps be taken to build a new school-house at Waterford, that all the school property of the districts be appraised and paid for by the town, and that $5000 more be appropriated to complete the High School-house.

The New City School-house was appraised at $12,-500; Chestnut Hill, $1400; Verry, $50; Five Corners, $300; Lower Canada, $1400; Pickering, $100; Town House, $150; Millville, $8000,—total, $23,900. The town books do not afford data for stating the cost of the Waterford school-house. This year the first iron bridge at the New City was built and the stone-arch bridge on Lincoln Street, over Fox Brook. The "Harris Road" was fought, but in vain. The town had to build it. The selectmen, contrary to custom, made no report of the indebtedness of the town March 1, 1868. It is probable these various undertakings were in such stages, that it was impossible. On March 1, 1867, it was $25,586; March 1, 1869, it was $68,316,—an increase of $42,730 in two years' time.

September 9th, Rev. E. W. Porter was appointed to the School Committee in place of Henry C. Kimball, resigned.

Moses Farnum was elected as Representative to the General Court.

Rev. Henry W. Conant was appointed to the Methodist Society, at Millville.

Henry K. Merrifield, Esq., succeeded Arthur Cook as trial justice, and held the position for six months, when he resigned to accept a position in an insurance office in Worcester. He was succeeded by Theodore S. Johnson, Esq., of Worcester.

Jeremiah Gatchell was appointed postmaster at Blackstone P. O.

1868.—Town Clerk, James K. Comstock; Selectmen, George E. Bullard, Millens A. Taft, Daniel S. Southwick; Assessors, Lewis R. Daniels, Jeremiah Gatchell, Alexander Blanchard; Overseers of the Poor, Willard Wilson, Stephen Tucker, Lawrence Boylan; Treasurer, Moses Farnum. Alexander Blanchard declined to serve, and Willard Wilson was chosen. School Committee, William A. Cole for three years; Samuel Thayer, Jr., for one year.

March 2d, when most of the above officers were chosen, was an extremely bleak and snowy day. Whether owing to the storm, or to dissatisfaction with the management of town affairs, the result was the placing in office of men for the most part of the opposite politics of those who had controlled the town for some years. The selectmen having, under a vote of the town, contracted with George M. Blanchard to build a stone lock-up, and the town having rescinded its vote, the lock-up was not built, but the town paid rather more than its cost would have been in the way of damages and costs to Mr. Blanchard. Forty-two thousand dollars of the town debt was funded with the State treasurer, under vote of November 4th.

Rev. M. E. Phetteplace was called to the Baptist Society at Waterford, and Rev. Frederick C. Newell was appointed to the Millville Methodist Society. A missionary effort for several months in East Blackstone, by Joseph Miett, of Woonsocket, led to the appointment of Rev. Thomas B. Gurney to that field.

August 9th died Rufus Hayward, a native of Mendon but a resident of Blackstone the greater part of his life, and thoroughly identified with the political history of the town. For many years he was the leader of the Democratic party in the town. He was an active politician, a man of genial temperament and a kind neighbor. He had filled various town offices, and was once elected to the General Court as Representative. He was found dead in his bed at the Lincoln House, having probably died of apoplexy. During this year work was prosecuted on the road-bed of the Boston and New York Railroad, and there was an unusual number of fatal accidents on the tracks.

1869.—Town Clerk, Jeremiah Gatchell; Selectmen, George E. Bullard, Louis R. Daniels, Daniel O'Sullivan; Assessors, Jeremiah Gatchell, Willard Wilson,

John C. McCarthy; Overseers of the Poor, John G. Gatchell, Joseph Byrne, Samuel Verry; Treasurer, Moses Farnum; School Committee, for three years, Samuel Thayer, Jr. Willard Wilson having declined to serve as assessor, Americus Welch was chosen. Samuel Verry having declined to serve, and Joseph Byrne having removed from town, Millens A. Taft and Bezaleel Richardson were chosen overseers of the poor.

A new school-house was built at the Five Corners. May 24th the County Commissioners laid out that part of St. Paul Street extending from Canal Street to the Rhode Island line under the tracks of both railroads. Pearl Street, in Millville, was laid out at this time with mutual asseverations of interest on the part of town and railroad in its behalf. The "Hiram Daniels road" (section of Mendon Street from Milk Street to Asylum Street) first appeared in town affairs November 2d, when a committee was appointed to oppose it before the County Commissioners.

Blackstone failed to secure the election of a Representative to General Court in the election this fall.

March 31st Junius Bates was appointed postmaster at the Blackstone office. April 24th the Methodist Episcopal Society of East Blackstone was organized, and a church, costing about $3500, was erected during the summer. The organization of the Quickstream Lodge of Good Templars on March 22d afforded a powerful auxiliary to the church continuing to the present time (January 1, 1889).

Edmund O. Bacon, late landlord of the Lincoln House, was appointed one of the deputy sheriffs of Worcester County at the beginning of January. The firm of Bates & Comstock (Laban Bates and James K. Comstock), who had been engaged in the grocery business in Blackstone Block for twenty years, sold out in May to John W. France.

A new depot was built at Waterford as a Union station for both railroads. In November the small-pox was again introduced into Blackstone and resulted in forty cases and eight deaths.

1870.—Town Clerk, Jeremiah Gatchell; Selectmen, Darius Bennett, Owen Bradley, Micajah Fuller; Assessors, Daniel N. Chase, Maurice Cary, Louis R. Daniels; Overseers of the Poor, John G. Gatchell, Samuel Thayer, Sr., James H. Boyle; Treasurer, Moses Farnum; School Committee, for three years, Michael Fagan.

The new school-house at the Town House was built. This provided all the eight districts with good houses except No. 4,—"Pickerings." An article in the April warrant to repair or to rebuild in No. 4 simply secured a vote to repair,—an injustice which the town has not yet (1888) reversed in its treatment of this district.

April 30th the town resolved against the "Hiram Daniels Road," and appointed a committee to oppose it. It is difficult to understand why this road created so much opposition. The construction of five or six miles more of such road, in certain lines, would enable the town to close up nearly double that length of poor road difficult to keep in repair. August 2d, 20th, 30th, three town-meetings were held in regard to increasing the number of school-rooms at Blackstone and Waterford, and using the upper story of the High School-house as a library and reading-room. At the third meeting the whole scheme was negatived. Lyman Paine was chosen representative to the General Court.

The Blackstone River Lodge built the Masonic building on Main Street, at a cost of eight thousand dollars. It was dedicated Washington's Birthday by a fair and ball. The building is sixty feet deep by thirty-two feet wide, and two stories in height, the end fronting the street. The heavy stone arches on the Boston Road in Waterford village were completed during the year after several intermissions in the work.

The Blackstone Valley Lodge of Good Templars became extinct in June. Rev. T. H. Bannon, of the St. Paul's Society, falling into poor health, he resigned, and in October Rev. William A. Power was installed. Rev. James H. Cooley was assigned to the East Blackstone Methodist Episcopal Society, and Rev. Thomas S. Thomas to that of Millville. Rev. James Rand was called to Waterford Church.

A lock-up was finally instituted in August in the Union House basement.

1871.—Town Clerk, Junius Bates; Selectmen, Darius Bennett, Micajah Fuller, Owen Bradley; Assessors, Jeremiah Gatchell, Louis R. Daniels, David M. Gaskill; Overseers of the Poor, John G. Gatchell, Samuel Thayer, Sr., Estes Burdon; Treasurer, Moses Farnum; School Committee, for three years, William A. Cole. April 3d, Louis R. Daniels and David M. Gaskill having declined to serve as assessors, Patrick Kennedy and Americus Welch were chosen. John G. Gatchell and Samuel Thayer, Sr., having declined to serve as overseers, Stephen Tucker and James H. Boyle were chosen. It was voted to increase the School Committee to six, and John Worrall was chosen for three years, Welcome A. Thayer two years, and Horace H. Benson for one year. The latter having declined, Samuel S. White was appointed.

Blackstone sent no representative to General Court this year. Silas A. Burgess, Esq., was appointed trial justice in August, T. S. Johnson having resigned to accept the position of clerk of the Municipal Court at Worcester.

Rev. Samuel E. Evans was appointed to the Methodist Society at Millville. In April the Blackstone Library Association and the Athenæum held a union meeting, and effected an organization under which their libraries, conjointly numbering nearly three thousand volumes, were united and placed together in the Arcade. The last week in July the house and barn of Mr. Bernard Hoye and the barn of Mr. L. S. Penniman were destroyed by fire, causing a loss of

some five thousand dollars. The fire was checked by the powerful force-pump of Waterford No. 3 Mill, then run by Needham & Mason. All these buildings were promptly rebuilt.

The first week in August died Varnum Bartlett, a native of Cumberland, R. I., but a resident of Blackstone for a quarter of a century, and his shoe-store on Main Street was one of the old landmarks of the town. His honest dealing secured a large patronage in trade, and he was a successful business man of the old school.

A lively interest in temperance work prevailed during the year among the several societies, religious and lay. In October the St. Paul's Temperance Society celebrated the anniversary of the birth of Rev. Father Matthew, and by the interest aroused largely strengthened its membership.

1872.—Town Clerk, Junius Bates; Selectmen, Henry S. Mansfield, Samuel S. White, Augustine H. Rankin; Assessors, F. Myrick Thayer, Americus Welch, Robert J. M. Chase; Overseers of the Poor, Caleb S. Taft, Darius Bennett, Michael Rowan; Treasurer, R. K. Randolph; School Committee, Henry C. Kimball, Louis A. Cook, for three years, John S. Needham, two years, Alvin C. Robbins, one year.

April 15th, F. M. Thayer and R. J. M. Chase having declined to serve as assessors, Jeremiah Gatchell and John S. Needham were elected. It was voted to choose Road Commissioners, and there were elected, Andrew Kelly, for three years, Samuel S. White, for two years, Henry S. Mansfield, for one year.

John C. Scott was elected representative to the General Court. The new Board of Road Commissioners laid out a continuation of Main Street from New City iron bridge over the Blackstone Dam to Millville, passing near the houses of George Hanney and James Pitts to Central Street. This was accepted and ordered built and then the acceptance was revoked.

Rev. Samuel D. Church was called to the pastorship of the Waterford Society. Rev. Walter J. Yates was appointed to the Methodist Society at Millville, and the Rev. E. N. Maynard at East Blackstone. Rev. Edward H. True became rector of St. John's Parish, Millville.

August 1st, the Second District Court of Southern Worcester, embracing the towns of Northbridge, Douglas, Uxbridge and Blackstone, took the place of the trial justice courts, with Arthur A. Putnam, Esq., as justice. It holds sessions every week-day alternately at Blackstone and Uxbridge—Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Blackstone; Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at Uxbridge. The court has jurisdiction in all civil actions where the amount does not exceed three hundred dollars, and a trial by jury may be had on the demand, in writing, by either party.

1873.—Town Clerk, Aaron S. Esty; Selectmen, Jeremiah Gatchell, Lawrence Boylan, Albert Smith; Assessors, Americus Welch, Millens Taft, Michael Rowan; Overseers of the Poor, Micajah Fuller, Daniel Hefferman, F. Myrick Thayer; Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; School Committee, Horace A. Benson, Dr. Robert Booth, for three years, Welcome A. Thayer, one year. It was voted to abolish the Board of Road Commissioners. Millens Taft having declined to serve as assessor, Daniel Wheelock was chosen. Town by-laws, offered by A. A. Putnam, Esq., in regard to obstruction of sidewalks, disturbance in streets, fast driving, etc., were adopted and were subsequently approved by Judge Devens, of the Massachusetts Superior Court, as required by law. The sum of one hundred dollars was now first voted to be placed at the disposal of "Gatchell Post, G. A. R.," for the suitable observance of Memorial Day. The "Hiram Daniels road" first ordered by the county commissioners January 4, 1871, had been so far successfully resisted because the lay-out crossed the Town Asylum Cemetery. The commissioners now executed a flank movement and issued a decree, June 9, 1873, and the road was built by a contractor.

On the evening of October 16th occurred the great fire in Wilder's Lane, which destroyed eight dwelling-houses and several barns. The Woonsocket steam fire-engine prevented a more extensive conflagration by its opportune arrival. Several meetings were now held to secure fire apparatus, but there was no result. Eighteen families were rendered homeless, and altogether some fifty families moved their household goods at considerable loss, so that this fire caused a widespread feeling of insecurity.

Albert Smith was elected Representative and Jeremiah Gatchell Senator to the General Court. Lyman Legg was appointed postmaster at Millville. Rev. Albert W. Moore was called to the vacant pulpit at Blackstone, January 22d. Deacon Daniel Gunn died February 21st, aged sixty-five years. He was born February 6, 1808, at Swanzy, Vermont, and came to Blackstone in 1833, where he resided until his death. He was an ardent and devoted member of the Waterford Church. The Worcester County National Bank removed to Franklin in August.

1874.—Town Clerk, Aaron S. Esty; Selectmen, Jeremiah Gatchell, Matthew Faulkner, Albert Smith; Assessors, Americus Welch, Philip Nulty, Millens Taft; Overseers of the Poor, Micajah Fuller, Richard Newsome, William G. Miller; Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; School Committee, Welcome A. Thayer, John P. Needham, three years each.

There was considerable agitation during the year for a new town hall, to be located at the village. One proposition was to purchase "Block Hall." Nothing was accomplished, however, in this direction, the committee reporting through its chairman, John S. Needham, "in view of the present depressed state of business the committee recommend a postponement, but not an indefinite postponement of the subject."

The town having paid no attention to the decree of the County Commissioners in relation to the "Hiram Daniels Road," they had built the road, and now served notice upon the town to pay the expenses and charges of completing, amounting to $5505, into the county treasury. This the town voted to do, October 3; then also voted "that a committee of three be appointed to take into consideration the matter of inducing capitalists or mechanics to locate in this town." The committee was Jeremiah Gatchell, Daniel Simmons, John C. Scott.

Albert Smith and Jeremiah Gatchell were again elected Representative and Senator respectively, to the General Court.

Thanksgiving morning, November 26th, a fire destroyed the barn, paint, wheelwright and blacksmith shops, and the dwelling-house of Micajah Fuller, the barn and greater part of the Lincoln House, owned by Martin Jenckes. As in the preceding year, the Woonsocket steam fire-engines came to the rescue. At a meeting, December 9th, it was voted to have a steam fire-engine, and five thousand dollars was appropriated for its purchase.

In February a disastrous fire in Millville destroyed the large stone woolen-mill. The satinet-mill at Upper Canada, run by John C. Scott, was burned this year.

1875.—Town Clerk, Junius Bates; Selectmen, Henry S. Mansfield, Patrick Kennedy, Samuel S. White; Assessors, Americus Welch, William A. Cole, John Gallagher; Overseers of the Poor, Micajah Fuller, Alonzo W. Southwick, Dennis McMullen; Treasurer, John S. Needham; School Committee (for three years), Alvin C. Robbins, Andrew Kelly.

John S. Needham having declined to serve as treasurer, Daniel Wheelock was chosen. The steam fire-engine company of the town was organized. The town accepted the selectmen's lay-out of Farnum Street, September 18th. Patrick Kennedy was chosen Representative. Rev. Edwin G. Babcock was assigned to the Methodist Society at Millville, and Rev. William R. Mays to East Blackstone. Under the kindly influence of Rev. William A. Power was formed, in St. Paul's Society, the Young Men's Catholic Union, a literary society, which long held weekly meetings, and collected a considerable library.

Mr. John Needham, after twenty-three years' residence in town, having removed to Lawrence, Mass., to become superintendent of the Washington Mills in that city, the Rev. S. D. Church was chosen to fill the vacancy on the Board of School Committee. In May John L. Utley opened a law-office in Blackstone. Myron Daniels was appointed postmaster at East Blackstone. June 9th died Dr. Moses D. Southwick. He was born in Mendon, July, 1805, on the farm of his father, George Southwick, where his early life was spent. By teaching school he won his way through Brown University, graduating in 1828, and Bowdoin Medical College in 1831, having read medicine with Dr. Usher Parsons, of Providence, R. I. He practiced a short time in Bellingham, but soon (1834) removed to Millville, where he spent the rest of his life. He was a man of sterling character, of vigorous powers of mind, well-balanced, and of remarkably even temperament.

1876.—Town Clerk, John Nugent; Selectmen, Americus Welch, Patrick Kennedy, Matthew Faulkner; Assessors, Americus Welch, James Dollard, Patrick Baxter; Overseers of the Poor, Micajah Fuller, Willard Bennett, Richard Newsome; Treasurer, Horatio Stockbridge; School Committee, James Dollard, three years; Austin A. Wheelock, one year.

Francis N. Thayer was chosen Representative to the General Court. The town now voted to reduce the Board of School Committee to three members again.

In December Rev. Theodore G. Wilder was called to the Waterford Baptist Society, and May 21st Rev. George F. Walker to the Blackstone Church. Rev. William H. Turkington was appointed to the Methodist Society, Millville, and Rev. N. G. Axtell to East Blackstone. Rev. John D. McConkey took charge of St. John's Parish October 14th. Francis N. Thayer, a native of the town, having been admitted to the bar of Worcester County, opened an office in Blackstone Village.

Rev. S. D. Church closed his pastoral labors at the Free Baptist Church, in Waterford, on Sunday, June 4th. He returned to the church in Taunton, Mass., where he first entered upon his pastoral duties and where he then served for six years. Mr. Church was a devoted student, a man of excellent abilities and attainments, and as a Hebrew scholar ranked high in his denomination.

Early in the year was completed Institute Hall, a large and handsome edifice, near the St. Paul's Church, devoted to the social and educational interests of its people. The building is of wood, eighty feet long by forty-five feet in width, and two full stories in height above the basement.

1877.—Town Clerk, John Nugent; Selectmen, Americus Welch, Thomas T. Smith, Daniel Wheelock; Assessors, Americus Welch, William L. Reade, Olney L. Pickering; Overseers of the Poor, Micajah Fuller, Richard Newsome, Alonzo Southwick; Treasurer, Joel Hervey; School Committee, Henry C. Kimball, three years.

This spring the town was seized with one of its periodical spasms of small economy and fixed the price at which its servants must work. This process involved the choice of a new tax collector and the consequent loss to the town within two years of several thousand dollars. It was voted that the School Committee shall appoint a superintendent of schools, and that board appointed Alvin C. Robbins. The committee appointed to secure the settlement in town of additional manufacturing enterprises were active during the year, and the valuable water privilege at

Millville, on the Blackstone River, was sold by its Worcester owners to the Woonsocket Rubber Company, of Woonsocket, R. I., and the Lawrence Felting Company.

Rev. R. D. Dyson was appointed to the Methodist Society at Millville and Rev. Charles Nason to the East Blackstone Society. The Mansfield Scythe Factory, built in 1871, off Central Street, Millville, was purchased by Messrs. Booth & Kidd and converted into a woolen-mill with four sets of machinery. Dr. Frank J. King opened his office in Millville in August.

The last week in October the Waterford No. 3 Mill was totally destroyed by fire. This mill was the oldest of the Waterford Mills, having been built by Welcome Farnum in 1825. The loss of this mill was a serious drawback to the town and resulted in the removal of many industrious families and good citizens elsewhere.

1878.—Town Clerk, John Nugent; Selectmen, Americus Welch, Terrence McGinley, Michael Tuite; Assessors, Americus Welch, Patrick Baxter, Dennis J. Connors; Overseers of the Poor, Micajah Fuller, Peter McCooey, William F. Byrne; Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; School Committee, for three years, Adrian Scott.

April 1st, it was voted, "that the assessors be instructed to abate all taxes assessed on the real estate of Messrs. Cook & Banigan, for the term of five years from the date of their purchase in the village of Millville, except upon the valuation upon said real estate of that date." This vote was passed in behalf of the improvements made at Millville by the Lawrence Felting Co., consisting of the Felting Mill and its adjuncts, machinery, &c.

At this meeting the following resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That the inhabitants of the Town of Blackstone, in town-meeting assembled, receive with regret the information of the death of our respected former fellow-citizen, Sylvanus H. Benson.

Resolved, That we deem it our duty to express in our name our regard for the various important public services which distinguished his official life and to mark with appropriate honor the points of his character and the integrity of his administration of the several departments which have been intrusted to his care. These entitle him to the affectionate remembrance of the inhabitants of this Town and an honorable place in the history of its public servants.

Resolved, That the Town Clerk be requested to transmit copies of the foregoing resolutions to the family of our deceased friend and to have the same placed npon the records of the Town.

September 27th the town voted to fund the town debt by establishing a Sinking Fund. Commissioners were elected as follows: Jeremiah Gatchell, for three years; Lawrence Boylan, for two years; Henry S. Mansfield, one year.

Frederic Thayer was chosen Representative to the General Court.

Rev. John H. Sherman was appointed to the Methodist Society at Millville.

Rev. Jesse C. Heald was called to St. John's Society July 1st.

Channing Smith died August 29th, in the eighty-first year of his age.

1879.—Town Clerk, Daniel Wheelock; Selectmen, Americus Welch, Terrence McGinley, Frederick Thayer; Assessors, Americus Welch, Mathew Marty, James A. Kidd; Overseers of the Poor, Andrew Kelly, Francis N. Thayer, Lawrence Gibney; School Committee, Augustus Wilcox, three years,—Dennis McCaffrey, one year, to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Henry C. Kimball; Treasurer, Leonard T. Gaskill.

The proceedings of the previous September, in regard to the Sinking Fund, not appearing upon the records in sufficient form, were void. The town, therefore, again passed its vote establishing a Sinking Fund, ordering the assessors to assess each year one and one-half mills on each dollar of taxable property, and elected Jeremiah Gatchell for three years, Henry S. Mansfield for two years and Rice A. Brown, Jr., for one year, Sinking Fund Commissioners.

The revised Truant Laws offered by Adrian Scott, chairman of the School Committee, were accepted and adopted by the town and were approved by the Superior Court, Francis H. Dewey, Nov. 15th.

A committee was appointed to name the public roads and streets in the town. The committee reported, November 4th, forty-four public and two private ways with names, and the report was adopted.

Agitation was begun of the question of enlarging the Town Asylum, and it was referred to the Overseers of the Poor.

Major Edwin B. Staples died October 20th, at Sarasota, Florida, whither he had gone for his health.

Edward B. Savage, Esq., attorney-at-law, opened a law-office in the Union House in September.

Mr. Francis Kelly died the latter part of August, in the seventieth year of his age, at Dorchester, Mass., where he removed some three years previous. He was a native of Bellingham, but came to Blackstone when a young man and resided in this town over forty years. His life-long occupation was teaching. He had an aptitude for teaching, and his schools were characterized for good order and discipline, a systematic pursuit of studies and a strict attention to the rules and duties of the place. He filled many important town agencies.

1880.—Town Clerk, John Nugent; Selectmen, Americus Welch, William J. Bowes, Lawrence Donlon, Jr.; Assessors, Americus Welch, George Williams (1st), Louis R. Banigan; Overseers of the Poor, Daniel Heffernan, James H. Boyle, Andrew Kelly; Treasurer, Lawrence Boylan; School Committee, Dennis McCaffrey (for three years), Samuel S. White (for two years, to fill a vacancy caused by removal of Augustus Wilcox).

"Voted that all persons building in the town for manufacturing purposes will be abated their taxes for the term of five years, provided the amount of said investment be not less than $50,000." Under

this vote the Woonsocket Rubber Company began, in 1882, their large factory, upon which taxes were abated from 1883 to '88.

The new Almshouse was the subject of two meetings during the spring, and was eventually built on the old road opposite the old house, instead of upon the new section of Mendon Street, where it would have been much more accessible and in a much more sightly location.

Rev. George F. Walker having resigned his charge at the Blackstone Church, the society remained without a settled pastor for several years.

Rev. Lewis Dexter was settled at the Waterford Church.

A new church, known as St. Augustine's, was built at Millville by the Roman Catholic Society of that village, which continued under the charge of Rev. William A. Power, of Blackstone.

Lyman Legg having been removed from the Millville post-office, Matthew Blanchard was appointed postmaster.

1881.—Town Clerk, John Fay; Selectmen, Americus Welch, William J. Bowes, Lawrence Donlon, Jr.; Assessors, Americus Welch, Michael Tuite, George Baxter; Overseers of the Poor, Daniel Heffernan, James Meagher, John Clark; Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; School Committee, for three years, Adrian Scott.

The school-house at Millville was enlarged during the summer. The school-house in the Pickering District becoming untenable, the school was suspended after the spring term. During the summer the iron bridge at the New City began to give signs of weakness, and August 22d a committee of five was appointed to contract for a new bridge. The Providence and Worcester Railroad having refused to bear its proportion of the expense, a committee of three was appointed November 11th to ascertain that company's liability. The contract of the company with the town upon the construction of the first iron bridge, in 1867, as well as all other records bearing upon the subject, were submitted to Francis P. Goulding, Esq., of Worcester, and Judge E. Rockwood Hoar, of Boston, who gave it their opinion separately that the railroad company was chargeable. The attorney for the company, having reviewed these opinions, gave his assent thereto, and the company eventually helped pay for the new iron bridge.

Americus Welch was chosen Representative to the General Court.

Rev. Wilbur S. Smithers was assigned to the Methodist Society at East Blackstone.

1882.—Town Clerk, William F. Byrne; Selectmen, Americus Welch, Louis R. Banigan, Lawrence Donlon, Jr.; Assessors, George Williams, John J. Heffernan, John Conway; Overseers of the Poor, Daniel Heffernan, Patrick Baxter, Francis McManus; Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; School Committee, for three years, Horatio Stockbridge.

Street-lights, to the number of thirty, were first voted July 28th.

The New City iron bridge was erected, and a relay of South Main Street was made by the selectmen.

Americus Welch was again elected Representative to the General Court.

Early this year the proprietor of the *Franklin Sentinel* at Franklin, Mass., undertook to revive the *Blackstone Valley Chronicle* by printing a Blackstone edition of his paper, with Edward Savage, Esq., as local editor.

1883.—Town Clerk, William F. Byrne; Selectmen, Americus Welch, Louis R. Banigan, George F. Creighton; Assessors, Americus Welch, James A. Kidd, Edward McCooey; Overseers of the Poor, Patrick Kennedy, James H. Boyle, George Williams; Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; School Committee, for three years, Orlando Scott. November 6th Francis McManus was chosen in place of James H. Boyle, deceased.

March 12th the town adopted a town seal as follows: "Voted, that the Town adopt as a design for a Town Seal, a shield, one-half of which shall contain the coat-of-arms of the Blackstone Family, the other half contain the representation of the tower of the old Blackstone Mill. Below this, upon a scroll, the Blackstone motto, '*Do well and doubt not*,' with flowers; and above the shield a scroll with the date of the Town's incorporation, 1845; and upon the margin shall appear, 'Nepmug Country until 1667; Mendon, 1667;' and directly above the shield, in the margin, 'Blackstone.'"

The New York and New England Railroad removed its unsightly wooden bridges over Main and Canal Streets, and substituted iron bridges during the fall and winter. Under a decree of the County Commissioners, the company was allowed to erect piers between sidewalks and roadways upon both streets.

Rev. A. A. Briggs was appointed to the Methodist Society at East Blackstone.

December 10th the village of Blackstone was startled to learn that Dr. William M. Kimball had been found in his office in an apoplectic shock and unable to speak. He lived about two days, but did not recover the power to speak. Dr. Kimball was born in Southbridge, studied with Dr. Miller, of Providence, and attended lectures at the Berkshire Medical School and at Harvard Medical School, graduating from the latter. He settled in Blackstone in 1840.

1884.—Town Clerk, William F. Byrne; Selectmen, Americus Welch, Louis R. Banigan, George F. Creighton; Assessors, John F. Campbell, Orlando Scott, Edward McCooey; Overseers of the Poor, Daniel Heffernan, Francis McManus, George Williams; Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; School Committee, for three years, Adrian Scott. November 4th Edward R. Thompson was chosen in place of Daniel Heffernan, deceased.

April 7th it was voted to build a new bridge over the

Daniel S. Southwick

Blackstone River, near the Union House, and twelve thousand dollars was appropriated therefor. October 7th the County Commissioners re-located South Main Street and awarded land damages.

Daniel Wheelock was chosen Representative to the General Court.

Rev. William J. Alger became rector of the St. John's Parish, Millville, in place of Rev. Jesse C. Heald, who removed to Tariffville, Conn.

Rev. Michael Kittredge was placed in charge of the St. Augustine Society.

Rev. A. J. Church was assigned to the Methodist Society at East Blackstone.

Rev. Leroy M. Pierce was settled at Blackstone Church.

1885.—Town Clerk, William F. Byrne; Selectmen, Americus Welch, Patrick O'Donnell, John J. Dorsey; Assessors, John F. Campbell, Orlando Scott, Edward McCooey; Overseers of the Poor, Patrick Kennedy, Francis McManus, George Williams (1st); Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; School Committee for three years, Horatio Stockbridge.

April 6th, it was voted to have Road Commissioners, and the ballot taken elected Peter Maloney, for three years, Cornelius R. Day, for two years, and Americus Welch, one year. It was also voted to adopt the system for keeping town accounts and printing town reports offered by Americus Welch. The grade of that portion of South Main Street recently re-located was fixed, and the width of the sidewalks was established at two-elevenths of the established width of each street, equal to nine feet upon Main Street, and all roads three rods wide.

This year was rendered memorable by the famous strike at the Millville Rubber Works, the disastrous effects of which upon the prosperity of the village and the town are not yet entirely overcome. The strike began the latter part of June, and lasted several months. In September the attitude of the strikers was so threatening, when the company substituted new help, that the selectmen judged it prudent to bring down a company of Worcester city police.

Rev. Edward P. Phreaner was appointed to the Methodist Society at Millville.

The different temperance organizations in town, united with the clergy, and a strong public sentiment that the liquor dealers were acting unscrupulously in selling to minors, on Sundays, etc., gathered force during the winter and manifested its strength at the ensuing annual election.

Matthew Blanchard, the postmaster at Millville, having died suddenly in January, his wife was appointed, and still holds the position (January 1, 1889).

William Byrne was appointed postmaster at Blackstone in August, in place of Junius Bates, and Caleb Colvin at East Blackstone in place of Myron Daniels.

1886.—Town Clerk, Michael Carroll; Selectmen, Adrian Scott, Patrick Kennedy, James P. Mulvey; Assessors, John F. Campbell, Orlando Scott, Edward McCooey; Overseers of the Poor, Daniel W. Heffernan, Francis McManus, John P. Maloney; Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; School Committee for three years, George K. Marshall; Road Commissioner, Salmon Blanchard.

Prospect Street was laid out by the Road Commissioners, accepted by the town and ordered built. The following resolution, offered by Hon. Jeremiah Gatchell, was read and adopted: "Resolved, That the Boards of School Committee and Selectmen be requested to arrange a system of payment of the salaries of the teachers of the several schools in town, by which they may receive their salaries in regular monthly instalments."

Since March, 1886, in consequence of the above resolve, the teachers in the public schools have been paid monthly while schools were in session.

Forest fire wards were first appointed July 3d, under the law of 1886, and Louis R. Daniels, William A. Aldrich and John Dollard constitute the board.

The northerly abutment of the Central Street wooden bridge, Millville, having partially fallen in, a heavy masonry abutment was built during the fall and winter under the charge of Cornelius R. Day, chairman of Road Commissioners.

The County Commissioners re-districted Worcester County and placed Blackstone with Mendon, Milford and Hopedale in the Eleventh District, with two representatives. Both representatives were chosen from Milford this year.

November 15th, Daniel W. Heffernan having removed from town, Patrick Kennedy was chosen chairman of the Overseers of the Poor.

The *Blackstone Valley Chronicle* again came to an end about April 1st, the new series reaching Vol. V., No. 13, before its final demise.

Rev. Mr. Woodward was assigned to the Methodist Society at East Blackstone.

The town at its annual March election voted on the question of license to sell intoxicating drinks—"Yes," 259, "No," 369, and no licenses were issued, not to apothecaries even.

1887.—Town Clerk, Michael Carroll; Selectmen, Adrian Scott, John W. Cannon, James P. Mulvey; Assessors, John F. Campbell, James P. Mulvey, Joseph Byrne; Overseers of the Poor, Patrick Kennedy, Thomas Downey, Patrick R. Shea; Treasurer, Austin A. Wheelock; Road Commissioner for three years, Patrick Haggerty; School Committee for three years, Adrian Scott; for one year (to fill vacancy caused by the resignation of Horatio Stockbridge), Rev. John D. McGann.

June 18th, John F. Campbell was elected chairman of the Board of Selectmen in place of Adrian Scott, resigned.

Thomas McCooey was elected representative to the General Court.

January 4th was organized East Blackstone Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, No. 137, of Massa-

chusetts, with twenty-seven charter members. Its meetings were held weekly during the year at Coverdale Hall, corner of Elm and Blackstone Streets, and at the close of the year it numbered nearly seventy members.

Rev. E. W. Porter began his second ministry at the Baptist Church in Waterford.

The town at its annual March meeting reversed its position upon the liquor license question, the vote being "Yes," 337; "No," 145.

1888.—Town Clerk, Michael Carroll; Selectmen, Patrick Kennedy, John Conway, Thomas McCaffrey; Assessors, John F. Campbell, Robert Miller, Joseph Byrne; Overseers of the Poor, Patrick Kennedy, Patrick R. Shea, Thomas Downey; Treasurer, Lawrence Boylan; Road Commissioner for three years, Michael A. Bradley; School Committee for three years, Joseph Byrne.

April 2d it was voted that a committee of three be appointed to purchase a lot of land as a site for a new school-house in Millville. May 2d, four thousand dollars was appropriated for a lot and building, and a lot having been secured by gift from the Lawrence Felting Company, a school-house with two rooms was erected and furnished in season for two schools to be held therein, December 1st.

The Blackstone Library and Athenæum Association, having been dormant for some years, a proposition on the part of the majority of its stockholders, that the town take the books as the nucleus of a public library was accepted, as was also the offer of the Blackstone Manufacturing Company of the old vestry building as a library room, rent free for ten years.

The lay-out of Preston Street, Millville, as made by the road commissioners, was accepted, and the road ordered built May 2d. The stone arch over Fox Brook, Main Street, Waterford, was widened and sidewalks built during the fall. May 2d it was also voted to divide the town into voting districts, but when the selectmen had established the bounds the town did not accept the same.

Thomas McCooey was again elected representative to the General Court.

St. Augustine Church was greatly enlarged and beautified during the fall to accommodate its increasing number of communicants.

Rev. James H. Nutting, of Woonsocket, was assigned to supply East Blackstone Methodist Society.

The Baptist Society at Waterford thoroughly renovated its church building this summer, and greatly increased its interior beauty and convenience.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

DANIEL S. SOUTHWICK.

Mr. Southwick was born in Blackstone, Mass., March 25, 1805. He was left an orphan at an early age and went to live with his uncle, Jacob Southwick, where he remained until his uncle's death. Daniel having reached the age when it became necessary for him to think of learning a useful trade, found employment with Alexander Wilson, one of the old time scythe-makers. This was the time when numerous small scythe-shops were scattered over the county. So well satisfied was Mr. Southwick with his employer that he remained with him twenty years. At the age of twenty-eight he built the home where he resided until his death, February 17, 1886. During his lifetime he held many important offices in his town and was ever faithful to all trusts reposed in him. The friendless poor, the unfortunate and those in any trouble, ever found in him a sympathizing friend. In all matters of business he was prompt and punctual, his word was as good as his bond, and throughout a long life he maintained this character. He married Sally Wilson January 28, 1832. In his family relations he was the loving husband and the kind father. In the community in which he lived he was a respected citizen, and there having rounded out the three-score years and ten allotted him, he passed to his reward, leaving a widow, two sons, two grandchildren and one sister.

JAMES C. SOUTHWICK.

James C. Southwick, the son of Daniel, grandson of John, and great-grandson of Jonathan, is a direct descendant from Lawrence, the Pilgrim, who came from England to America in 1627, and probably settled in Salem, although his name does not appear on the records until 1639, when he and his family were admitted to membership in the First Church of Salem, and land was given him by the town on which to carry on the business of manufacturing glass and earthen-ware. The subject of this sketch was the only son in a family of seven children, five of whom are now living. He was born in Mendon (now Blackstone), December 12, 1824, on the homestead which has been occupied by the three preceding generations. In early life he attended the district school in his native town, and supplemented his education at Scituate, R. I., and at the Worcester Academy.

When a young man he purchased a farm adjacent to the old homestead, which he carried on until the decease of his father, when he bought the latter place, which he still occupies. Mr. Southwick is a progressive agriculturist, and has all the modern appliances for farm work. In his religious views he is liberal, believing in deeds rather than creeds. September 18, 1845, he married Elizabeth F., daughter of Wilder Holbrook. They have had four children, viz.: Medora E., born June 17, 1847, who married Josiah B. Davis, of Blackstone; Eva A., born August 14, 1852, who married Charles H. Buffum, of Oxford, and died May 31, 1883, three years after her marriage; De Etta, born February 28, 1859, who

James C. Southwick

died August 7, 1860; Wilder D., born April 19, 1866. The latter having completed a course of study in the American Veterinary College, at New York, received his degree in 1887, and is now practicing as a veterinarian in Woonsocket, R. I.

CHAPTER LXXXV.

SPENCER.

BY J. W. TEMPLE.

HISTORY WHEN A PART OF LEICESTER. — As Spencer was originally a part of the town of Leicester, its early history would be incomplete without speaking briefly of the mother township, from its purchase until the separation between it and Leicester took place. In the latter part of the seventeenth century certain gentlemen, known as "proprietors," purchased large tracts of land within what is now Worcester County, to settle "plantations" thereon, and it is reasonable to suppose, as a speculative venture also. These purchases were made upon conditions that a "certain number of families, within a certain number of years, shall there be located, and a sufficient quantity of land thereof shall be reserved for the Gospel ministry and a school." In this manner, and upon like conditions, was purchased a "tract of land, eight miles square, lying near the new town of the English, called Worcester, to be called Leicester and to belong to the County of Middlesex." The deed of this tract was from the heirs of Oraskaso, "sachem of a place called Tontaid," and was dated the twenty-sixth day of January, Anno Domini one thousand six hundred and eighty-six.

This, then, was the first step taken towards settling this wilderness, and the history of Spencer must necessarily date from this purchase, although it was fifty years or more before the division was had which made it a separate and distinct town.

For more than a quarter of a century there was nothing to encourage the "proprietors" to go forward, settle and develop the tract, as the depredations by the Indians in the surrounding towns were of such serious nature that a postponement of the project seemed the only alternative. A few years previous to this purchase, King Philip and his warriors were raiding the territory in this immediate vicinity, murdering the inhabitants, laying waste the towns or causing them to be abandoned, through great fear; and since these incursions were more or less frequent until 1713, it remained a wilderness up to this date, without a "single white inhabitant."

At the conclusion of peace, in 1713, another and successful attempt was made to put the original plans into execution. Inasmuch as the "proprietors" had not been able to fulfil their part of the contract, viz., to settle the number of families in the time required according to conditions imposed by the General Court, their right to proceed further without permission from the said General Court had lapsed. Accordingly, as early as possible after this period, application was made to this body for carrying into effect the spirit and letter of the first-named agreement, and consent obtained. This they did by a petition, praying a "confirmation of the said tract to them and their associates," and their prayer was granted upon conditions similar to those made in the previous contract.

An early meeting of these gentlemen was called to enter into and consummate arrangements for settling a part of this grant, and it was decided that the East half should be used for this purpose, while the West half should be retained by the "proprietors." Thus, early in the history of the town, the two sections came to be known as the East, or settlers' half, which is now Leicester, and the West, or proprietors' half, now Spencer.

A survey was made of the East half, house-lots were laid out and inducements to settlers were offered similar to those in other localities, viz.: that one shilling an acre, a nominal price, should be charged, "provided the purchaser should agree to settle a family thereon within three years from the date of purchase." As a further inducement, every house-lot should be supplemented with an additional one hundred acres in some other part of the town, for every ten acres of house-lot. Thus, by paying forty shillings, the purchaser became possessor of four hundred and forty acres of land. These lots were made accessible by public highways, running north and south, east and west, abutting upon each. Lots were also set apart for the Gospel ministry and school purposes agreeable to the original contract. With fair prospects now of a more lasting peace between settlers and Indians, the proprietors again indulged the hope of locating a settlement here that might yet rival, in population and business enterprise, many of the older towns in the county.

Yet, a decade passed before the number of families necessary to the carrying out of the original conditions were located, but within twenty-five years from the planting of the first habitation "the town had increased rapidly in population and wealth." The entire interest of the proprietors now being transferred to the West half, early preparations were made by them for further development of these lands and favorable inducements offered to settlers for this purpose. They caused a survey to be made of the tract, dividing it into eighty lots of two hundred and fifty acres each, and two of these lots were set apart for ministerial and school purposes. They also entered into an agreement with the purchasers, that "as soon as twenty-five families were settled within the limits of the said eighty lots, the proprie-

tors, as an encouragement to the settlement of religion among them, will advance and give the sum of forty pounds towards building a meeting-house."

FIRST SETTLERS.—Later these original lots were sub-divided, and the first one of them sold was in 1717, to Nathaniel Wood, containing one hundred acres, and was situated near the Brookfield line, on the old County Road. Up to 1725 but two other lots had been sold to families who had located thereon, viz., to Samuel Bemis and John Graton. The land of the former adjoined that of Nathaniel Wood, while that of the latter was situated in the southeast part of the plat or near the "Styles reservoir," now so called.

The process of settling this half was a slow one, and as late as 1740 it contained probably not more than one hundred and fifty inhabitants. For more than twenty years these sturdy pioneers struggled manfully against poverty and want without complaint in regard to their condition, but there was a growing feeling that they had been neglected, on the part of the town authorities in repeatedly refusing to grant them "roads for their better accommodation." Both church and school were located in the east half, and although they contributed by tax towards their support, yet, practically, they were deprived the benefit of them. The records show that when they asked that "roads might be laid out, at the just expense of both parts of the town, so that the inhabitants might get to meeting," the request was not only refused, but was "regarded as an injustice." The need of roads appeared to be a constant source of grievance to these people, and up to 1736 little or nothing had been done in this direction to relieve their pressing wants. Under these circumstances the minister and highway tax had become burdensome to them, and it is not surprising, perhaps, that they should early seek some measure, or measures, that would, sooner or later, relieve them from such an embarrassing position. At this time the town was about to settle a minister and provide for his support; therefore a tax of one penny per acre was laid upon all the lands of the proprietors and individual settlers. This act was so unsatisfactory to the people of the west half that they forwarded a petition to the General Court, asking that they might be exempt from paying this tax "unless their proportion might be applied towards the support of preaching among themselves." The House of Representatives was inclined to grant the request, but the Council opposed the petition, alleging an "error in directing the petition, &c.," which was in all probability a pretext only, as upon this and other subsequent occasions they too plainly indicated that they had little or no sympathy in common with the people. The petitioners had entertained strong hopes that this request would be favorably considered by the proper authorities, and that, ere long, the difficulties in regard to both meeting and minister would be obviated. In this they were disappointed. But the dawn of a brighter day awaited them, for closely following this event the proprietors came to their assistance with pecuniary aid and a Mr. Cunningham donated them land for a meeting-house and other purposes, which in time was erected, and by these gifts they early came into possession of a place of worship and minister.

Now that this institution had become a fixed fact for this part of the town, and consequently a centre around which a settlement might sooner or later develop, it was not a surprise to the people of the "settlers' part" that a division of the town should be seriously agitated. Whatever might have been said by the people of the west half about distance from the church or school or bad or no roads, their objective point was undoubtedly that they be "set off" into a new town. The first move in this direction was in 1741, when a petition was presented to the town, in town-meeting, asking that they be made a separate and distinct town, and there seemed to be no objection to granting this request. Stimulated by this success, a petition was now prepared and forwarded to the General Court, asking that a legal division might be had, and a bill favorable to the petitioners passed both Houses, but when it came to the Governor —Shirley—for his signature he refused it. This action was disappointing to both sections, as each had now come to feel that the interests of the whole would be best subserved by a separation. With this feeling now dominant, it is singular that so important a matter should be allowed to rest, but for nearly three years following there is no record showing to the contrary, and the supposition is that no further action was taken during this period. But early in 1743 the subject was again agitated with renewed enthusiasm. It was then decided that a committee of both proprietors and settlers request of Governor Shirley a personal interview "that they might lay their case before him in a more friendly way," and induce him, if possible, "to reconsider his recent decision." But their efforts were fruitless, and His Excellency could not be induced to change his former opinion, much less consent to any measure or bill to form a new and distinct town. At this juncture, in his judgment, it was not politic to do so. This action of the Governor's towards these people was a very unpopular one for him, and did much to strengthen the feeling of dislike that was taking root in their hearts for royalty, whether in Governor or subordinates.

It was thought that further effort looking towards separation must be abandoned for a time until a new expedient presented itself, which, if successful, might be made an entering wedge in the near future for more satisfactory results. It was that application be made to the General Court to be created into a precinct, as this would give them an ecclesiastical government at least, independent of the east half. Accordingly, on the 31st day of May, 1744, Mr. James Ormes was chosen to present a petition to this body, representing "that the difficulties which moved him

to apply, that they should be a distinct township, do still subsist, and may in a great measure be removed by their being made a precinct." In this they were successful, and an act of incorporation, as such, was granted the 18th of June following.

PRECINCT.—In compliance a warrant was issued, calling a meeting of the "Freeholders and other Inhabitants of the Precinct, or Parish, Qualified by Law to vote in Town affairs, which as yet has never been had," and on the 10th of September, 1744, the following precinct officers were chosen, viz.: Jonathan Lamb, moderator; John Stebbings, clerk; Samuel Bemis, John Newhall and James Willson, assessors; David Adams, collector; David Allen, treasurer; Samuel Bemis, John Cunningham, Jonathan Lamb, John Stebbings and James Willson, committee for calling precinct meetings. From this date and until April 12, 1753, all calls for parish meetings were dated "Leicester West Parish," etc.

The advantage derived by this new order was to give them the liberty of action in parish matters, as they could now choose officers to regulate their church affairs, but in all things else they were subject to the town, as heretofore.

The perplexing question of better roads was yet a matter of serious consideration, and five years after the above proceedings an earnest appeal was made to the selectmen "to lay out suitable roads for their accommodation," and while this request was not now considered unreasonable, inasmuch as the town had expended considerable money for the same purpose in the East half, yet they were not disposed to grant the request. Further appeals to the town authorities were regarded useless, but still believing their claims to these improvements to be valid, they resolved to take their case before the Court of Sessions for adjudication. They, therefore, petitioned this body, asking "that they cause certain roads to be laid out." The selectmen were cited to appear and "show cause why this request should not be granted," and the town chose a committee of citizens to appear with the selectmen in support of their position. The case, however, did not reach the court, as before the day appointed for a hearing a compromise had been arranged between the parties, the result of which was that before the close of the year eleven of the much-needed roads were laid out and constructed. This was very satisfactory, as the roads contributed largely to the comfort and convenience of the West Parish, but the feeling still existed that the differences between the two sections were again liable to arise under the same régime, and that the proper remedy, under the circumstances, would be found in a division of the town. This view of the matter was now entertained by the East Parish, and they not only gave their consent to a dissolution, but expressed a desire to unite with the West Parish and work harmoniously together to accomplish that purpose. Accordingly, on the 22d of November, 1749, the following petition was presented to Acting Governor Phipps, viz.:

Petition to the Honorable Spencer Phipps, Lieut. Governor, by the subscribers, a committee of the town of Leicester, stating that the inhabitants of the westerly part of said town have built a meeting-house, and settled a minister, and stating further, that about Eight years ago, moved to the town of Leicester to be set off and made a distinct town, which was readily granted, whereupon application was made to the court, about three years afterwards, for the same, but instead of being made a town, was made a Precinct only, which was very grievous to both, nor had the town any opportunity given them to offer any reasons to the Honorable Court to the contrary, although they have many to give, and one was that the west part called upon the selectmen of Leicester to lay out roads for them, upon the joint expense of both parts of the town, so that the inhabitants of the west part might get to meeting, &c. They further state that when the lands of the easterly part were laid out, sufficient land was appropriated for roads, but when the west part was divided, it was laid out into lots, and no land left for roads, and now the east part was called upon to be at their proportion of the expense, which they considered unjust. That the inhabitants of the west part preferred a complaint to the court of sessions, for a committee to lay out roads for their accommodation. They therefore pray the Court to erect the west part of Leicester into a distinct and separate town, &c.

DANIEL DENNY,
STEWARD SOUTHGATE,
JOHN BROWN.

The matter was now pressed upon the General Court by the people of both sections, and as a result, this body, as it had done on two former occasions, passed a bill in compliance with the request as set forth in the petition, but again His Excellency vetoed it, giving as his reasons for doing so, that he would not consent to this or any other bill "unless provision be made that the number of representatives be not thereby increased, or a clause suspending the execution of the act until His Majesties pleasure shall be known thereon, be inserted in the said act." This shallow message exasperated the House, as the only conclusion to be reached by them was, that their combined judgment in this matter was entitled to little or no weight by him, or that he had not manliness enough to assert the authority vested in him until he should first learn "His Majesties pleasure" thereupon.

This position of the Governor did not, however, change the sentiment of the House in relation to the equity of the prayer of the petitioners, and they at once addressed a communication to him setting forth their views in regard to the relations of His Majesty to his subjects, also stating that "the number of Representatives the town of Leicester, by charter and laws of the Province, are entitled to is not enlarged by this bill," and in closing, they "flatter themselves that your Honor will give his consent." But His Excellency was immovable, and this appeal had no effect. This, and the previous experience of the people in this direction, taught them that the House of Representatives was the only branch of the government that had a common feeling with them, and this was accounted for because it was made up *of* the people, and *for* the people, and they could better appreciate their condition and necessities. Notwithstanding this last attempt resulted in failure, they

were not discouraged, as the cause for which they were laboring was as vital to them now as ever, and there was no good reason why they should, at this time, retreat from the position taken. They did, however, allow it to rest for three years, at the end of which time it was renewed with their old-time energy. A parish meeting was called March 6, 1753, and a committee, consisting of Benjamin Johnson, Lieutenant John White and Deacon John Worster, was chosen to again petition the General Court to be incorporated as a separate town. The action of the House of Representatives, on this occasion, was endorsed by the Council, but again the result was a failure for want of His Excellency's signature, although an act was finally passed, which received his consent, erecting the precinct into a separate and distinct district, to be known as Spencer, "with all the powers, privileges and immunities that towns in the Province may enjoy, that of sending a Representative to the General Assembly only excepted," but giving the said district "full liberty and right to join with the town of Leicester in choosing a representative," they paying their proportional part of the expense of the same. This, then, was another step secured towards the one great object and aim of these people, yet it did not, by this act, dissolve entirely the relations existing between Leicester and Spencer. There were other districts in the province, similarly situated, subject to the same restraints, etc., which remained in force until 1775, at which time they were removed. In 1780 the "right" of representation was guaranteed under the Constitution.

Town Origin.—The birth of the town then, really, dates from this act,—although by it, it did not attain the full dignity of a township, owing to the terms imposed. By this act one Thomas Steel, Esq., was "empowered to issue his warrant, directed to some principal of said district, requiring him to notify and warn the inhabitants of said district to meet at such time and place as shall be therein set forth, to choose all such officers as shall be necessary to manage the affairs of said district." In accordance with this authority, in him vested, he issued his warrant to Captain Benjamin Johnson, and a meeting for the above purpose was called, at which the following officers were elected, as directed by the law, viz.: Captain Benjamin Johnson, moderator; Captain Benjamin Johnson, town clerk; Deacon John Worster, John Cunningham, John Muzzy, Deacon James Willson and Captain Benjamin Johnson, selectmen; Captain Benjamin Johnson, treasurer; Samuel Bemis and James Ormes, constables; the selectmen were voted assessors; Ensign John Stebbings, Samuel Garfield, John Prouty, Caleb Bridges and Robert Griffin, highway surveyors on the north side of the county road; Jacob Stoddard, Jonathan Lamb and David Adams, highway surveyors on the south side of the county road; James Richardson, highway surveyor on the county road; Joshua Draper and Benjamin Woodard, hogreeves; Deacon John Worster and Thomas Bridges, fence-viewers; Israel Holton, sealer of leather; Lieutenant John White, sealer of weights and measures; John Draper and Jacob Stoddard, tythingmen. One of the first acts passed by the district was to "allow Lieut. John White the sum of £2 13*s.* 4*d.* for his services in going to the Grate and General Corte in order to git us to be a District."

The town was never made such by any special act of incorporation, but it became one, virtually, by an act of August 23, 1775, which made all places, incorporated originally by the name of districts, "towns, to every intent and purpose whatsoever." Agriculture was the only occupation known to these people, at this early period, and the cutting away of the forests, sowing and gathering the fruits of the ground, were the only sources of revenue with which to meet the wants of the family and various taxes. The plow, hoe and other like implements assisted largely in supplying the scanty food, while the spinning-wheel and loom, with industrious hands to guide them, furnished the family clothing "fit for mill or meeting." The district at this date, 1753, numbered about five hundred inhabitants.

Location.—The town lies south of the centre of the county, and about midway between the eastern and western boundaries. On the north are the towns of Oakham and Paxton, on the east Paxton and Leicester, on the south Charlton, and on the west Brookfield and North Brookfield. It is quite regular in shape, forming nearly a parallelogram, being about eight miles long by about four miles wide, and containing thirty-two square miles, more or less, or rising twenty thousand acres.

Situation.—It is pleasantly situated upon the "Great Post Road," running from Worcester to Springfield, twelve miles from the former and thirty-six miles from the latter. Its villages, aside from the main or central one, are Hillsville, northwest; Upper and Lower Wire Villages, northeast; and South Spencer, southwest.

Ponds, Reservoirs and Streams.—It is fairly well watered by ponds, reservoirs and small streams. Among the latter, the principal one, known as Seven Mile River, enters the town at its north boundary, and, emerging from the Browning Pond, takes a southwesterly course through the town. It is swollen to a river of moderate dimensions before reaching Podunk Pond, in the town of Brookfield, and thence its waters pass into Long Island Sound, by way of the Connecticut River. In addition to the water it receives from its main supply, it is fed by numerous small brooks, and a principal tributary called Turkey Hill Brook.

This stream enters the town at its northeast corner, its source being Turkey Hill Pond, lying in Paxton and Rutland. It runs in a southwesterly course, and makes a junction with the Seven Mile River near the old "Daniel Whittemore" place, so-

called. A small stream which takes its rise in Shaw Pond, Leicester, connects with the Turkey Hill Brook near the main mill of the Spencer Wire Company, upon which stream the extensive works of this company are situated, the same being about two and a quarter miles northeast from the post-office.

Another small stream passes through the centre of the village, and connects with the Seven Mile River at the "Great Meadows," its source being Whittemore, or Moose Pond. A tributary from the south is Cranberry Meadow Brook, which rises in Cranberry Meadow, and flows north, through "Howes Pond," connecting with it a quarter of a mile north of the South Spencer Station, on the Boston and Albany Railroad. The streams, or brooks, in the southeast part of the town flow in this direction, and eventually reach the Blackstone River, which runs to Narragansett Bay. Although most of these streams are unimportant, yet in "ye olden tyme" they furnished the power for various small mills and factories located upon them, for grinding grains, manufacturing powder, wire, hoes, scythes, etc.

The principal body of water (natural pond) within its borders is the Whittemore or Moose Pond. It is situated in the centre of the township, and covers about eighty acres of land, is very pure and wholesome water, being fed almost entirely by springs, and yields in the winter a harvest of excellent ice for summer consumption. In winter, also, it is a fine sporting field for persons of piscatorial habits, as it contains hard, luscious pickerel, that sustain a wide reputation. Brooks and Browning Ponds, lying on the north, are quite large bodies of water, but they are principally in the towns of Oakham and North Brookfield. There are two large reservoirs—one the "Sugden," lying wholly in Spencer, and situated near the Upper Wire Village, and the other the "Styles," situated at the southeast corner of the town, and lying one-half in Spencer and one-half in Leicester. Cranberry Meadow and Burntcoat Ponds cover over a considerable territory, the former lying between Spencer and Charlton, and the latter three-fourths in Leicester. The other ponds, or small reservoirs, contain water enough to make them an important auxiliary to steam, and are made fairly remunerative when used in this connection.

Soil.—The soil, when properly cultivated, yields abundant crops of grass, grains, potatoes, &c., and compares favorably with the average farming lands of the county.

Surface.—The surface is very irregular, but not abrupt, is diversified by hills and valleys, some of the hills forming the highest points of land between Springfield and Worcester, on the line of the Boston & Albany Railroad, and are very symmetrical in form. They overlook a large extent of country to the north, west and south, and from the summit of some of them the eye takes in an extended sweep of country, dotted with houses, ponds, streams, valleys, other hills and distant spires, in neighboring towns, all combining to form a scene not to be surpassed in the country.

Geological. — The geological formation of the town consists mostly of gneiss rock; mica and chlorite slate are found, and the rock is generally unfit for building purposes. The highest ledges retain a horizontal position, while in the low river bottoms they are tilted about one-third, showing that the disturbing force has been a sinking, rather than an uplifting one. Trap prevails to some extent in the north part; the boulders correspond with the native ledges, and scratches of glaciers are found.

The Village.—The village spreads out over a very uneven surface. The original streets are crooked and narrow, but in the more modern portions they are laid out with more regularity, wider and more convenient for travel and business.

Railroads.—The railroad accommodations are limited to one line, viz.—the Boston and Albany, which is located two and one-quarter miles from the business centre, the station being at South Spencer. This was a long distance to transport the large number of passengers and amount of freight laid down at this depot, and numerous coaches and heavy teams were constantly employed for this purpose. In 1870 a route was surveyed from the Boston and Albany Railroad at South Spencer to the central part of the village, and in 1872, at a town-meeting, the town was called upon to subscribe to the capital stock in a railroad to connect these two points; but at this meeting it was voted "to pass over the article." Various surveys were now made, covering this and other routes, but the matter was not brought before the town again until April 7, 1877, when the article was again passed over. Several more meetings were held for this purpose, but with like results, until, at a meeting April 3, 1878, the town voted to subscribe to two hundred and fifty shares (twenty-five thousand dollars) of the capital stock in said road, which action caused the road to be forthwith constructed, greatly to the relief of the increasing traffic and to the convenience and comfort of the traveling public.

Meeting-Houses. — *Congregationalists.* —The *first* care of the settlers here, as elsewhere, was to arrange for such shelter as would meet the wants of their families; then, as they invariably carried their religion with them, it became their next duty to provide for a meeting-house and minister, that their spiritual wants might be properly cared for. April 2, 1739, Samuel Bemis and John Stebbings were chosen a committee by the settlers of the west half to proceed to Boston for the purpose of meeting the proprietors, then and there, "to come into some arrangement about the building of a meeting-house and having the gospel preached to them." At the meeting held for the purpose it was voted "to lay a tax of three pence per acre on their lands the following year, and two pence per acre for the next two years, to assist the settlers in building a good, substantial meeting-house, forty-

five foot in length and thirty-five foot in width, and towards the minister's support." As a further assurance that the undertaking should be a success, Nathaniel Cunningham, of Cambridge, donated to them by deed, February 26, 1740, two acres of land "for the accommodation of a meeting-house, a training-field and such other public uses as the town shall direct, forever." In all probability they were about erecting this house in the year 1743, although the records do not indicate that such was the case, as on the 30th of November of that year it is recorded that the proprietors held a meeting at which a report of the parties who contracted for the building of the same was considered by them. That the house was occupied when in a very crude condition, the records, further on, give conclusive evidence. It was covered with rough, unplaned boards, having a ground floor and loose flooring for the galleries, the inner walls unfinished, the interior lighted by a few small windows, the glass set in leaden sash. Yet, notwithstanding it was a rude and uninviting structure, it afforded the inhabitants shelter from the sun and storm, and furnished them an altar around which they could gather for religious worship and instruction.

It became necessary now to make some arrangements for seats, or pews, and on the 7th of November, 1744, a meeting of the inhabitants was called, "to see if they would come into any method in order to build the body of seets," and also "to see what method they will come into to dispose of the pews." The "body of seets" was located in the centre of the house, on either side of the centre aisle. The wall-seats, on the west side of the house, were for the elderly men without pews and those on the east side for the elderly women without pews. The galleries were for the younger people and the sexes were separated in the same manner as below. At the last meeting a "comity" was chosen to build the "body of seets" and to "mark out, Dignify and set a prize on the pew spots." This work having been completed, the following plan was adopted for disposing of the "spots," viz.: "The man that shall be highest in valuation of real-estate shall have the first choice, and the next in succession until the pews are all taken up." According to this plan Samuel Bemis was entitled to the first choice, and it was voted that "he have the Pew Spot on the Rite hand side of the Coming in of the South Doore, prize £5 0*s.* 0*d.*; Left. Jonathan Lamb shall have the Pew Spot on the easte end of the polpet ajoining thereunto, prize £4 0*s.* 0*d.*" And so on until twelve spots had been assigned and located. The sum of two pounds was the lowest price paid.

One year later the sum of £25 was voted "to defray the charges of building a polpet, Deacon's seet, body of seets and ministerial pew." For nearly five years the "doors" had been without proper fastenings, and on the 28th of March, 1748, a committee of three, viz.: Lieutenant White, Deacon Worster and Daniel Knapp, was chosen "to procure a Lock and Key for the meeting-house Doore, at the cost of the Parish."

From this time until March 2, 1767, the subject of finishing the building had been discussed and voted upon at nearly every district meeting held, and small sums of money appropriated to finish or improve some part of the same, and at a meeting held this day it was voted to raise the sum of £50, "to finish the meeting-house decently." This sum, however, was never raised, but four years later, or at a meeting held February 13, 1771, it was decided to build a new house, the size of which should be fifty-six feet in length and forty-seven in width, "and upon the spot where the old one now stands." After the usual preliminaries had been arranged and details decided upon, as far as possible, the contract was awarded to Daniel Baldwin, "to build it in a proper manner," for the sum of seven hundred pounds, he taking the old building as part pay. As he declined to take the responsibility of raising the new one, the selectmen were made a committee to attend to it, with authority to expend an amount which had been appropriated for that purpose, and in their report to the town they certify that it was expended for "Liquor, ropes and other things." The house contained sixty-eight pews, forty-six being located on the floor and twenty-two in the galleries, and the same system was adopted for disposing of them as in the previous house. The appraised value of these pews was fixed at five hundred pounds. In 1801 a tower and cupola were added to the house, and three hundred dollars was voted for that purpose. This improvement suggested a bell, and the sum of $426.87 was secured by private subscription for one, and in town-meeting it was voted "that the names of the generous subscribers be entered upon the town records."

Up to 1821 no means had been provided for warming the meeting-house, but this year it was decided to introduce stoves, "under the inspection of the selectmen." For two years their experience with this "innovation" was not wholly satisfactory, because of the propensity of these stoves to smoke, and a committee of three was accordingly appointed "to take into consideration the subject of stove-pipe, or funnel, in the meeting-house . . . to remedy their smoking." This committee attended to their duty and recommended alterations "at the outlet by carrying the funnels out at the east and west windows."

In 1838 this meeting-house was repaired by turning a quarter around and fronting it to the south, with new inside finish, new pews, etc., making it to conform, as nearly as possible, "to the meeting-house recently fitted up in Paxton." It was completed and dedicated on the 14th of November of this year. May 1, 1843, during a high wind, the spire of this church was blown off, and passing down through the roof, damaged the ceiling and interior to some extent. On the 1st of January, 1862, it was entirely destroyed

by fire, and from this period, until a new house was erected, religious services were held in the Town Hall. Preparations were at once made to rebuild, and on the 8th of April, 1863, the new edifice was dedicated.

On the ground floor of the new building was the vestry, and on the second floor the audience room. In 1881 this vestry was enlarged, a church parlor and kitchen were fitted up for the convenience of church and society gatherings and other parochial purposes. In 1885 it was generally felt that this building had become inadequate to the growth of the church and society, and it was proposed to enlarge the audience room and change the entire arrangement, providing the alterations could be done without expense to the society. Individuals responded generously by subscriptions to carry out the plans suggested, and an addition of twenty feet was made to the north end of the building. The organ and singers' seats were placed in the rear of the pulpit, the pews were rearranged, the walls beautified by fresco decorations, and gas, public water and steam-heating apparatus were introduced. It was re-dedicated December 22d of this year. These alterations transformed the building into an attractive edifice both inside and out, and by these changes the proportion of the whole structure was greatly improved. The front and steeple are of a mixed order of architecture, bold in outline and projection, and from base to pinnacle the symmetry is well preserved.

The late Isaac Prouty, while living, expressed a desire that the church building might, sooner or later, be remodeled, and that he would subscribe the sum of five thousand dollars towards the payment of the same. The work now having been completed, his heirs, in accordance with his wish, presented this amount to the subscription fund, with a request that it be received as a "memorial of him."

Singing.—From the days of our forefathers, singing has been considered an exercise in the service of the church, next in importance to the "preaching of the Word," and in its rendering was regarded by them as *de*votional. If, during the last half of the nineteenth century it has become *e*motional, it certainly is not the fault of the forefathers.

In the early days the deaconing of the hymn or psalm was a necessary custom, as but few, joining in the exercise of song, possessed the hymn or psalm-books; consequently, the service was of a purely congregational nature. In 1782 an attempt was made to place singing seats in the gallery of the meeting-house, "that the singers may sit together," but just what time they were allowed to "sit and sing together" is not recorded. The chorister, in those days, held that position by the united vote of church and congregation, and the first to occupy that position was Dr. Ormes, in 1770. The next was John Muzzy, Jr., in 1775, and, in 1782, Lieutenant Jonas Muzzy, with Mr. Oliver Watson as assistant.

The first hymn-book that came into general use was the "Watts' Psalms and Hymns," adopted in 1769, after an animated controversy of ten years or more, and it remained in use until 1862. It was exchanged for the "Sabbath Hymn-Book," which was used until 1885, when the "Laudes Domini" took its place.

The first instrument introduced into the choir was the bass viol in 1829, and was played by O. S. Worthington and others, and the next was the double bass, played by William G. Muzzy. Then followed the violin, flute and other instruments, and, later on, the reed and pipe-organ. In 1863 the latter, a two-bank organ with twenty-eight stops, was purchased of William A. Johnson, of Westfield, Mass., the maker of it, and, in 1887, at the remodeling of the church, it was taken down by G. H. Ryder & Co., of Boston, and enlarged by the addition of five new stops, and otherwise improved in power and general appearance. The singing, up to and at the present time, is by a volunteer choir.

Universalists.—In 1808 the citizens of Spencer were asked to remonstrate against certain towns (including Spencer) being incorporated into a religious society to be called the "Universal Society;" but in town-meeting they voted "to take no action relating to the subject." Some of the inhabitants were, however, agitating the advisability of a separation from the established church, but no decided move in this direction was taken until 1820. This year David Adams gave notice that he had become a member of the "Second Universalist Society in Brookfield and Charlton," and before the close of 1821 forty-three persons had withdrawn to join this and a Baptist Society about to be formed in this town. This year, also, the town and parish had so far become separate and distinct bodies, as to cause the making and collecting of the ministerial tax to be done by the Congregational Society.

In 1830 a Universalist Society was incorporated with ten members, and in 1833 a meeting-house was erected, in which services were held until 1840. The society, from this time, gradually decreased in numbers, until it ceased to exist, and the house and church property were disposed of.

This building stood upon the west corner of Main and Wall Streets, and twenty years after it was abandoned for church purposes it was converted into a boot-factory. For many years it retained its original outward appearance, until, finally, such additions were made to it, that it entirely lost its identity. From about 1875 occasional meetings of this denomination were held in the town hall, but in 1881 the society was reorganized under the general statute of this State, and at a meeting on the 26th of October of this year they adopted a constitution and by-laws and voted "to purchase land and build a church." This edifice was erected in 1882 and dedicated February 20, 1883, with Rev. F. A. Bisbee as pastor.

Externally, this is an attractive brick structure

while internally it is very complete in its modern arrangements, which consist of a commodious audience-room, chapel and church parlors upon the ground floor. Upon the basement floor is a spacious room for entertainments and church gatherings, with a kitchen conveniently connected and abundantly supplied with all the conveniences required in this department.

Methodist.—In 1840 a few families, representing the Methodist faith, assembled themselves together and held public religious meetings in the audience-room of the Universalist meeting-house. In 1841 a society was organized in conformity with the rules of this denomination, and made use of the town hall for holding meetings for nearly six years. In 1847, to accommodate their increasing numbers, they purchased land and erected a very substantial church building with belfry and spire. It contained a vestry upon the first floor and audience-room upon the second. In 1872–73 the house was remodeled by making additions upon either end, repainting and frescoing both audience-room and vestry and adding parlors, kitchen and other ante-rooms. It has a large membership.

Baptists.—The formation of the Baptist Society January 30, 1819, resulted from a division of the Baptist Society in Leicester, which took place in 1818. Their meeting-house was erected in the northeast part of the town (called North Spencer) in 1820. There was preaching at this house, at intervals, up to 1840, but their membership diminished so rapidly after this date that stated services were wholly abandoned. In 1878 the society was reorganized with twenty-one members, holding services in a small hall in the town-house at first and later in a private hall fitted up for the purpose, until in 1885 a new brick church building was erected. The size of the audience-room, 39 x 49 feet, with a seating capacity of 330; the vestry, 39 x 40 feet; parlor, 17 x 20; and kitchen, 12 x 17. The ceremony of the laying of the corner-stone was held on the 7th of September, 1885, and on the 21st of June, 1887, the church was formally dedicated.

St. Mary's (Roman Catholic).—In 1845 a few scattering families of this faith worshipped at rare intervals, in the houses of private individuals. In 1851 this, with several other parishes, was placed under the charge of a clergyman, and in 1853 the parish had grown numerically sufficient to warrant the building of a church, and one was completed this year. It was a handsome frame building, with tall spire and bell. In 1855 the parish was attached to an out-mission to Webster, and so remained until 1857, when it was placed under the charge of the Jesuit Fathers, resident of the Holy Cross College, Worcester. This year the Catholic population numbered less than one-fifth the inhabitants of the town, but thirty years later those who affiliated with this church numbered about five-eighths of the whole. In 1871 they were given a resident pastor, in the person of Rev. Julius Casson. He died in July, 1879, and was succeeded by Rev. Thos. D. Beaven, and in 1883 Rev. Bernard S. Conaty came as assistant pastor. In November, 1888, Father Beaven was assigned a charge at Holyoke, Mass., and a few weeks later Father Conaty was transferred to Springfield, Mass. In 1883 they began the building of a new brick church edifice, and dedicated it in 1887, as the Church of the Holy Rosary. The general style is cruciform, and outwardly it is a stately and beautiful exemplar of church architecture. The nave is one hundred and forty-five feet in length, and the transept eighty-eight feet, and the interior decorations are a high order of ecclesiastical art. The windows are a prominent feature in these decorations, and the fifteen, in the chancel and aisles, represent the Fifteen Mysteries of the Rosary. The two large transept windows, thirty by twelve feet, are fine works of art. In 1886 the growth of the church occasioned the separation of the English and French-speaking portions of the parish, and the Old St. Mary's was set apart for the latter, under the charge of Rev. C. R. Veins, pastor, and Rev. J. A. Manceau as assistant. In December, 1888, Rev. G. R. Dolan was transferred from Springfield, Mass., to the charge of the new church.

Ministers.—The fact that the inhabitants of the west half could not easily enjoy the privileges of the sanctuary had an important bearing upon their early efforts in securing for themselves a place of worship and a gospel teacher. About the time the frame of the first meeting-house was erected, the Rev. Joshua Eaton began preaching as a candidate for minister, to be settled over them, and on the 17th of May, 1744, a church was formed and a covenant subscribed to, between himself as pastor and certain of the inhabitants. Shortly after this compact he received an invitation from the church and people "to become our Gospel Minister," which was accepted by him, and on the 7th of November following he was duly ordained as such. The following pastors represented their respective churches at this service, viz., Rev. Mr. Prentice, of Grafton; Rev. Mr. Hall, of Sutton; Rev. Mr. Cheney, of Brookfield; Rev. Mr. Goddard, of Leicester; Rev. Mr. Webb, of Uxbridge, and Rev. Mr. White, of Hardwick. This was then designated as the "Second Church of Christ in Leicester." The terms of settlement gave to the minister "all the land-tax, an additional sum by subscription and £150, old tenor" (equal to $66.67), as salary, and this sum was to be increased by £5 each year until it reached £200 annually. As the currency depreciated this sum was increased, until in 1766 it was made about equal to $244, where it remained until his death.

Mr. Eaton was a native of Watertown and a graduate of Harvard University in 1735. After two years of law study he practiced at the bar about five years, then began the study of theology and fitted

Thos. D. Beaven

himself for the ministry. He remained in charge of this parish until his death, which occurred April 12, 1772. "He was greatly beloved by his people, tender and sympathetic in his nature, plain and practical in all his preaching," and although the profession of law presented more worldly attractions, yet he felt that the ministry was his calling and that he would not "return to the practice of the law, with its tumult, dissipation and snares that attend court, on any consideration." The parish was now obliged to resort to candidates, and after six Sabbaths' trial, the Rev. Joseph Pope, of Pomfret, Conn., was invited to occupy the pulpit with a view to settlement. His manner and preaching soon won the hearts of the people and they heartily concurred with the church in calling him to become their pastor, and at a meeting, February 15, 1773, the district so expressed themselves. They agreed that his settlement should be the sum of £133 6*s.* 6*d.*, lawful money, and that they would pay one-half at the end of the first year, and the balance at the close of the second year, with a stated salary of £67 ($244) annually, "so long as he shall continue in that office in this place," and his ordination took place the 20th of October following. A committee was chosen "to provide entertainment for the Council, Gentlemen of Liberal Education and Mr. Pope's relatives and friends," but Dr. William Frink, a parishioner, relieved the committee of that duty, as the following note explains:

Gentlemen Freeholders of Spencer, Greeting—You are welcome to the entertainment which the council had at my house on the 20th day of Octr. last.

I am your honorable servant,

WILLIAM FRINK.

A vote of thanks was presented to him, by the inhabitants, for "so great a favor."

Mr. Pope's pastorate was one of kindness and brotherly love for all his people, and during the long and wearisome years of the Revolution the attachment between pastor and people never abated, but it continued warm and abiding until he was separated from them by death. Whether or not it was the custom of these people that the public meeting should be opened with prayer, the first and only record of that exercise was at an annual meeting held March 5, 1781, when Mr. Pope was sent for "to open the town-meeting with prayer."

Mr. Pope married Miss Anna Hammond, of Newton, who survived her husband thirty-three years, living to the great age of one hundred and four years, six months and twenty-eight days, "Honored and beloved by all, cheerful in her old age, and a beautiful illustration of that perfect peace vouchsafed to those whose souls are stayed on God."

As a scholar Mr. Pope was more than a peer of the profession of those days. He enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all within the limit of his acquaintance, and after a faithful service of forty-six years, as pastor, his health failed him, and it was the unanimous wish of the people that a colleague be settled with him. The Rev. Stephen Crosby, of Thompson, Conn., came to preach, as a candidate to fill this position, and at the expiration of ten Sabbaths he received a unanimous call to become the junior pastor, and accepted the same. His salary was fixed at six hundred and fifty dollars per year, "as long as he should remain in that office, and should regularly supply the pulpit in this place." Notwithstanding the unanimity in which the call was made, there appears to have arisen a difference of opinion in regard to the construction of the terms of settlement, which caused some unfriendly feelings. However, the majority sustained Mr. Crosby in his version of it, and on June 19, 1819, he was duly ordained.

Although there was no outbreak to disturb the harmony between pastor and people during the following four years, yet it was apparent that the majority were feeling not a little disturbed at the persistent and selfish manner in which he insisted upon his interpretation of the contract with the parish. For two years a spirited correspondence passed between the minister and parish; committees were chosen, requesting "Mr. Crosby to alter the contract between him and the people;" votes were taken upon propositions suggested by him, which were generally unfavorable to his view of the question; yet he protested against dissolving the compact. But on the 30th of May, 1825, a council was convened to consider the situation, and they were unanimous in their opinion that his pastorate should cease, and he was accordingly dismissed.

Mr. Crosby received his education at Brown University, Rhode Island, and Union College, Schenectady, N. Y., and graduated in 1817. He studied theology under Doctor Knott, president of the latter college.

Nearly a year now passed without any stated supply in the parish, but during this time the Rev. Levi Packard, of North Bridgewater, Mass., had occupied the pulpit as candidate for that place. He was so well liked by both church and people that a call was extended to him April 3, 1826, to settle with them as their minister. The terms proposed by the church and parish were, "that the contract should be dissolved, after six months' notice, by either party, and a salary of five hundred and fifty dollars per annum." With a slight modification in them, which was agreeable to the parish, Mr. Packard accepted. The change in the conditions was, "that the salary should be four hundred and seventy-five dollars per annum and a respectable dwelling-house for himself and family during his continuance with the society as minister." Arrangements were at once made for his ordination, which took place June 14, 1826. Previous to this, on the 18th of May, of this year, a lot had been selected by a committee of the town and a vote passed to build a parsonage. When completed this dwelling cost two thousand

dollars, and was the same building and premises owned and occupied by the late Isaac Prouty. On the 3d of May, 1847, Mr. Packard purchased this property of the town.

He was a man of more than ordinary ability; a kind neighbor and citizen. He was ambitious to see the society over which he had charge prosper in increasing numbers and devotion to the Master. Whenever the times pressed heavily upon the parish he was quick to comprehend the situation and liberally remitted portions of his salary, and this considerate generosity was duly appreciated.

Being of the "Old School," he was stern in his conviction of duty as he understood it, and perhaps was judged too harshly for the bold stand he took in sustaining it. On account of a conflict of opinion between the principles which he maintained and more modern ones, entertained by the younger members of both church and parish, on the 3d of September, 1853, he asked that he might be dismissed from the pastorate. He was a graduate of Brown University in 1821, and completed his theological education with Rev. Joseph Ide, of Medway, Mass. His pastorate continued over this people twenty-seven years.

The Rev. Stephen G. Dodd, of Milford, Conn., supplied the pulpit after it was vacated by Mr. Packard, and in due time received a call from the church, in which the parish concurred, to become their pastor. With his salary, a parsonage was to be furnished, and, in case of dissatisfaction by either party, six months' notice was necessary to terminate the relations. These terms and conditions being satisfactory to the parties interested, he was installed August 23, 1854.

Mr. Dodd was not a brilliant man, in the common acceptation of the term; but his kindness of heart and sympathetic disposition won for him the most profound respect. Even in his temperament, gentle in his manners and possessing an unusual degree of forbearance, he secured to himself lasting friends, both among his parishioners and the people of the town. His services ended October 1, 1860, and he was dismissed by Council June 5, 1861. His pastorate extended over a term of six years. He was a graduate of Princeton College, New Jersey.

A call was now extended to Rev. T. T. Waterman, of West Killingly, Conn., to fill the vacancy caused by this resignation, and accepted by him. His terms of settlement differed from the preceding only that *three* instead of six months' notice be given in case of dissatisfaction. His installation took place immediately following the ratification of the resignation of Mr. Dodd, and by the same council.

Mr. Waterman was an older preacher than the former pastor, and consequently came to the duties incumbent upon him with ripe experience and a thorough knowledge of the relations which should exist between pastor and people. He was enthusiastic in his preaching, presenting his subject with ardor and his prayers were fervent, with a flow of word and soul which were, at times, eloquent.

In closing his labors he made no communication to the church, resigning his office as pastor; therefore when his letter-missive was presented the council had no action to take upon the matter. His ministry was of short duration, and ended January 1, 1863.

December 8, 1862, the parish warrant contained an article "to see what measures the society will take to supply themselves with a minister after July 1, 1863." The action upon this article gave the prudential committee authority to confer with the Rev. James Cruickshanks, of Chelsea, Mass., and "engage him, if possible, to preach for the society for one year." He was employed as supply for the above term. After ten months the church and parish united in a call to him to become their settled minister, which he accepted, and January 13, 1864, he was regularly installed.

Mr. Cruickshanks was a preacher of superior ability; his sermons were well grounded upon a sound evangelical doctrine, and all his literary efforts bore marks of culture and high scholarly attainments. He remained in charge of his duties eight years, his resignation taking effect July 2, 1871.

He was followed by Rev. H. A. Shorey, of Camden, Me., who was installed September 6, 1873, and dismissed January 1, 1877. His successor, Rev. A. S. Walker, of Gloversville, N. Y., was installed November 14, 1877, and remained in his charge ten years, when he was dismissed, September 1, 1887. The Rev. Erastus Blakslee, of Fair Haven, Conn., followed, and after preaching three months was installed May 15, 1888.

THE REVOLUTION.—The military reputation of Spencer from the French and Indian Wars to the closing of the late Rebellion has been one of patriotism and courage, and the town has furnished liberally of both men and means in all the conflicts for freedom.

Edmund Bemis and James Smith were in the great expedition sent out under Sir William Pepperell, in conjunction with Admiral Warren, for the capture of Louisbourg in 1744, the former serving with some distinction. James Smith, Jr., was in a later service; John Stebbings was captain in the regiment of Col. Timothy Ruggles at Fort Edward in 1755 and 1756, where he died. In the same expedition Capt. Philip Richardson and his lieutenant, John Wicker, were in command of a company, and before the war closed, which was substantially in 1762, the following persons participated, viz.: Israel Richardson, Jonas Bemis, James Capen, William May, Josiah Robinson, Jr., James Stebbings, Joseph Worster, Nathaniel Parmenter, David Prouty and Daniel Hill.

Thus early in the history of the country the people of Spencer were being trained in the art of war by actual service, willingly fighting the battles for Eng-

lish sovereignty. (At this period most of the people supposed themselves loyal to the King, and were ready to shout, "God save King George!") Scarcely had the people recovered from the shock occasioned by these frontier wars before they were called upon to enter upon another contest, fraught with greater hardships and more personal sacrifices. The British ministry were beginning to press measures which some of the leading spirits regarded as infringements upon the liberties of the American people. A spirit of resentment to these acts, born, perhaps, without any ambitious design of dissolving connection with Great Britain, in a few short years became universal, and as a result the War of the Revolution.

This town distinguished herself—not by sending into the army illustrious men, for those she had not—but by promptly furnishing her quota of the soldiers called for and patiently bearing the heavy burdens imposed by the war with as much patriotism and loyalty to the cause of freedom as the average American community of those times. Chief among these burdens was the payment of taxes necessary in the prosecution of the war. These they met heroically; but the system of taxation early instituted by the British government against the colonies, of which these people were a part, was both obnoxious and oppressive to them. "Taxation without representation" they considered unjust, no matter how trifling the tax, and objected to it as it involved a principle, and many of the wisest Englishmen of that day regarded their objections as reasonable. The people of Spencer were by no means alone in this reasoning. The Stamp Act of 1765 and later Revenue Acts were particularly obnoxious, and Spencer was in full sympathy with the town of Boston, which was first to enter a protest against these and other like measures. Circulars and pamphlets sent out from Boston fired the hearts of the people and probably had much to do in hastening the conflict which soon followed. For seven years the people of Boston and immediate vicinity were discussing the situation and attempting to solve the problem involving their relations to the mother country. Very early, however, those towns more removed from the immediate effects of these acts began to comprehend the design of Great Britain towards the American people, and the effect produced by this literature upon them was very marked.

The towns of Leicester, Spencer and Paxton, being united as a representative district, met in convention January 1, 1773, "to consider these circular letters concerning the state and rights of the Province," and "spirited and patriotic resolutions," endorsing the views of Boston, were adopted and instructions of the same nature were prepared and forwarded to their representative in the General Court, Thomas Denny, Esq., of Leicester, requesting that his course of action be guided by the "spirit and letter of these instructions." For two years these towns acted jointly in these deliberations, adopting patriotic measures, formulating instructions to representatives or delegates in convention or Congress and appointing Committees of Correspondence.

The British Government, from policy, had, up to this time, abandoned some of the taxes upon imported articles, but among those upon which a tax still rested was tea, to give, as Lord North proudly said, "the King an opportunity to try the question with America." The opportunity soon presented itself, and the result was the "Boston Tea Party" of December 16, 1775.

The people of Spencer were heartily in sympathy with that movement, and on the 27th of December, at a convention of the above-named towns, strong resolutions were presented condemning the use of tea, "while ladened with a tribute, contrary to our consent," and declaring that "we will not use it in our families." The women, too, acted as patriotically as the men of the convention, and they declared "that any of the sisters found using the destructive herb should be treated with scorn and contempt."

The resolves of the Great Continental Congress, for the non-importation of goods, wares and merchandise, were also cordially endorsed by these towns, at a convention held two days later, and the people of Spencer found no difficulty in abstaining from the use of such goods. The women, also, on this occasion affirmed that the "home spun" should be sufficient for the wants of themselves and their families on all occasions.

At a meeting held December 15, 1774, the town voted that sundry "Province assessments be paid to Henry Gardner, Esq., of Stow, and not to Harrison Gray, Province Treasurer," and they further added that they would "defend the assessors or constables from any damage of what kind or nature soever, that may arise from conforming to the votes or orders of this meeting." But the spirit of resistance to the real or imaginary encroachments made upon them by the British authorities was not confined to words or resolutions. Long before the conflict between the colonies and mother country began active measures had been taken, and a stock of powder, bullets and flint had been provided, and minute-men raised, that they might be prepared for an emergency at a moment's warning.

Under a warrant dated April 29, 1774, the town voted to raise "Fifty effective men, and that one pound of powder and Bullets answerable, be delivered out of the town's stock to each soldier," and any amounts remaining in the treasury from unexpended appropriations were also ordered to be used for patriotic purposes. At the raising of the meeting-house, in 1772, the sum of £1 6*s*. 6*d*. was still in the hands of the treasurer, and it was ordered that £1 0*s*. 6*d*. be given to the Continental committee, and six shillings be paid to Jeremiah Whittemore "for bringing a Barr of Lead from Boston for Bullets."

A meeting had been called for the 24th of April,

1775, "to make provisions for the company of minute-men in case of any special Imergency, such as providing Waggons and Drivers to carry their Baggage, and support them before they can be otherwise supplied." But before this meeting convened they were called to "march in the Defence of our Just Rights and Liberties before the day came." The signal lantern had been hung out from the belfry of the old North Church, and messengers had brought the word to this and other towns in all directions from Boston, that "the war had begun, the British troops were marching on Concord." Although this was not in the days of the telegraph or telephone, yet the news of this movement sped with a rapidity almost rivaling these modern inventions, as on the afternoon of that eventful day, April 19th, "Capt. Ebenezer Mason, with a company of fifty-six men, buckled on their knapsacks, shouldered their muskets, and before the set of sun were on the march for Cambridge." The following are the names of those composing this company, viz.: Captain, Ebenezer Mason; Lieutenant, Abijah Livermore; Ensign, Joseph Livermore; Sergeants, Benjamin Bemis, Jr., William Green, William White and Samuel Hall; Corporals, Oliver Watson, Jonas Muzzy, Asa Sprague and Jeduthan Green; Drummer, James Draper; Fifer, Luther Prouty; Privates, John Draper, Jesse Bemis, Isaac Prouty, Nathaniel Wilson, Isaac Livermore, Michael Hatch, Jonathan Rich, John Waite, John Knapp, Joseph Grout, Benjamin Gleazen, Joseph Wheat, Levi Thayer, Joshua Draper, Jr., Elisha Whitney, Reuben Lamb, John Hatch, Amos Whittemore, Wright Woodward, Samuel Bemis, Rand White, Benjamin Sumner, John Woodward, Jr., Jonas Lamb, Thomas Sprague, John Bemis, John Ball, David Livermore, James Watson, Robert Watson, Thomas Whittemore, Nathaniel F. Loring, David Rice, Richard Huttice, Samuel Garfield, Jr., Nathaniel Cunningham, John Lamb, Jr., Asa Whittemore, John Worster, Elijah Southgate, Knight Sprague, David Lamb and Timothy Capen. Of this company forty enlisted, upon arriving at Cambridge, into the service for eight months under Captain Joel Green, with David Prouty as his lieutenant. In Captain Seth Washburn's company of Leicester, which left there on the 17th of June for Boston, were nine men from Spencer, viz.: Ensign Joseph Livermore, Corporal Elijah Southgate, Privates Andrew Morgan, Jonas Lamb, Peter Rice, Thomas Sprague, John Hatch, Wright Woodward and Isaac Livermore. Those that participated in the battle of Bunker Hill were Joseph Livermore, Elijah Southgate, Jonas Lamb, Peter Rice, Thomas Sprague and Isaac Livermore. In the unfortunate expedition against Quebec, in 1775, were four Spencer men, viz.: John Guilford, Daniel Ball, Benjamin C. Ball and David Chamberlain. Although the town had no officers of high rank, it will ever be proud of those holding the minor offices, together with the rank and file who served in the army of the Revolution.

REPRESENTATIVES.—On the 17th of June, 1775, the town elected their first representative to the Great and General Court, to be convened at Watertown on the 19th, and Oliver Watson was selected for that post of distinguished honor. He was re-elected in 1776.

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.—In June of this year a resolve of the General Court was forwarded to the various towns in the Province to ascertain the minds of the inhabitants of said towns in regard to declaring the Colonies independent. In response to this resolution the town voted, emphatically, that they "Do Fully, Freely and Solemnly engage, with their Lives and Fortunes, to abide by and support said Congress in all such measures as they shall think proper to come into for the safety of the United Colonies."

The Continental Congress, having no power to manage trade, could not force Great Britain into a trade treaty; consequently the continued importation of English goods caused consternation in the Colonies, and balances, which were heavily against them, and which must be settled in coin, were forwarded to England by boxes and barrels. This caused Congress to issue its paper money as a circulating medium, and this act, together with the unfortunate condition of the country, with the evils of the war pressing hard upon them, added another and serious embarrassment. The people of Spencer early took into consideration the situation, and resolved to do what lay in their power toward maintaining the value of the currency. The first of a series of instructions to their Representative, Mr. Watson, was that "he use his influence in the support and credit of the paper currency of this Colony, and if any person or persons shall, by petition or any other way, motion or move for the discredit of said currency, that his or their names be published to the world." On the 4th of July, 1776, the ever memorable Declaration of Independence was signed, and agreeable to orders of the Continental Congress it stands recorded upon the town's records, "there to remain a perpetual memorial thereof."

STATE CONSTITUTION.—The following October the question was submitted to the town, "Whether they will give their consent that the present house of representatives, together with the council, shall enact a Constitution and form of government for the State of Massachusetts Bay." A meeting was called to consider this important question, and, upon presentation of the article, it passed in the negative, and the following were their reasons for sustaining the vote: "First—There being many of the members of this town absent and in the army at this time, therefore not in a proper capacity to consent. Secondly—We do not understand, by said hand-bill, that after our perusal of s^{d} constitution, if not agreeable, we have no liberty to make objections, and if made, no encouragement of any alterations; and, thirdly—As circumstances, are at this day, we are of opinion a form of government ought to be suspended for the

present." To frame a Constitution for a great State, under these circumstances, they felt to be a matter of grave import, and, in their judgment, the people should be allowed more time for its consideration.

PRICES OF COMMODITIES.—Prices of all commodities were high, a depreciated currency was the only available money, and people were put to their wits' ends to meet their obligations, and trade generally was in a demoralized condition. Early in 1777 the General Court sought to remedy one feature of this evil, viz., the exceeding high prices, and an act to prevent monopoly and oppression" was passed by that body. A committee for the purpose, together with the selectmen of the towns and districts, were required to fix prices upon agricultural labor and products; also upon all goods, wares and merchandise necessary to the support of the people, or in use in the various trades. The following are some of the prices "fixed" for the town of Spencer, viz.. "Farming labor not to exceed 3*s.* per day; a day's work for a yoke of oxen 1*s.* 6*d.*; wheat 6*s.* per bushel; corn 3*s.*; rye 4*s.*; beef 2½*d.* per pound; shoes 3*s.* per pair; meal of victuals 9*d.*; West India rum 8*s.* 2*d.* per gallon; New England rum 5*s.*; W. I. flip 11*d.* per mug; N. E. flip 9*d.*, etc." This scheme, however, was not a success.

A CREDIT MEASURE.—During the years which immediately followed the Revolution the people here, as everywhere else among the colonies, were greatly crippled financially, and it required the united wisdom and watchfulness of the General Court to devise means and measures for the best interests of the people and for bolstering up the currency and credit of the country.

Near the close of the year 1777 an act passed the House and Council calling in the State's money or bills of credit and putting the same on interest, which act appeared to be an oppressive one, and the inhabitants of this town instructed their representatives to "use every effort in their power to procure a repeal of the said act, as they considered it injurious to the poorer sort of people." A still further objection was, that "it would become payable about the same time that a large amount of the Continental money would be called in." The act, however, was not repealed, and, at a meeting December 29th, they proceeded to arrange for their proportion of the "called money," and voted "that £991, 17*s.* be assessed upon the Polls, Real and Personal Estates of the inhabitants, for the purpose of paying the town's proportion of Four Hundred Thousand Pounds, which is now called in by way of Loan." This assessment represented about thirteen hundred dollars in hard money, and was a burdensome tax for the people to meet at this time.

ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION.—January 5, 1778, a meeting was called to hear read the "articles of Confederation for a perpetual union between the United States of America," and a committee was chosen for the purpose of examining said articles. This committee reported that "we find them to be, according to our best judgment, a well-concerted plan for the rule of government for the United States of America," and without further comment it was voted that "the representative be, and he is hereby directed to give his consent in the General Court to authorize the delegates of the State to ratify and confirm the said articles of confederation." At a meeting called May 4th, following, to hear the form of government proposed for Massachusetts Bay, a committee was chosen, consisting of Joshua Barton, Oliver Seager and Elijah Howe, to consider the same. Their report was unfavorable, and, after a long debate, the question was put, "whether, or not, the town would approve of the Constitution," and it passed in the negative, one hundred and two voting against it, and *none* voting for it. They also sent to the General Court a remonstrance against adopting the instrument, and, from the tone of their "long debate," their reasons, in sustaining their vote, were, in substance, that the fundamental principles, in such a form of government, should originate with the people, through their delegates in convention for the purpose, as such a method was more in harmony with the great principles that underlie a free government, and eminently more democratic; and then, that the doings of such a convention be submitted to the people for their acceptance or rejection.

AID TO SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.—Although at this time the people were absorbed in discussing matters of state, as they understood them, they were not unmindful of the wants of the soldiers in the field, or their dependants at home. At this meeting aid was voted to their families, and a supply of shoes, stockings and shirts was forwarded to the soldiers in the camp or field.

Early in 1778 nine men enlisted into the army for nine months, and each received, as bounty, a note of thirty pounds, given by the selectmen, and on the 8th of June, of the same year, the town voted the selectmen authority to draw the sum of two hundred and ten pounds and interest from the treasury "to pay the said notes when they shall become due."

In 1779 six soldiers were furnished to go to Rhode Island, and eighty-four pounds in bounties was voted them for this service, and at the same time sixty pounds was voted to "provide for the families of the soldiers who are in the public service."

RETURNED TORIES.—The spirit of self-sacrifice that actuated these people was a noble one, and during the years of anxiety and hardship through which they had already passed their deliberations were marked by an earnest regard for the welfare of the country and their posterity. Actuated by this ardent love of country, they demanded that cowards in it be disgraced or otherwise punished, and traitors to it hanged.

It was the spontaneous overflow of this sentiment that prompted a hearty response to the town of Bos-

ton, by resolutions, in regard "to certain Inimical persons Lately Returned into the State." January 21, 1779, resolves were offered in town-meeting, the third of which read as follows, viz.:

Resolved, That we will, to the utmost of our power, aid and assist the civil magistrate in the execution of all laws made for the purpose of excluding all such *hateful creatures* from among us.

The persons referred to were Tories, or Loyalists, as they styled themselves, who fled the country at the commencement of the Revolution, but were now appearing again in Boston and other towns in the State, and their presence was as obnoxious now as at the commencement of the troubles with Great Britain, to which country they preferred to give their allegiance. Although their appearance again was so dista-teful, the magnanimity of the people, after the conclusion of peace, not only allowed their return to their homes, but even invited it, and they freely forgave them the heinous sin of disloyalty.

More Soldiers and Equalizing Expense.—During the year 1779 the energies of these people were severely taxed in devising ways for furnishing men to fill up the army, and raising money and material for the support of the same. On the 21st of June the sum of five thousand four hundred pounds was voted to pay for the services of seven men hired for the Continental Army, four for Rhode Island and others for guard over prisoners in the barracks at Rutland. This year a committee was chosen "to see if the burdens caused by the expense of the war" could be equalized, and each made to bear his proportion of the cost; but after giving the matter careful consideration, it was found "that it was very difficult to do each person justice, and we omitted to proceed on sd business."

Instructions to Representative.—On the 7th of August following, Deacon John Muzzy was chosen representative, and instructed "to have particular regard for the United States, the State and his constituency, to support the credit of the currency, and not to give his consent to any act for making up the sink of money between debtors and creditors, either public or private, soldiers and officers of the Continental Army excepted."

Prices Regulated.—August 17th, Major Asa Baldwin was chosen delegate to a convention to be held at Concord on the first Wednesday in October, to take into consideration, among other matters, the regulating of prices of the necessaries of life. The following is a partial list of prices, established by the convention, and they indicate the condition of the currency at that period, viz.. Corn, $14 per bushel rye, $7; wheat, $27; oats, $6; hay, $5 per hundred; labor, $9 per day; beef, 92 cents per pound; butter, $1.83; cheese, 92 cents; men's shoes, $20 per pair; stockings, $12, etc.

Condition of Money.—The condition of the finances was growing worse daily, and at the beginning of 1780 one dollar in currency was valued at about one-sixtieth of a hard dollar. This situation pressed so heavily upon the people, that many were obliged to ask an abatement of their taxes for this and the past year.

The Constitution.—On the 27th of May, of this year, they were called upon to consider a new Constitution for the government of the Commonwealth, and after earnest discussion, with the exception of one article, the whole document received the unanimous approval of the town. The exception was to article two of the third section of chapter one, relating to the House of Representatives. In their judgment the small plantations were deprived of representation, and "they should be allowed to join two or more of them together, in choosing one or more representatives." This was, in substance, an amendment unanimously agreed upon by them, and language similar was, later on, made a part of the Constitution.

Governor.—In the autumn of this year the town cast its first vote for Governor, and John Hancock received the whole number of votes cast, viz.: sixty-nine. The first representative under this new régime was John Bisco, Esq.

During this and the two succeeding years the town responded to the calls for more men for the army, raised money for bounties and other purposes, cared for the families of the soldiers and forwarded requisitions of beef and other supplies to headquarters. The appropriations for 1780, for war and kindred expenses, were: July 11th, £19,000 to pay for services of six and three-months' soldiers; October 12th, £48,456 for the same purpose; £3,565 for horses purchased; and £12,000 for beef supplies, aggregating nearly £90,000, or about $4,000 in coin.

Watchful.—In 1780 the General Court passed an act for repealing, or "taking of the new emissions of money," and the people of Spencer thought this to be a "notorious Breach of y^{e} Public faith and a grand Reflection on y^{e} Continental Congress," and they forwarded a remonstrance and petition to that body, asking for the immediate repeal of said act, requesting, at the same time, that the "vote be taken by yea and nay, and published, that the good people of the Commonwealth may have a Greater Opportunity to Guard against Enemies of the Glorious cause of America." They watched closely the doings of the General Court, condemning that which seemed oppressive or unjust, and commending when they felt that the people would be benefited thereby.

In 1781 they were passing through the severest crisis of their existence, the heavy war debt causing burdensome taxes, the resources of the country nearly exhausted, and the Continental money almost worthless. Nothing could procure the men and materials called for but hard money, and the town was in great danger of having executions levied upon it for deficiencies in men and beef. June 20th the sum of £416 hard money was raised for supplies of men and

beef, and a committee of three, viz.: John Bisco, Lieutenant John Muzzy and Lieutenant John Worster, were chosen to procure the same. All transactions were now made upon a hard money basis. Spencer filled her last quota in March, 1782, the war being now virtually over; still there were men in the field to be cared for, as it was not yet considered safe to disband the army.

GRIEVANCE.—The following five years was a period full of grievances and, sad to relate, of misguided judgment. In the winter of 1781–82 the General Court passed the Valuation and Excise Acts, and the town, upon their consideration, freely expressed their disapprobation of them in a remonstrance as being "unjust and oppressive, and an Infringement on y^e^ National Rights of mankind." That part relating to the valuation they characterized as "unjust and unreasonable as Nebuchadnezzar's demanding of his magicians an interpretation of his untold Dream," and they demanded that both be repealed.

April 9, 1782, a meeting was held at Worcester to take into consideration "the many grievances of the good people of this commonwealth," and Isaac Jenks was sent as delegate from the town. On the 16th of May following he was elected representative, and a long list of instructions, suggested by the recent convention, were given him, of which the following is but a fractional part, viz.: "that it shall be unlawful for the Creditor to sue, until the Debtor be notified; that all state securities, whether notes or certificates, be made Lawful tenders; that all goods or estates, taken on execution, be appraised to the Creditor, &c., &c."

In 1785 the people were in a most "Distressing and Disagreeable" condition. No cash was to be had; stock and produce, though they had it, would not pay debts, unless sold at too great sacrifice, and they asked the General Court to relieve them, by making paper money pass equal to silver or gold, or real and personal estates a tender in discharge of debts. But this they could not do. The town was now deficient in its taxes, executions had been served upon it for their payment, and they were obliged to pawn their State securities to satisfy these demands. These securities were, however, subsequently redeemed.

On the 26th of June, 1786, a convention was called at Leicester to see if means could be devised which would bring "relief for grievances, done one way or other, occasioned by the scarcity of the Circulating Medium," and John Sumner was chosen delegate.

Grievances were now, with common consent, the order of the day; but Spencer was not alone affected by this malady. Other towns and plantations in the State bear record of the same disease, contracted under the same influences. Business was at a standstill, while the State and Continental debts were enormous, and the people were called upon, by way of taxation, until their patience was well-nigh exhausted. Property was seized for debt; people were thrown into jails, and great distress prevailed here and throughout the Commonwealth. High salaries of public officers, fees of lawyers and sheriffs and costs of courts, when compared with their own scanty means of subsistence, and, added to these, their own jealousy towards those officials and courts, were, according to their reasoning, sufficient grounds for complaint, and for a resort to force, if need be. Their animus was especially directed to the courts, and they demanded that they be abolished, as "their existence was a burdensome expense." This, and the nursing of the feelings which led to it, were but the wild vagaries of the communistic ideas, better known to the present age than to the people of those times.

SHAYS' REBELLION.—It was this condition of the social atmosphere that led to the inglorious Shays' Rebellion, which "began with high-sounding trumpets at Worcester, about the 3d of December, 1786, and vanished like a mist on the hills of Princeton," not far from a month later. Some of the good people of Spencer took part in this unfortunate fracas, among whom were found commissioned officers of the militia. At its close they were temporarily disqualified, and ordered to renew their allegiance to the government, which they humbly did. One Abijah Livermore and six confederates broke into the town magazine and took away the stock of powder, balls, etc., but soon after the insurrection was stamped out, he, with three others, made a written confession to the inhabitants of Spencer, in which they "craved the assistance to live to the Honor of the town and the Glory of God in all our future conduct."

Henry Gale was one of the leaders in this revolt, and after his capture was sentenced to death for high treason. The people of Spencer interested themselves in his behalf, and forwarded a petition to His Excellency, Governor Hancock, asking that he might be pardoned, "as he appears to be very Penitent and Humble for his very wicked crime." He was brought to the gallows for execution, but was there reprieved and afterwards pardoned.

COMMITTEES OF CORRESPONDENCE.—The Committees of Correspondence, during and after the war, were:—in 1774, John Cunningham, Oliver Watson, Asa Baldwin; in 1775, Oliver Watson, Moses Livermore, John Muzzy; in 1776 and 1777, Asa Baldwin, Jeremiah Whittemore, Joshua Draper, David Prouty, Knight Sprague, Benjamin Gleason; in 1778, Joshua Lamb, John Muzzy, Joshua Bemis, John Worster, John Watson; in 1779, James Livermore, Benjamin Gleason, John Worster, John Muzzy, Jacob Upham; 1780, John Muzzy, Johnson Lynde, John Sumner, Benjamin Bemis, Jonas Muzzy; in 1781, John Sumner, Jonas Muzzy, Johnson Lynde, Jeremiah Whittemore, Nathaniel T. Loring; in 1782, Asa Baldwin, Jeremiah Whittemore, Captain Ezekiel Newton; in 1783, James Hathaway, Jonas Muzzy, Isaac Morgan.

THE LATE REBELLION.—In the late Rebellion

the military spirit of this town was aroused, as in days of yore, and men and means were furnished without stint or grudging, in the grand effort made for the preservation of the Union. The echo of the first gun fired on Sumter, and the clash of arms in the streets of Baltimore, had scarcely died away before the heroic spirit of the people of Spencer showed itself, with but one feeling of sentiment and purpose, viz.: that the government should be sustained at all hazards in this hour of her need. From this moment until the closing scenes at Petersburg the citizens never faltered in their duty to the Union cause; and the courage and bravery of the men sent out were honorable alike to the town as her citizens and to themselves as soldiers. Before the first call of the President for seventy-five thousand soldiers, men were volunteering into the service of the government, and the sound of the fife and drum resounded through the streets, calling them—not to a holiday festival, as was their wont, but to the stern realities of a bloody war.

On the 29th of April, 1861, a town-meeting was called, "to see what measures the town would take to furnish outfits and uniforms for a company of volunteers about to be organized for the service of the government." At this meeting the selectmen and assessors were made a "Committee of Safety," and their duty was to "supervise, expend and lay out such a sum of money, not exceeding $5000, as may be necessary," paying the members of the company "seventy-five cents for each one-half day they drill during the next thirty days." These men were at first placed under the military instruction of Col. Alonzo Temple, of Spencer, a militia officer of the old school, but later on Capt. J. M. Studley, of Worcester, became their drill-master, and their time was now occupied in becoming familiar with the manœuvres of the soldier in camp or field. When the time for their service should arrive, the town stipulated that they should be paid a further sum of ten dollars per month, in addition to their government pay. This company left town for camp at Springfield, arriving there June 20th, and on the 21st were mustered into the service of the United States for the term of three years. It numbered fifty-one men, and formed parts of Companies F, G, H and K, of the Tenth Massachusetts Regiment.

At the above-named meeting a committee of eleven citizens was chosen for recruiting purposes, and the ladies were invited to procure a flag for the volunteer company. The Committee of Safety were also ordered to "purchase a flag, to be erected on the town-house." This committee, according to instructions, purchased the uniforms for the company in training. For these, together with a flag and staff, and the drilling of the volunteers, they expended the sum of $2463.75. One of their important duties was the care of the soldiers' families, and this they attended to most carefully and conscientiously.

At a town-meeting held July 19th, measures were discussed for offering bounties, and it was decided to pay the sum of $100 each "for thirty-two persons who shall enlist into the service of the United States at such a time as the committee of safety shall prescribe," and a further sum of $50 each "to all who remain in the service more than one year," and an additional sum of $5 "to all who shall enlist to-day." This number was the town's quota under the President's call, May 29, 1862, for 300,000 troops, to serve for the term of three years, or until the end of the war. On the 4th of August following, another call was issued for 300,000 men to serve for nine months; and in response to this a town-meeting was held, to make provisions for their quota under it, and a bounty of $100 was voted to each volunteer, together with aid to the families of all such.

At an adjourned meeting, held September 11, 1862, eleven persons were chosen to notify the enrolled militia to meet at the town-house for medical examination, preparatory to a draft, "if one is found necessary." On the 17th of October, 1863, a call came for 34 men more, and on the 25th of February following, an additional one for 25 men. In the meantime a draft had taken place, and by it 28 men were secured, either by voluntary enlistment, furnishing substitutes or paying a commutation fee of $300. This number was further increased by ten soldiers reenlisting and 49 new recruits, and the town now had a surplus of 23 men, which could be applied on future calls. August 20, 1864, a meeting was held to arrange for 39 soldiers to fill the quota of the town, under the last call of the President, and a bounty of $125 was offered to such as would enlist. December 24th the selectmen were authorized "to procure all the soldiers that, in their judgment, they think the town will need." April 26, 1866, the town refunded the sum of $5955 to such of the enrolled militia as had previously subscribed to the war expense account.

Many of the soldiers, at the expiration of their long or short terms of service, having a desire to witness the closing scenes of this gigantic Rebellion, re-enlisted "for the war," with an enthusiasm all the more earnest for the hardships they had endured or dangers encountered in behalf of the cause. Spencer furnished 319 men for the war, which was a surplus of 32 over and above all demands, among whom, at its close, were eight commissioned officers.

The first regiment forwarded to the seat of war, in which were Spencer soldiers, was the Tenth Massachusetts, and they were engaged in the battles of Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Rappahannock Station, Wilderness, Spottsylvania Court-House, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, &c. The Fifteenth Regiment contained five men from Spencer, who went into camp June 28, 1861, and were under fire the first time at Ball's Bluff, October 21, 1861. This body of troops went into the engage-

ment with six hundred and fifteen men and came out with only three hundred and eleven fit for duty. The Twenty-first contained twenty-six Spencer men, and went into camp July 19, 1861, on the agricultural grounds, Worcester, and they reached Annapolis, Md., on the 29th of August following, and on the 6th of July, 1862, embarked in the Burnside expedition to North Carolina and took part in the battles of Roanoke Island, having fifty-seven men killed and wounded. In one year the regiment had lost one hundred and thirty men, in killed, disabled by wounds, prisoners and discharged. At the expiration of their term of service all but twenty-four men re-enlisted for a term of three years, and nearly all the Spencer soldiers returned with the re-enlisted. Besides Roanoke Island, they were engaged in the battles of Newbern, Camden, second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Wilderness, Spottsylvania and Petersburg. The Twenty-fifth, with nine Spencer men, followed the Twenty-first on the 7th upon the same expedition, and their loss at Roanoke Island was six killed and 42 wounded. It was also in the engagements at Newbern, Port Walthall Station, Arrowsfield Church, Drury's Bluff, Cold Harbor, Point of Rocks, &c.

The Thirty-fourth went into camp June 3, 1862, with forty-three Spencer soldiers. Their first year's experience was garrison and picket duty in front of Washington. From the time of its first engagement it passed through the battles of Newmarket, Piedmont, Lynchburg, Winchester, Fisher Hill, two battles at Cedar Creek, Petersburg and Richmond. June 16, 1865, the original members were mustered out of the service and the remainder transferred to the 24th. The 57th contained sixteen Spencer men and was raised in the spring of 1864. It left the State in April and "fought its way from the Wilderness to Hatcher's Run, bearing a part in nearly every battle which occurred between these two points." For three months, following January 1, 1865, they were in the lines before Petersburg, marching and fighting until Lee's surrender. The 60th was a one hundred days' regiment, and in it were fifteen men from Spencer; also twenty-five men were distributed through the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th and 5th Cavalry and ten men in the 2d and 11th Heavy Artillery. Spencer was also represented in the 1st, 9th, 12th, 19th, 24th, 28th, 36th, 50th, 54th Massachusetts Regiments, the 154th New York, the California Artillery and the navy.

Tablets erected in the town-house bear the following names of those brave and true men who gave their lives in defence of the liberties of their country, viz.: Oscar R. Bemis, 10th Regiment, died in hospital at Baltimore, Md., August 22, 1862; Harry F. Adams, 21st Regiment, died at home on a furlough, May 19, 1863; Frederick A. Bemis, 21st Regiment, killed at Chantilly, Va., September 1, 1862; Elbridge C. Barr, 21st Regiment, killed at Fredericksburg, Va., December 13, 1862; Frank Bird, 57th Regiment, killed at Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864; Dwight Chickering, 34th Regiment killed at Snickers Ford, Va., July 18, 1864; Henry C. Chickering, 34th Regiment, lost from transport, May 2, 1865; Isaiah Crosby, 10th Regiment, killed at Malvern Hill, Va., July 1, 1862; Thomas Carney, 10th Regiment, died in hospital, Washington, D. C., August 30, 1861; James Crook, 2d Heavy Artillery, died at home on a furlough, April 25, 1865; Freeman Davis, 15th Regiment, killed at Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864; Louis Dana, 21st Regiment, killed at Newbern, N. C., March 14, 1862; Nathan S. Dickenson, 25th Regiment, died in hospital, Philadelphia, Pa., August 18, 1864; Lucien Fogg, 10th Regiment, killed at Wilderness, Va., May 12, 1864; William A. Frink, 25th Regiment, killed at Drury's Bluff, Va., May 16, 1864; George Farrel, 5th Cavalry, died at Point Lookout, Md., July 29, 1864; Joel W. Green, 1st Cavalry, died at Potomac Creek, Va., January 22, 1863; David Green, 3d Cavalry, died in hospital, Louisiana, July 28, 1864; Gardner M. Gage, 34th Regiment, killed at Berryville, Va., October 18, 1863; George W. Henry, 21st Regiment, killed at Roanoke Island, N. C., February 8, 1862; Otis M. Hunter, 34th Regiment, killed at Harper's Ferry, Va., April 10, 1864; Leroy Haws, 34th Regiment, died on transport, April 3, 1865; Dennis Harrington, 25th Regiment, died in hospital, Newbern, N. C., September 21, 1862; Sylvester D. Johnson, 10th Regiment, killed at Fair Oaks, Va., May 31, 1862; Daniel Kelly, 9th Regiment, died in hospital, Fairfax, Va., October 20, 1862; Waldo H. Luther, 10th Regiment, died at Newbern, N. C., October 23, 1864; Edward A. Lamb, 60th Regiment, died at Indianapolis, Ind., October 31, 1864; Abraham Luchay, 57th Regiment, killed at Wilderness, Va., May 6, 1864; James Larkey, 21st Regiment, died at Arlington, Va., June 1, 1864; Alfred W. Midgely, 10th Regiment, died of wounds, May 12, 1864; Joseph Mead, 21st Regiment, died at Danville, N. C., January 15, 1865; George W. Nason, 2d Heavy Artillery, died at Newbern, N. C., April 15, 1865; Nelson Reno, 4th Cavalry, died at Jacksonville, Fla., September 5, 1864; Samuel D. Sargent, 21st Regiment, killed at Roanoke Island, N. C., February 8, 1862; Jarius Sessions, 46th Regiment, died at Newbern, March 10, 1865; Edmund Toomey, 10th Regiment, died at Harrison's Landing, Va., July 19, 1862; John M. Worthington, 10th Regiment, killed at Winchester, Va. September 9, 1864; Horace Wilson, 24th Regiment, died in hospital, Newbern, N. C., April 26, 1862.

The whole amount of money expended by the town on account of the war, exclusive of State aid, was $27,101.70; for State aid, $23,529.92.

SCHOOLS.—The advantages for schooling in the West Precinct of Leicester were very limited during its early history as a precinct. Indeed, there were no schools in this part of the town until 1748, when a term of ten weeks was granted them, and three years later another term of six weeks. In 1753 this pre-

cinct contained a population of more than two hundred people, and while they were paying taxes for the support of schools in the East Precinct, yet they were of little or no value to them, owing to the great distance to travel and poor roads to reach them. In 1755, two years after being incorporated into a parish, the sum of sixteen pounds was raised for schools, and the annual appropriations for this purpose, up to 1775, averaged thirty pounds. There were, as yet, no school-houses here, but for several years the question of building one or more had been before the parish.

In 1766 the town was divided into six school "squadrons," three on the east and three on the west, and it was voted that "schools be kept in such as the inhabitants shall appoint," and private houses were used for this purpose. Two years later, houses were erected in some of these, but, as each was so sparsely settled and embraced so much territory, schools kept in them could not be made either practical or profitable.

In 1786 it was decided to reduce the size of the "squadrons," making them ten in number, and a vote was passed "to build houses in each," but the impoverished condition of the town at this time prevented the carrying out of this vote, and they were not commenced until 1790. In 1792 two hundred pounds were raised to finish school-houses already in process of construction, and also to build more, and in 1795 an additional sum of four hundred pounds was voted for the same object. The houses were now completed and the late divisions were now known as wards or districts, and in 1810 were formally numbered from one to ten inclusive, and duly recorded.

In 1849 another district was added by a division of Nos. 9 and 10 into three separate districts, and this was recorded as 11.

The first School Committee chosen in the town was in 1815, and the members thereof were required to visit the schools twice each year, to note the progress of the various classes and their standing in reading, spelling and pronouncing, also in writing, arithmetic and English grammar, and "more especially their decent and respectable behavior both in and out of school." It was also obligatory upon the committee to instruct the scholars in their "duty as to piety and morality." At the first visit of the committee they required each scholar to write his or her name upon a slip of paper, and the same again at the close, "that by this test they might ascertain what proficiency the pupil had made during the year."

The growth of the town from 1795 to 1837 did not require extra school facilities, and annual appropriations ranging from five to eight hundred dollars gave them a fair amount of schooling, both summer and winter.

In 1832 a school sustained by private subscription was opened in the vestry belonging to the Congregational Church, in which the higher branches were taught, and remained there until a room for school purposes was fitted up on the first floor of the old town-house building, where it was transferred and the same grade continued until 1857. In 1856, the population having reached the required number named in the school law making a high-school obligatory, steps were now taken by the town to comply with that law. Additional land adjoining that upon which the vestry stood was given them by William Pope, Esq., for a high-school building, and "a large and commodious edifice, 60 x 40, two stories high, with cupola and bell," was erected. The school and ante-rooms were upon the first or ground floor, and the second floor was used as a hall. Mr. Charles E. Denny, a respected citizen of Spencer, bequeathed the sum of two thousand dollars towards the payment of this building, and in appreciation of this generous act the hall was thereafter to be known as "Denny Hall." In 1888 this building was moved to the south side of Main Street, near the Baptist Church, to be used as a graded or grammar-school, to give place to a new high-school building.

In the school year of 1865–66 fifteen schools were maintained in the eleven districts.

The first important addition to the district schools was in 1867, in District No. 9, when a substantial brick building, three stories high, was erected, which would accommodate three hundred scholars. The rooms were spacious, well lighted and ventilated, and it cost, when built, $22,000. In 1885 steam-heating apparatus was added and in 1887 gas for lighting. From 1865 to 1888 the population of the town trebled in numbers, necessitating a continued enlargement of school buildings in many of the districts, while within a radius of one-half mile from the centre extraordinary facilities were required. Within the latter limits six large brick structures have been built, the last one completed in 1888, which will accommodate two hundred and eighty scholars, and the aggregate sittings in the six is sixteen hundred and twelve. They are unique in architectural designs and constructed with great care in reference to sanitary arrangements; airy and well lighted and furnished with all the modern improvements.

The High School building, built in 1888, is the gift to the town of Spencer by David Prouty, Esq., a life-long resident and honored citizen. The dimensions of this building are eighty-five by ninety-two feet, two stories high, with a basement. It is built of brick and stone, and the style of architecture, above the basement, is Romanesque in type. Upon a front corner is a tower eighty-three feet in height, and at its base a corner stone, with the inscription: "David Prouty High School."

The basement contains two large play-rooms, a laboratory and library room, heating apparatus, store-rooms, etc. On the first floor is the principal's office, school and recitation rooms, and upon the upper floor a large hall used for meetings and entertainments in connection with class exercises. The cloak-rooms,

David Prouty

closets, halls and stairways are large and convenient. This magnificent gift was erected at a cost of forty-five thousand dollars.

The appropriations for schools from 1753 to 1795 varied from £20 to £50 annually; from 1795 to 1850, $500 to $1600; in 1865, $3000; 1875, $11,000, and in 1887, $22,000. The number of scholars in 1840 was 324; in 1860, 346; in 1880, 1521, and in 1887, 2110. In 1869 the town paid the sum of $95,000 for new school buildings, and improving old ones, equipments and supplies, and for teachers' services and expenses for maintaining the schools, the sum of $150,000.

The number of school-houses in 1888 were 15; the number of rooms occupied, 34, and the number of teachers employed, in all grades, 52.

This generous record is indicative of the steadily-growing interest the inhabitants have manifested over the intellectual training of the young.

DAVID PROUTY.—David Prouty was the fourth of that name in direct descent from Richard Prouty, who was a resident of Scituate, Mass., as early as 1667. The first David in the line moved to Spencer early in the eighteenth century, purchasing and settling upon a lot north of the centre of what was, years after, Spencer Township. He had a son David, born in 1739, who was conspicuous as a soldier in the war with the French, a captain in the War of the Revolution, a major in the State militia and for many years selectman and assessor of Spencer. He had a son bearing his name, born in 1772, who also participated in the honors of the town as selectman for many years and Representative to the General Court; and he had a son of the same name, born October 13, 1813, and is the subject of this sketch.

Mr. Prouty was reared as a farmer and continued in this occupation until he reached the age of twenty-three years. The year following he left the farm and entered the employ of Mrs. Hannah Hatch, widow of the late Eli Hatch, manufacturer of wire, and in 1840 he purchased these works of her. This was his first business venture, and he remained in it until 1846, when he disposed of the works to Liberty Prouty, that he might take possession of the farm inherited by him from his father, who died in 1845. In 1850 he sold this farm and came to "the village" and erected the dwelling-house he now occupies, moving into it January 6, 1851. In 1852 he entered the boot-firm of Charles E. Denny & Co., but in 1853 this firm was dissolved, in consequence of the ill-health of Mr. Denny, and in 1854 a second dissolution occurred, by the death of John G. Prouty, a member of it. John Boyden then became partner, under the firm-name of Prouty & Boyden, until 1857, at which time E. Jones & Co. took the interest of Mr. Boyden in the concern, and the name of the firm was changed to David Prouty & Co. In 1859 Isaac L. Prouty bought out the interest of E. Jones & Co., but the style of the firm remained the same, and in 1862 T. C. Prouty was admitted to the partnership.

This business relation continued until 1876, when Mr. Prouty retired from it and an active business life.

There are qualities in the make-up of individuals, which, if well balanced and blended, are a guarantee to success. These Mr. Prouty possessed in a marked degree, viz., prudence, good management and a sound judgment; and they were in a great measure the secret of his prosperity.

Being a man of quiet and unpretending habits, whether in a social or more public way, unnecessary or outward demonstration or show was always carefully avoided by him. He has represented his fellow-citizens in the General Court, has held many offices in the gift of the town, and in any, or all of them, there has been no question raised as to his faithfulness, honesty or capability.

In his business efforts he has been richly rewarded with an ample fortune, and in his quiet way has made it the source from which many charitable objects have obtained pecuniary relief, and no worthy charity has appealed to him in vain. He has merited and still receives the kindest remembrances of his fellow-citizens, and they trust he may live long to enjoy the fruits of his generous charities.

He married Caroline, daughter of Dr. Jonas Guilford, of Spencer, Jan. 14, 1840. She died Nov. 14, 1863. Dec. 16, 1867, he married Mrs. Sarah B., widow of the late Charles E. Denny, sister of his former wife, and she died January 3, 1873. By his first marriage he had but one child, a son, Jonas Guilford Prouty, born September 21, 1844, and he died at the age of nineteen years. Mr. Prouty was deeply afflicted by this loss, as it not only destroyed in him bright hopes for the future, but this death left him childless and alone. Possibly it may have warmed his heart towards other worthy young men, as he has been deeply interested in a number of such, and they have reason to thank him for material aid rendered them. The spontaneous gift of the David Prouty High School Building was a noble illustration of a desire to confer a lasting benefit upon the young of this and future generations who shall seek it for moral and mental improvement.

ROADS.—The traveled ways of the early settlers were the foot-path, which led from house to house, and the bridle-path, which led *to town*. Later on, these ways became roads, and at the present time, after passing through the various changes of straightening, widening and grading, many of these "primitive paths" constitute important highways in this town. There is no record showing when the "Great Post Road" was laid, but it was a public traveled way previous to 1725, as during that year the town—Leicester—was "presented" at the Court of Quarter Sessions for having no bridge across the "Seven Mile River." If the road had not a recorded location at that time, it must have had a little later on, as in 1728 the town was assessed the sum of £12 2*s*. 5*d*., it being their proportion of the expense of locating it.

After having been "presented" the second time at the court for the same offence, in 1729 they caused a bridge to be built. In 1800, complaint having been made by the attorney-general of the "badness of the Great Post Road," an effort was made to convert it and the North County Roads into turnpikes, but the town successfully remonstrated, by petition to the General Court, against it. In 1807 this road was altered and improved, by straightening easterly and westerly, from the house of Amasa Bemis, near Westville, now so called. Further alterations, in location, east of this point had been suggested from time to time, and the commissioners called upon to make them, but as late as 1832 no important changes had been made. This year, however, they ordered specific repairs through "the village," and September 10th the sum of eight hundred dollars was voted "for repairs near the houses of Joseph Mason and Walton Livermore." In 1856 general alterations were made in the road from Brookfield to Leicester lines, re-locating it in places, widening, cutting and filling it in others, and marking the boundaries by stone posts at each angle along the whole line. The North and South County Roads were located in 1756 and '57 respectively. The Great Post Road was *the* busy one of these three highways, as the principal business between the country towns and Boston centred upon it. It was the main thoroughfare between Hartford and Worcester, and was the route over which the first line of stage-coaches between these two points plied. This line was established in 1783, and the trip was made in four days.

Taverns.—Spencer was a famous stopping-place for these coaches from the days of the "three taverns" in 1788 to the supplanting of them by railroads. It was a relay station for change of horses, while its taverns furnished travelers with substantial food and drink, and it was not unusual to see fifteen coaches congregated here at the noon hour, and upon extra occasions, twenty-five. The *Centre* was early designated as "Upper and Lower Villages," the meeting-house being the nucleus of the former, and the "three taverns" the latter. These taverns, in 1788 the only three dwellings in the lower village, were the "Jenks," which occupied the site of the Massasoit Hotel; the "Mason House," beneath the "big elms" near the boot factory of J. Prouty & Co., and the "Livermore House," on the site of the residence of J. W. Temple. In 1743, Josiah Robinson built a small dwelling upon lot No. 22, which was purchased in 1754 by one John Flagg and kept by him as a public-house for seven years. In 1775 Isaac Jenks became owner of the property and the house was ever afterward known as the "Jenks Tavern," and was the most famous of all the inns in Spencer with the traveling public. A French gentleman who chanced to spend a night under its roof in 1788 spoke in high terms of the manner in which it was kept in comparison with French taverns. He said, "the chambers were neat, the beds good, the sheets clean, the supper passable; cider, tea, punch and all for fourteen pence per head." Also, General Washington passed the night here October 22, 1779, and Mrs. Jenks, the hostess, was ever proud to refer to the event, as her illustrious guest complimented her at the breakfast-table by saying, "Madam, your bread is very beautiful."

There were but two dwellings in the "Upper Village" at this time, viz., the "Morse House," now standing on the west corner of Main and May Streets, and the "Pope Mansion." This latter, the oldest dwelling standing in town, was built in 1745 for Rev. Joshua Eaton; and four years after the Rev. Joseph Pope succeeded Mr. Eaton. The former occupied this house with his bride. At his decease it came into possession of his son, William Pope, Esq.; then was owned by Hon. William Upham, son-in-law of the latter; and since his death, Mrs. Lucretia H., widow of the late William Upham, has owned and occupied the premises.

This building has been carefully preserved for nearly a century and a half, and bids fair to pass far into the twentieth century as a venerable land-mark representing the birth of the "Leicester West Precinct."

Town Pound.—Upon a small piece of land, "five or six rods square," at the west end of the meeting-house, was located the town pound, stocks and horse-block. The two latter "fixtures" did not survive the eighteenth century. There is no record showing at what date the pound was built; but it was undoubtedly of early origin, as in 1768 a new one appeared to be necessary, the town voting then to build "a new one with stone," and appropriated £7 for the purpose. It would seem that they had but little use for it, as in 1772, and again in 1790, articles were in the warrant of these years, "to see if the town would use the stone to underpin the meeting-house," or "to take the stone to fence the burying-ground." Previous to 1796 one or more attempts were made to move it; but this year the ground upon which it stood was wanted for horse-sheds, in connection with the meeting-house, and it was voted "to build a town pound on Jeremiah Whittemore's land, at the corner of the town road where it turns to Benjamin Gleason's, of the same bigness of the old one, three sides of stone and one of wood." The contract for building was awarded to Mr. Whittemore for £11. This enclosure remained until 1877, when the wall was taken down and the pound abandoned.

Post-office and Postmasters.—The first post-office established in town was on the 1st of October, 1810, and was kept in the "Jenks tavern." Isaac Jenks and his son, Isaac, Jr., were postmasters until December 15, 1825. At this date Charles Bemis received the appointment, and moved the office to the tavern in the "Upper Village." Amasa Bemis, Jr.,

was appointed postmaster August 12, 1828, and Nathaniel Wilson February 25, 1831. Eleazer B. Draper became postmaster October 24, 1832, and he removed the office to the first location. William Bush, Jr., succeeded him September 22, 1845, and after two years he moved the office to the store of Dr. L. Bemis, now corner Main and Elm Streets, east side. April 3, 1849, Dexter Bemis received the appointment. The next appointee was George H. Livermore, January 13, 1851, and he located the office at "Union Building." The 3d of May, 1853, Willard Rice became postmaster, and he changed the location to the ell part of the "Solomon Davis" house, corner Main and Elm Streets, west side. May 23, 1845, Luther Hill was appointed, and he removed the office to the "Bemis Store." July 11, 1861, Eli J. Whittemore was made postmaster, and it was again taken to Union Building, where it has remained to the present time. Horace A. Grant was postmaster September 26, 1864, and Emerson Stern was appointed May 18, 1869, and no change has been made since his appointment.

CEMETERIES.—The first public burial-place in the town was upon about one acre of land, donated by Mr. Cunningham, and was the north part of the meeting-house and training-field lot. In 1791, 1817 and 1857 one-half acre each year were added, making the lot contain about three acres. In 1872 a further addition was made, and at this time a trust fund was raised by parties having an interest in the protection and preservation of the family lots, monuments and other stones that marked the burial spots. The sum subscribed for this purpose was three thousand and thirty-five dollars, and the town was made trustee of the fund. New lots were located, concrete walks laid out and from time to time appropriate monumental and other work erected in memory of the departed.

The first person buried in the original lot was Elizabeth Adams, in 1742. In 1759 John Stebbings and others were given permission to erect tombs on the burying-ground. In 1790 this lot was inclosed with a "Good stone wall, with two Gates for to Pass and Repass." In 1793 it was voted "to purchase a carriage to carry Corpse to the Graves," and in 1794 a house was built for the hearse and a pall purchased. This was the only burial-ground until 1845. On the 20th of May of this year B. H. Kinney, of Worcester, purchased four acres of land lying partly on and forming the west bank of the "Seven Mile River," near the "Whittemore Bridge," so-called. He laid this out into burial-lots, avenues, paths, etc, and while it remained in his possession it was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies as "Pine Grove Cemetery." This lot has been added to at two different times, until it now contains about twenty-five acres. It is owned by an association of proprietors belonging to Spencer, and the spot selected for it shows ability and taste to provide a home for the remains of loved ones. It is superintended with excellent judgment and care.

In 1864 the Catholics purchased three acres of land for a cemetery lying on the west side of the great post road, one mile west of the post-office. In 1868 they bought thirteen acres upon the east side of the road and opposite this lot, and subsequently, four and one-half acres more were added. The new ground is neatly laid out, with a circular drive around a central mound, upon which is erected the Holy Cross. They have considerable fine monumental work, and are doing much each year to beautify the place.

DIVISION OF THE COUNTY.—As early as 1798 the question of a division of Worcester County came before the town, but the people were as loyal to the old county at this time as they had been to the country during the late perilous times, and did not cast a single vote in its favor. In 1828 another attempt at separation was made by taking sixteen towns from this county and four from Middlesex, and a petition from parties interested was presented to the General Court for that purpose. The vote of the town upon the question was two in favor and eighty-five against. A third time, in 1874, the people were requested to vote for or against a division, and they were as decided in their opposition to it as ever, and instructed their Representative "to oppose any legislation tending to make any change in the county."

STATISTICS.—The population in 1776 was 1042; in 1790, 1322; in 1800, 1432; in 1810, 1453; in 1820, 1548; in 1830, 1618; in 1840, 1604; in 1850, 2243; in 1860, 2777; in 1865, 3026; in 1870, 3953; in 1875, 5451; in 1880, 7460; and in 1885, 8250. The number of polls in 1800 was 285; in 1810, 301; in 1820, 347; in 1830, 386; in 1840, 395; in 1850, 591; in 1860, 715; in 1870, 940; in 1880, 1671; in 1888, 2039. In taking the valuation, and assessing the taxes of the town from 1753 to 1824, two lists were made and called the "North Side List" and "South Side List," the great post road being the dividing line. From the latter date this division was abandoned, and but one list made of the whole. The valuation in 1860 was $1,286,333; in 1870, $2,121,210; in 1880, $3,048,520; in 1888, $3,918,150. The number of houses in 1764 was 100; in 1850, 341; in 1860, 485; in 1875, 666; in 1885, 1003, and in 1888, 1088.

CONNECTED WITH STATE GOVERNMENT.—The following persons have been connected with the State government, viz.: William Upham, Councilor in 1878–79. Senators: James Draper in 1831–32; William Upham in 1859; Luther Hill in 1867; Charles P. Barton in 1883, and George P. Ladd in 1888. Delegates to Constitutional Convention: John Bisco in 1779; James Draper in 1820, and Jabez Green in 1853. Representatives to the General Court: Oliver Watson in 1775–76–77–80; John Bisco in 1777–80–81; John Muzzy in 1779; Isaac Jenks, 1728 to 1786; James Hathaway, 1787 to 1794; Benjamin Drury, 1794 to 1811; Jonas Muzzy, 1811–12; Phineas Jones, 1812;

James Draper, 1813 to 1819, and 1828 to 1832, and 1836 and 1837; William Bemis, 1820; Rufus Adams, 1823 and 1832; William Pope, 1827; Walton Livermore, 1831; David Prouty, 1833–34; Lewis Bemis, 1834–35; Amos Brown, 1835; Dennis Ward, 1836–37–39–47–56; Walter Sibley, 1838; Eleazer B. Draper, 1839–40–41–45; Jonas Guilford, 1842; Jabez Green, 1843–44–50; Milton Boyden, 1848; William Baldwin, 1851; Alonzo Temple, 1852; Alanson Prouty, 1853; William Henshaw, 1854; William Upham in 1857–72; John L. Bush, 1859; George L. Hobbs, 1861; Luther Hill, 1863–65–70–87–88; Dexter Bullard, 1867; Erastus Jones, 1874; David Prouty, 1876; James H. Ames, 1878; John W. Bigelow, 1880; Isaac L. Prouty, 1881–82; Joseph W. Temple, 1884; James Holmes, 1886.

Spencer, for several years after its incorporation, elected a representative alone; then a representative district was formed of Leicester and Spencer. In 1866 the towns of Leicester, Spencer, Southbridge, Charlton and Auburn formed a district, and in 1876 Southbridge, Spencer, Oxford and Charlton were made a representative district. In 1887 the district was again changed to Leicester and Spencer.

PHYSICIANS.—The physicians of Spencer, previous to 1800, were James Ormes, from 1732, and later on, Asa Burden, William Frink, Benjamin Drury and Jonas Guilford. At the present time they are E. R. Wheeler, E. W. Norwood, F. J. Sanborn, E. A. Murdock, Marc Fontaine, Ishmael Verner and Eli Barnard.

HON. JAMES DRAPER.—James Draper was born February 26, 1778. He traces his ancestry to James Draper, of Yorkshire, England, who was born in 1618, and came to this country "between 1640 and 1650," and located in Roxbury, Mass. James, the subject of this sketch, was a native of Spencer, as were two generations of his ancestors, and after a long and useful life he quietly passed away at the great age of ninety years, eight months and one day. His early life was devoted to the farm, but as this occupation was not altogether congenial to his taste, by close application to the limited educational advantages of the times, he fitted himself to perform such duties as an adviser or magistrate was expected to be familiar with in those days. With this qualification, and possessed of a good degree of intelligence, he very soon became a leading man in the town, and in the various positions in which he served his townsmen, acquired their confidence and established a high reputation among them and throughout the county. Although of an irascible nature, his kindness of heart and sincerity of motive enabled his many friends not only to overlook this characteristic, but to fully appreciate his abundant good qualities and worth.

In 1810 he was appointed a justice of the peace under Governor Gore's administration, and held the office more than fifty years. He ably performed the duties of it, whether called to act within the immediate vicinity of Spencer, or, as was often the case, in the more remote parts of the county. As a magistrate, his decisions or rulings were made after a conscientious consideration of the case in question, and by common consent it was admitted they were rendered in a fair and impartial manner. He was regarded as good authority in matters of common law, and was well qualified for writing deeds, wills, agreements or other legal documents, and being a practical surveyor, was particularly adapted for the work of conveyancing. He was county commissioner for several years, was twelve times elected as representative to the General Court, and twice to the State Senate. In 1820 he was delegate to the convention for making or altering the Constitution and, at times, occupied other positions of importance in the Commonwealth. In town affairs he was selectman, assessor, town clerk and treasurer for many years.

In his early life, when church and town were one and the same, he was prominent in the management of the former and interested in whatever pertained to it, and although a man of liberal spirit, he had a strong sentiment of veneration for whatever was spiritual and sacred. He was a great lover of music, and in his younger days taught singing-school in his native town. He composed some music, and at his decease considerable in manuscript was found among his effects. At the installation of Rev. S. G. Dodd an anthem, written by him, was performed by the choir, and was regarded as a very worthy production.

In 1840 Mr. Draper completed a history of the town of Spencer, relating to "facts, incidents and events" recorded therein, with "brief notices and genealogies of families," and three hundred copies of it were published. In 1860 he revised this history with "additions and improvements," to this latter date. The genealogical department contains a list of more than five hundred families, and the history, as a whole, is a work of considerable merit.

Mr. Draper married Lucy, daughter of Captain Samuel Watson, of Leicester, January 6, 1805. She died July 7, 1848. Their children were four daughters, all of whom lived to be married, but only one survived the father.

TOWN-HOUSE.—From 1744 to 1838 all meetings for the transaction of public business, of whatever nature, were held in the meeting-house. At this latter date objections were raised to the further use of this house for these purposes, and the subject of building a town-house was, at the earliest moment, brought before the town.

At a meeting previous to April 1, 1839, a committee was chosen to purchase a lot of land for a town-house, and after consideration a lot four by five rods, on the corner of what is now Main and Maple Streets, the same being a part of the present "Union block lot," was bargained for and purchased. Then at a meeting, the above date, it was

James Draper

voted "that the town take measures to build a town-house, or building for the purpose of transacting Public town business." At a subsequent meeting, however, the purchase of this lot of "4 x 5 rods," and all the business connected therewith, was reconsidered, on account of strong opposition to the location, and the lot upon which the present house stands was substituted. A building was at once contracted for, the same to be "50x40 feet, 2 stories high with cupola," the first floor to be used for rooms for selectmen, weights and measures and other town purposes, and the second floor for a town hall. While this building was in process of construction, town-meetings were held at the taverns of Eleazer B. Draper and Dexter Bemis.

In 1859 a bell was purchased and hung in the cupola, but in 1863 this became injured to such an extent that the selectmen were authorized to replace it by a new one "to weigh not less than 1800 pounds."

In 1871 the town had increased in population to such an extent that the old town-house was wholly inadequate to the wants of the public, either in hall facilities or rooms for the transaction of the town business. Consequently, at a meeting called for the purpose this year, it was voted to build a new town-house, "not less than 60, nor more than 80 feet in width, and not less than 80, nor more than 100 feet in length, 3 stories high, with bell, clock and memorial tablets." A committee of thirteen was chosen to arrange the details and attend to the building of the same. The old house was disposed of, and a large brick structure erected on the spot of the old one, containing rooms on the first floor for the use of town officers, a lock-up and the Fire Department; also waiting-rooms, a hall, reading and library rooms. On the second floor is the main hall, with a seating capacity for a thousand people, and convenient ante-rooms, and the third is occupied as a Masonic hall on the east side, and on the west a large hall for entertainments, with kitchen attached. The cost of this building, with furniture, was $57,870.

Town Farm.—The question of purchasing a farm upon which to maintain the town's poor was under consideration by the town for several years previous to 1825. This year a committee was chosen, with authority to negotiate for the Eleazer B. Draper farm of ninety-six acres, and the Joseph Cheever farm of sixty-six and a half acres, to be used unitedly as a "town farm." After purchasing the farm and furnishing equipments, making repairs, etc., upon the same, the total cost was $6,142.61. On the 28th of March, 1826, "Rules and Regulations" for the government of the inmates and the observance of good order" were adopted and entered upon the town records. In 1841 a new barn "72x38 feet with 16 foot posts" was built. Three years later, and also in 1851, propositions were entertained in town-meeting to dispose of the whole or a part of the farm, and committees were chosen to effect a sale accordingly, but without success. In this latter year the sum of $600 was raised "to build a new house and repair the old one." In 1871 the farm barn was raised, turned one-half round and a cellar excavated under the whole building, and in 1880 the house was enlarged by an addition of sixty by thirty feet, two stories high.

The whole building at the present time contains thirty-two rooms, and the halls, sleeping apartments and waiting-rooms are well ventilated and warmed by steam-heat.

The farm is pleasantly and healthfully located two and a half miles north of the village, and is under a good state of cultivation. The sunny exposure of the "home" and farm buildings, together with an extended southern view, lend a charm to the spot, whether viewed by inmate or visitor. It has been the study of those in charge of this institution to make it a cheerful and comfortable retreat for the town's unfortunates, and their efforts have been attended with marked success.

Fire Department.—Since first the need of better protection against fire was felt the town has been generous and wise in adopting safeguards for preventing or extinguishing fires. In 1830 dwellings and other buildings in the immediate vicinity of the village had become numerous enough to demand provisions for their better security against this element. At a meeting held March 7th, of this year, this subject was discussed and an appropriation of one hundred dollars was made towards the purchase of a fire-engine. This machine was a primitive affair, operated by two horizontal levers, requiring eight persons to "man the breaks," and often five times this number, with buckets in hand, to supply it with water. On the 26th of the same month, a further sum of thirty-five dollars was voted to purchase hose for this engine. A small building was erected on what is now "Union Block" lot, to house the new fire apparatus. This "tub engine" proved of but little value, as the buildings increased in number and size, but was the only appliance for protection against fire for nearly twenty years. In 1849 the town voted the sum of five hundred dollars to purchase a hand fire-engine and the committee, chosen for the purpose, selected a "Hunneman machine," with hose-reel and five hundred feet of hose. The small engine was now abandoned, the house disposed of and a new one erected on the east side of the town-house. A company of forty-five members was organized, and this organization has been well maintained to the present time. In 1851 the first board of fire wards was chosen, viz., Alonzo Temple, David Prouty and Andrew J. Roberts. The fire companies held their meetings in the new building until 1859, when the town granted the department the use of a room in the town-house building for business purposes. In 1871 a Hunneman steam fire-engine and hose-carriage was added at a cost of five thousand eight hundred dollars; and in 1874 a hook-and-ladder truck,

fully equipped for service, provided. A large and convenient room was now fitted up in the new town-house for the storage of the fire apparatus and use of the department. In 1882 a double tank fire-extinguisher was purchased, and in 1883–84 two new hose-reels were added to the equipments.

These additions necessitated a more abundant water supply, and reservoirs were, from time to time, located in convenient places for this purpose, at a cost of more than ten thousand dollars. In 1882 the introduction of public water-works added materially to the efficiency of this department by the location of eighty-eight hydrants exclusively for fire purposes. The manual force aggregates eighty men. Although an expensive necessity, the citizens have freely voted money to sustain the Fire Department, and they fully appreciate the perilous and responsible labors rendered by the firemen. They have expended, since 1849, the sum of sixty-five thousand dollars for engines, hose, equipments and services of men; and for engine-houses a further sum of twenty-five thousand dollars.

WATER WORKS.—In 1882 steps were taken to procure a supply of pure water for the town, as it was feared by medical experts and others that in the thickly-settled portions of the village the water had become contaminated to such an extent as to affect the sanitary condition of the people in these localities. A supply by gravitation was essential, if possible, and "Shaw Pond," in Leicester, was found to be the only body of water of sufficient altitude and supply. The town took this, by charter from the General Court, but subsequently transferred their interest in it to Messrs. Goodhue & Birnie, of Springfield, Mass., and they constructed the works as a private enterprise. In 1884 the town purchased them of the owners for two hundred and forty thousand dollars. The receipts for the six months ending January 1, 1885, were $7,036.97; for the year ending January 1, 1886, $14,171.38; 1887, $15,094.81; 1888, $15,324.79. The whole number of miles of pipe laid to January 1, 1888, was twelve and three-quarters, and at this date the daily consumption, 153,000 gallons.

LIBRARY.—January 7, 1867, "about thirty young people of both sexes," members of the High School, met at the house of Emory Shumway and organized themselves into a society "for social and intellectual improvement," and after the choice of officers proceeded to the further business of adopting a constitution and by-laws. This society was to be called the Young People's Library Association and the object was to establish a High School Library. As a prerequisite to membership one must be a member of the High School and pay a fee as follows, viz.: "For a young gentleman twenty-five cents, and for any lady twelve cents," and at each weekly meeting a tax of five cents for the former and three cents for the latter. These moneys were to be used as a fund for the purchases of the library. One year later it was voted to change the name to the "Spencer" Library Association, and the constitution was altered accordingly. April 21, 1858, by vote of this body, it was made a "Public" Library, with a membership fee of one dollar per year, half-yearly or quarterly in the same proportion. The first installment of books purchased was one hundred and ninety volumes, and the first librarian John W. Bigelow. These books were kept in an ante-room on the floor of the "Denny Hall," but subsequently they were arranged in cases in the hall.

About the year 1862 twenty-nine persons, principally farmers, organized themselves into a body, called the Spencer Agricultural Library Association, and purchased one hundred and ten volumes, relating to farming interests, and these were kept in a case in the store of Temple & Whittemore, they acting as librarians. In 1864 it was thought best to merge this into the Public Library, and, on the 30th of November the following proposition was submitted, at a meeting of the members of both, viz.: "That the members of the Agricultural Association have free use of the Spencer library for the space of four years, as an equivalent for its books." This arrangement was accepted, and their books were transferred to the cases of the latter. Until the year 1869 the funds for the purchase of books were obtained from membership fees and fines and the proceeds of "fairs," to which the public gave generous support.

November 8, 1870, a proposition was made by the Library Association to turn over to the town their books, cases and other property, upon conditions that the town should assume the indebedness of the association, and "keep the library in good condition." This proposition was accepted, and from this date it became the property of the town. At the next annual meeting of the town it was voted that the money known as the "Dog Fund" be expended for standard books, to be added to the library, and their "use be free to the town." This "fund" was annually thereafter appropriated for the use of the library. In 1871 a spacious room was fitted up in the town-house, to accommodate the large number of books already accumulated, and, a few years later, further additions to this room were made for the same purpose. In 1888 a public library building was erected for the use of the library and a free public reading-room. This beautiful building was the gift to the town of Mr. Richard Sugden, a highly respected citizen. It is of brick, with brown-stone trimmings and granite basement. The main room is thirty-two by sixty feet. The front projection is eleven by thirty-nine feet, and at one corner is an ornamental tower fifty-two feet in height. The projection is used for an entrance hall, librarian's and delivery room. In the rear of these is the library and reading-rooms, and these rooms are essentially one, being separated by a screen only. The shelves on the floor are arranged

to accommodate from eight to ten thousand books, while the galleries, which are reached by a spiral stairway, furnish shelf-room for an additional twenty thousand volumes. It is a substantial and enduring edifice, and reflects great credit upon the generous and noble-hearted giver. His portrait, in oil, occupies a prominent place in the main room. This building is called the "Richard Sugden Library." It was completed at a cost of twenty-five thousand dollars. The number of volumes in the library January 1, 1887, was 6,272, and the number of books taken out from March, 1887, to February, 1888, was 16,384.

RICHARD SUGDEN.—Richard Sugden was born in an obscure village near Bradford, England, March 26, 1815. His parents were of humble origin and circumstances, and he struggled hard, from boyhood to early manhood, to overcome these embarrassing conditions of birth. He gave his daily labor for his board alone, while his scanty clothing was obtained from hours of overwork, and it required weeks of such toil to purchase a single garment even. Although he was deprived of the privilege of an ordinary education, yet in a small way he was able to gratify a longing for books and the current literature of the day. There were but two libraries in the neighborhood in which he lived, one containing three volumes, viz. . the Bible, Baxter's Saint's Rest and Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress; the other was the treasure of an old Welsh cobbler, consisting of about sixty volumes, carefully secured in a box beside his bench. He became a confidant of this man, and as a consequence was privileged to take a book for perusal, once a week, from this primitive library. His method for procuring a newspaper was novel and business-like. Fourteen-pence per copy was required to purchase one paper each week, and he and six comrades formed a club at a cost of two-pence each per week, and in this way obtained the coveted prize.

This ardent love for literary information followed him to manhood, and when the cares of business were laid aside for the day, the book and paper were the solace of his evening hour. Works of history and autobiographies of self-made men were his favorite reading, and now, in his riper years, when the cares of business press less heavily upon him, he scans these works, together with the popular magazines, as eagerly as in his younger and more vigorous days. Blessed with a retentive memory, and being an intelligent reader, he possesses a fund of knowledge which renders him an entertaining companion for social conversation.

At twenty-eight years of age he embarked in an emigrant ship for America, and, after a prosperous voyage of twenty-seven days, landed in New York, March 29, 1845. During the passage he formed the acquaintance of a young Scotchman, whose brother in America had sent him a small hand-book, descriptive of the manufacturing towns in Massachusetts. From this he learned that wire was manufactured in Spencer and card clothing in Leicester. Wire-working being his particular trade, he decided to make one of these two points his first stopping-place. Reaching the latter, he applied for, and obtained work of, H. A. Denny, in a small wire-drawing mill in Cherry Valley, Leicester. Two years later he and a fellow-workman—Nathaniel Myrick—came to Spencer and purchased the small wire-works owned by Roswell Bisco. In 1850 they purchased the machinery of a mill in Cherry Valley in which H. G. Henshaw was interested, and moving it to Spencer, admitted Mr. Henshaw to the firm. The business was expanding quite rapidly, but the feeble health of Mr. Henshaw made this a partnership of short duration. The firm became Myrick & Sugden again, and so continued until Mr. Myrick retired from it in 1870. Harry H., son of Mr. Sugden, was now admitted, but in a few years this firm was dissolved by his death. In 1876 Mr. Sugden purchased the large works of J. R. & J. E. Prouty, in the "lower wire village," and converted the combined business into an incorporation called the Spencer Wire Company, of which he is president and general manager.

From the time of entering upon his business life, the characteristics of his younger days have been steadily developed and strengthened by the experience of years, until now, in a matured manhood, he is able to enjoy, with satisfaction, their fruits.

At the age of seventy-three years he is still hale and hearty, and though he has resigned the details of the business to subordinates, he still gives his personal attention to its general management.

STREET LAMPS.—Previous to 1872 the village was partially lighted by street lamps, erected and cared for mostly by private individuals. This year the town voted "to light all the lamps at the expense of the town," and this mode of street lighting continued, with many additions to the number of lamps, until 1887. A three years' contract was made at this time with the Spencer Gas Company, to light the streets with electricity, and sixty electric lights were distributed through the various parts of the village. The cost to the town for these lights was to be 33½ cents per evening for a single light. From 1872 to 1888 the town expended the sum of $16,000 for street lamps lighting and maintaining the same.

SHADE TREES.—Much interest has been taken by the inhabitants of the older portion of the village in setting out and preserving shade and ornamental trees. The number of growing trees, of all sizes and ages, add materially to the attractiveness of the streets and general appearance of the village. Some of the older ones are majestic. This is true of the three "big elms" near the corner of Main and Mechanic Streets. They were set out on the day the battle of Bunker Hill was fought, and the "oldest inhabitant," at the present time remembers that his father informed him that while engaged in planting these

elms he distinctly heard the booming of the cannon while the battle was in progress. In 1871–72 the town appropriated one hundred and fifty dollars each year "for setting out shade trees in the public streets."

SOCIETIES.—The Ladies' Benevolent Society, connected with the Congregational Church, is the oldest social organization in town, dating from 1821. But one of the original members survives, viz., Mrs. Dennis Ward. The St. Jean Baptiste is the largest society and contains a membership of five hundred and sixty-two and has a relief fund of $10,000. The other societies are the Masonic Lodge, chartered December 11, 1872; the Ancient Order of Hibernians, organized 1872; Royal Arcanum, 1879; Home Circle, Daughters of Rebecca, Association Mallet, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, F. A. Stearns' Post, No. 37, G. A. R.; Institute Canadien-Francaise; Luther Hill Camp, Sons of Veterans; Sons of Temperance' Fanciers' Club, Firemen's Relief Association, Woman's Christian Temperance Union and Patrons of Husbandry. This latter was organized February 11, 1875, with twenty charter members, but in April, 1877, it, like many other granges, gave up its organization. It was re-organized July 27, 1882, and, at the present time, Parsiello Emerson is master.

FARMERS' AND MECHANICS' ASSOCIATION.—August 26, 1884, a few farmers, and others interested in agriculture, met at the town hall to consider the advisability of holding a "Fair and Cattle Show the coming fall," and following this meeting several more were held for a further exchange of opinion upon the project. In the interim an interest developed sufficient to cause an association to be formed and officered as follows, viz.: George Wilson, president, and Thomas J. Comins, secretary and treasurer, and the first fair and exhibition was held October 1, 1884. Meetings and fairs were held annually thereafter and were attended with such success as to encourage the members to apply for a charter, that they might become a State institution. One was granted March 8, 1888, and by it they became known as the "Spencer Farmers' and Mechanics' Association." The following April Nathaniel Myrick, a former resident of Spencer, donated to this body property to the value of $2000, to be used toward the purchase of a park and fitting up the same with a racing course and buildings. Thirty acres of land were bought, lying south of and adjoining the Pine Grove Cemetery, and suitable buildings were erected for the accommodation of agricultural and live-stock exhibits. A good one-half mile track was also laid out and constructed for horse sports and other exhibitions.

The cost of the land, buildings, track and other improvements was about eight thousand dollars. The main building, forty by eighty-four feet, two stories high, contains an exhibition-room upon the ground-floor, the second being used as a dining-hall, and has a seating capacity of three hundred and sixty people. Rooms for a kitchen and steam cooking apparatus are conveniently attached. The crockery service, consisting of twelve hundred pieces, was also a donation from Mr. Myrick, and upon each piece is appropriately inscribed the giver's name. In appreciation of these generous gifts, the grounds are called "The Nathaniel Myrick Park." The premiums paid at the fair held October 4 and 5, 1888, amounted to eight hundred and seventy dollars, and the membership of that date was five hundred and sixty. The officers during the year 1888 were Chas. N. Prouty, president; Thos. J. Comins, secretary; I. L. Prouty, treasurer, and John G. Avery, delegate to State Board.

GAS WORKS.—In 1886 the Spencer Gas Company was chartered, with Luther Hill as president and Edwin Evans as general manager. From July 1, 1887, to July 1, 1888, the works distributed eleven million feet of gas, used for heating, lighting and cooking purposes, and at the latter date had laid twelve miles of gas-pipe.

BANKS.—The Spencer Savings Bank was incorporated in 1871, with Wm. Upham, president, and Erastus Jones, treasurer, and was kept at the office of E. Jones & Co. until January 1, 1876, when it was moved to the banking-rooms of the Spencer National Bank. January 4, 1877, Mr. Jones became president and W. L. Demond, treasurer. The latter resigned the office in June, and Asa T. Jones was chosen in his place, and October 1, 1886, C. T. Linley succeeded Mr. Jones. The deposits January 1, 1875, were $94,647; January 1, 1880, $221,462, and January 1, 1888, $470,266.

The Spencer National Bank was chartered in 1875 with a capital of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with Erastus Jones as president; W. L. Demond, cashier and C. T. Linley, assistant cashier. Mr. Demond resigned July 1, 1882, on account of ill health, and Mr. Linley was appointed October 1, 1882, as his successor. The office for the transaction of business was first opened in rooms in the I. Prouty & Co. boot factory, but January 1, 1876, was moved into their new quarters in "Bank Block."

NEWSPAPERS.—In 1872 *The Spencer Sun*, a weekly newspaper, was founded by Stillman B. Pratt, of Marlboro', Mass., and the concern was known as the "Sun Publishing Company." January 1, 1873, Samuel G. Ames became editor and proprietor, and April 27, 1875, he sold the paper and business to James Pickup, who continued it until his decease, June 20, 1887. It was then purchased by H. M. Converse, the present proprietor and manager.

October 10, 1885, the *Spencer Bulletin* was established by A. H. Johnson, manager, and H. N. Carter, editor. On account of failing health Mr. Johnson sold out the business to Mr. Carter, and January 8, 1888, it was merged into the *Spencer Sun*, and the paper was known as the *Sun-Bulletin*. It was, however, soon changed to the original *Spencer Sun* heading.

BAKERIES.—David Girouard established in the fall

of 1873 a bread bakery in Spencer, situated upon Elm Street, south of the railroad track. He has had several partners in this establishment from time to time, but, at present, the business is carried on by the D. Girouard Co. October 29, 1883, this concern started a cracker bakery at the corner of Chestnut and Maple Streets, and are now turning out about twenty-five barrels of crackers daily, which they sell principally to the New England trade. They also manufacture pastry and small bread. This company was incorporated at the above date, and is composed of D. Girouard, P. Berthiaume, D. Parent, A. Dufault, F. Collette and A. Girouard. In June, 1879, B. C. Dustin opened upon Wall Street a bakery for the manufacture of plain and fancy bread, cake and pastry. In 1886 he associated his son with him in the business, as B. C. Dustin & Son, and in 1888 they enlarged their establishment and added the manufactory of confectionery to the works. Their trade is not confined to Spencer, but extends to the Brookfields and Leicester.

PUBLIC PARK.—The town owns a beautiful park of fourteen acres, situated upon the south shore of the "Whittemore Pond." The tract is well-shaded by a heavy growth of native pine trees, and the land slopes gradually to the water's edge. It is encircled with a broad, well-laid drive, and is a refreshing spot to while away a pleasant hour, in vehicle or on foot, in the heat of a summer's day, or after the labors of the day have closed. The trees, with their cooling shade, and the pond, across which can be had a charming sail, make this an attractive resort for private lunch parties or picnics.

This park was the generous gift of Judge Luther Hill. Mr. Hill is a native of Spencer, and has been a public man in the town since he was twenty-five years of age. He was born November 22, 1825, and in 1845 he was appointed postmaster, which office he held eight years, was a deputy sheriff three years, and has been a justice of the peace and quorum, notary public and trial justice for many years. While holding the latter office, he has tried more than six thousand criminal cases and, although not a lawyer by profession, has never spared money or pains to become well-posted in matters of law. He has held many town offices, was chairman of the Board of Selectmen twelve years, and moderator of the town-meetings thirty years. He has been actively prominent in all public improvements, such as new streets, public buildings, railroad, sewers, water and gas works. He is president of the latter company. Mr. Hill is a man of strong likes and dislikes, of temperate habits and a Republican in politics.

LAWYERS.—In 1813, Bradford Summer opened a law office in Spencer, but remained a few weeks only. Subsequently he became quite a prominent and successful lawyer in Boston. John Davis, afterwards Governor, was established here in 1815 for a short time. He was succeeded by William S. Andrews in 1816, and he by Daniel Knight in 1817. Napoleon B. Smith was located here in 1852 and William T. Harlow in 1854. The latter practiced his profession until the breaking out of the late Rebellion, when he was appointed captain of a company of volunteers and he, with it, joined the 21st Massachusetts Regiment. Soon after his return from the war he was appointed assistant clerk of the Superior Court for the county, which office he still holds. Albert W. Curtis opened a law office in 1874 and is in practice here at the present time. There are also Lawyers Jerry R. Kane, D. J. Cowen and C. S. Dodge. In the early history of the town John Bisco, Esq., was a magistrate, and later on James Draper, Esq., and for more than a quarter of a century Luther Hill, Esq., has held that position.

MEN OF NOTE.—Spencer has produced but few men that have become distinguished, socially, politically, or otherwise, outside our own State. The bent and training of her sons has been decidedly of a business nature, and in this school they have become business men that have given her, and themselves, an honorable and extended record. She has, however, sent out two men, whose genius as inventors has been recognized and appreciated far and wide. One made for himself a world-wide reputation.

William Howe, the inventor of the "truss wooden bridge," was born in Spencer, May 12, 1803, and the system designed and made practical by him was the safest and most reliable of any in use in his day. It was not confined to bridges alone, but was extensively used in the construction of roofs to large buildings, depots and other like structures. These wooden bridges and other structures had their day, serving their purpose admirably, and reflected great credit upon the genius which conceived them, but are now superseded by devices in iron, although the principle of the "truss" is still retained. Mr. Howe early became a resident of Springfield, where he died.

Elias Howe, Jr., nephew of William Howe, was born in Spencer, July 9, 1819, and his invention has not only made him eminently great throughout the civilized world, but the principles embodied in the sewing-machine conceived by him, live, at the present time, without a rival.

His early years were passed upon the farm and in the mill, and later on in machine shops at Lowell and Boston. At twenty-five years of age he developed his invention and in 1845 completed his first machine. For ten years he was involved in expensive law-suits, but he eventually substantiated his claims to the patents involved, and from this time was able to enjoy the rich fruits of his genius. Beside the plaster bust of this inventor, the museum contains an oil painting of the old home of the "Howe family."

MUSEUM.—Previous to 1874 certain individuals had private collections of natural curiosities, historical relics and sundry mementoes of the early history of the town. At a town-meeting in March of that year,

they asked the town to accept these collections and hold them in trust for a public museum, which was done, and a board of trustees was appointed to have charge of them. They occupy an ante-room fitted up for the purpose in the basement of the Library Building, and comprise a large collection of Indian relics and many souvenirs of the Revolution and late Rebellion, also a bust of Elias Howe, the inventor of sewing-machine.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Excepting the years 1841, 1853 and 1874, the town has not been visited by any sweeping contagious or other diseases that have given the inhabitants real cause for alarm. In 1777, 1836 and 1849 small-pox prevailed to some extent, and resulted in one death in each of these years. In 1853 the same disease appeared in the central part of the village, causing some anxiety on the part of the neighborhood and town authorities. There were several cases of varioloid, with one case of small-pox which resulted fatally. In 1874 this malady again reappeared, and for a time promised to be of a very serious nature. The selectmen, however, took active measures to prevent its spreading, by isolating the cases that were past removal and establishing a "pest-house" for new ones, or exposures. This building was located two and one-half miles south of the Centre, and was owned by Ira E. Lackey. These vigorous precautions were effectual, and the disease, with one exception, was confined to this hospital. The subjects were mostly from the French population, and the six deaths resulting were persons of this nationality. The town expended on account of this sickness the sum of $3722.21.

In 1778, 1792, 1795 and 1802 dysentery and scarlet fever prevailed, and several families were deeply afflicted, in the loss of children, by their ravages. In the summer and fall of 1841 the former disease caused consternation in the immediate vicinity of the village, the fatality amounting to forty deaths, viz., thirty-two children and eight adults. A protracted drouth of four months was the attributed cause. October 1st a freezing storm of rain and snow set in, and from this time no new cases appeared, and the old ones were convalescent.

In 1860 the pleuro-pneumonia, so prevalent throughout New England, received the closest attention of the town authorities. The regulations of the General Court "to prevent the spread of the cattle disease" were strictly enforced by them. Some cattle were killed, and hay, grain and other food was destroyed by their order.

JOSIAH GREEN.—It has been said that "Josiah Green was the founder of the wholesale *peg* boot manufacturing interests in this country," but whether this be true or not, he certainly has a reasonable claim to being *one* of the foremost in this branch of the boot industry. He was born of humble parentage, in the town of Leicester, August 9, 1792. His early education was necessarily limited, as in the economy of the family the children's time was an indispensable factor in their support, and they could not take advantage, even of the short allowance of the schooling in those days. The greater part of his early life was occupied upon the farm, but in the fall of 1811 he and his elder brother undertook the manufacture of sewed shoes as a business hazard. They began with a capital of five dollars and forty cents, in the house of John Hubbard, a near neighbor, and their mother raised and spun the flax and made the thread used in the manufacture of their work. The leather used for the goods was the splits and remnants of card leather, such as was used by the card manufacturers of Leicester. This was taken to the leather dresser, one Abel Chapman, of Leicester, oiled, blacked and finished ready for use. Their product, during the winter, was a "one-horse load," or about two hundred and thirty pairs, and in early spring these were taken to Boston by Josiah, to be disposed of. This was a large amount of goods to be offered upon the market at one time, and only one party, an auctioneer, was found willing to undertake the sale of them. He purchased six pairs at two dollars and thirty cents per pair, with the privilege of the lot, if the venture should prove a success. It was satisfactory, and he took the balance. Receiving the money for them, Mr. Green purchased leather to make up another lot, and returned home. The second "load" was completed and sold with satisfactory results. In 1814 they made a "two-horse load," designed for the Albany market, but these were sold to some army speculators before reaching Albany, at two dollars and twenty-seven cents per pair. Two years later the brothers found they had accumulated three thousand dollars, and the elder proposed that they retire from business and purchase, each, a farm. The partnership was dissolved, and Nathaniel removed to Maine and invested his money in land, but Josiah continued in the manufacture of boots. This year, 1816, he came to Spencer, and on the 4th of September, married Tamer, daughter of Robert Watson, of Leicester. He had just purchased the farm, which was later on owned and occupied by the late Samuel Adams, using one room in the dwelling-house as his shop. This was his first year for making pegged boots, and for a while all the pegs he used were made by himself, with the aid of a common shoe knife. The plan of disposing of his goods now was a novel one. It was to take them around the country in a one or two-horse wagon, to sell or return when called for, and on his next trip collect for what had been sold, and if the arrangement had been mutually satisfactory, they would assort up the sizes of those unsold and continue the relations. These "sale boots" were denounced in the strongest terms by the village and traveling shoemaker. October 13, 1820, his wife died, and October 2, 1821, he married Sybil, daughter of Deacon Reuben Underwood, of Spencer, and by this marriage they reared a family of eight children. In

Josiah Green

1831 he purchased the homestead upon which he resided until his death, December 28, 1876, and the room in the old mansion now used as a parlor was his work-shop until 1834. This year he built and occupied a small factory opposite his dwelling, on the Great Post Road. It was enlarged at two different times to accommodate an increasing business. His boots had a wide reputation and were extensively known as "Green's boots." He was alone in his business until 1852, when his son, Henry R., and son-in-law, Emory Shumway, were admitted as partners. The latter left the concern in 1856, and was succeeded by Edward, Mr. Green's youngest son. He retired from the firm in 1865, and his interest was purchased by his brother, Jonas U. Green. In 1866 Mr. Green, Sr., retired from the business, leaving his interest to Josiah, Jr., who remained in the firm until his death, in 1886. Jonas U. disposed of his interest in the concern in 1877. In 1887 Henry R. retired, and since then the business has been conducted by Charles H., son of Henry R., and Austin F. Southwick, son-in-law of Josiah, Jr. In 1874 a new factory, four stories high, was erected connecting with the old one to the west of it, and over the main entrance to the new building is the old sign, "Josiah Green's, Boot Manufactory. Established in 1812."

Mr. Green was emphatically a self-made man, and, for the days in which he was in active business life, possessed more than ordinary ability. As an old school man he was among the foremost in his line of trade, and noted for vigor, indomitable perseverance and an iron will. His careful and judicious management enabled him to pass through the several notable seasons of depression and disastrous failures in the business community, commencing with 1837, prepared at any time to meet all his liabilities with one hundred cents on every dollar of his indebtedness. For more than a half-century he was closely identified with the business interests, growth and prosperity of Spencer, and it was a source of gratification, in his declining years, to feel that he had been instrumental in bringing about such a grand result. "Learning the trade" in those days meant a thorough knowledge of the business in all its details, and many of his workmen left his employ to engage in the business on their own account. According to the laws of trade, some were a success and some a failure, and of the former class the most successful of his apprentices were Charles E. Denny and Asa T. Jones.

Boots and Shoes.—The business upon which the town has relied for its growth and support is the manufacture of boots and shoes, although of late years the business of the wire manufactories and also the manufacture of woolen and satinet goods have contributed largely towards the success of the town. Prior to 1872 the manufacture of leather goods was distinctively boots, but since that date shoes have been added, until at the present time they occupy a prominent position in this traffic. Charles Watson was the first to commence in this business. He began in 1809, but his enterprise was not a success financially, and was therefore temporarily abandoned. Josiah Green and his brother were the next to venture in it, and for a full history of the rise and progress of their undertaking, see biography of Josiah Green. In 1820 Isaac Prouty began making boots as a custom boot-maker, and the further history of the firm of Isaac Prouty & Co. will be found under the life sketches of Isaac Prouty and Charles N., his son. From 1835 to 1842 several new firms started out in the business, but the "hard times" of 1837 and other causes, later, proved disastrous to them. In 1838 Charles E. Denny started the business in a small building which stood west of and adjoining the premises of Horace A. Grout.

Mr. Denny afterwards built a boot-shop on the lot now known as the "Guilford place," corner of Main and Linden Streets. In 1850 this building was moved to the present Cherry Street, between Maple and Linden Streets, and converted into a dwelling. He then built what is now a part of the David Prouty factory, and this year he formed a partnership with John G. Prouty, as Charles E. Denny & Co. In 1852 David Prouty was admitted to the firm, the style remaining the same. (See biography of David Prouty for the continuation of the business in this factory until Mr. Prouty retired from it, in 1876.) From 1880 until the present time the business has been carried on by Bemis & Allen.

In 1844 the firm of L. & O. Warren occupied the basement of the Universalist Church, corner of Main and Wall Streets, on the site of the factory of E. E. Kent & Co., for the manufacture of boots. Three years later they disposed of this business to Jeremiah Grout, J. L. Bush and G. F. Grout, who continued it in the same place until 1850. This firm then purchased the carpenter-shop owned and occupied by Temple & Livermore, for joiners' work, and also by William Bush, Jr., for carriage-making and repairing. This shop stood upon the site of the present boot factory of Bacon, Kent & Co. After enlarging the same, they moved their works into it.

In 1865 the Messrs. Grout retired from the business and Mr. Bush continued alone for two years, when H. A. Grout became a partner, under the firm-name of Bush & Grout. December 21, 1875, this building was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt and occupied by them until 1880, when they disposed of the property to Prouty & Bacon, and this factory has been occupied by the firm of Bacon, Kent & Co. to the present time.

In 1850 Charles Watson, Jr., Dexter and Lorenzo Bemis began the manufacture of boots in the basement vacated by Grout, Bush & Co., and while there they erected a boot-shop upon the site of the "Drury factory," which, at that date, was the largest building used for this purpose in the town. During 1857 this firm dissolved, and in 1858 Charles & George Wat-

son commenced the business again in the same factory, and continued it until 1864, when they dissolved partnership. Charles Watson remained alone until 1866, at which time he retired on account of failing health.

George Watson purchased the building erected by Howland & Merritt in 1836 for a clothing manufactory and afterwards used as a store, and made suitable additions and changes for a boot factory. He formed a partnership with J. Edward Bacon, and they began the manufacture of boots here in 1865 as George Watson & Co. Mr. Watson died in 1866, and Mr. Bacon continued the business until 1867, when he, in company with I. Rich Kent, of Calais, Vt., purchased the property, and carried on the business under the firm-name of Kent & Bacon until the decease of Mr. Kent, in 1875.

In 1871, '72 and '73 this firm, in connection with H. G. Lamb, of Charlton, Mass., manufactured women's, misses' and children's shoes in a small building, next door (east) to this factory. In 1876 Mr. Bacon entered the firm of Bush & Grout, under the firm-name of J. E. Bacon & Co., and remained with them one year. In 1878 he returned to his old factory, and took as a partner Van R. Kent, the style of the firm being J. E. Bacon, and they continued in business until 1881. This factory remained unoccupied until 1885, when A. B. Bacon and Emory F. Sibley formed a co-partnership and began the manufacture of boots in it. December 6, 1886, this building and contents were destroyed by fire, and was a total loss. (For the rise and progress of the business of Asa T. Jones and E. Jones & Co., see biography of Erastus Jones.)

In 1850 a building was erected upon, or near the site of B. C. Dustin & Son's bakery, Wall Street, by Cheney Hatch, of Leicester, for a boot manufactory, and was used for this purpose by William L. Powers and George D. Hatch, under the firm-name of Powers & Hatch. After three years of unsuccessful labor, they retired from the business. In 1857 George H. Livermore and D. A. Drury formed a partnership, known as Livermore & Drury, and commenced the same business in this building.

In 1860 they purchased the Universalist Church property, fitting it up into a boot factory, and moved their works into it. They remained here, however, but one year, closing up their business in 1861. Manufacturing was carried on one year, in the Powers & Hatch building, by Prouty, Bigelow & Co.

In 1867 D. A. Drury and Frank E. Dunton entered into partnership under the style of D. A. Drury & Co., and started the boot business in the factory of the late Charles Watson, and this firm continued to manufacture here until the building was destroyed by fire, in 1874. Mr. Drury erected a new building, and for six years following his partners were Christopher Prince, Theodore Green and Walter Eldredge. He enlarged the factory and works twice during this time, and for the last two years of his manufacturing he was alone in the business. The building was unoccupied until 1886, when, during the labor troubles of that year, a co-operative boot and shoe company was organized and used it as their manufactory for four months, after which they moved to smaller quarters on Cherry Street, between Mechanics and Maple Streets. In August, 1888, at a meeting of the stockholders it was voted to close up the business and "dispose of it to the best advantage." This year the "Drury building" was purchased by Bacon & Sibley, and this firm are carrying on the boot business in it at the present time.

In 1867 Dexter Bullard, John Boyden and Isaac Prouty & Co. became partners in the business, under the firm-name of Bullard & Boyden, and they occupied the factory built by the latter parties in 1856. In 1869 J. W. Temple purchased the interest of Isaac Prouty & Co., and the style of the firm was changed to Bullard, Boyden & Co. In 1876 Mr. Boyden retired and the concern became Bullard & Temple. In 1883 Mr. Temple retired from the business and a new firm was formed by Mr. Bullard, F. G. Mullet and F. A. Rice, under the firm-name of D. Bullard & Co., and this concern continues the same at the present time.

In 1863 the boot firm of Shumway, Temple & Co., of Warren, Mass., moved their works to Spencer, and into the Livermore & Drury factory, which had been purchased by Mr. Shumway. This concern manufactured here for two years, when Mr. Temple left the firm. It was continued by E. Shumway & Son nearly two years longer, when the business was closed up, and in 1868 the property was sold to Edward E. Kent. Mr. Kent formed a business connection with David Prouty & Co., under the style of Proutys & Kent, and they carried on the manufacturing of boots from 1868 to 1874, at which time the Proutys' interest ceased and was purchased by Charles N. Myrick, and the firm-name changed to E. E. Kent & Co. Mr. Myrick remained a partner two years, when he retired on account of ill health, since which time Mr. Kent has been sole owner and proprietor. There are, then, eight boot and shoe manufacturing establishments in the town at the present time.

In 1837 the value of leather goods made was $106,496; in 1845, $93,100; in 1865, $835,800; in 1875, $2,185,000; in 1880, $2,347,000; and in 1885, $2,617,736. The total value of all the goods, of whatever nature or kind, made in town in 1885 was $3,627,467.

NUMBER OF BUSINESS FIRMS.—The number of private firms in Spencer in 1885 was eighty-three and one corporation with a capital stock of $75,000. The capital invested in these establishments, including plant, was $1,580,794.

ISAAC PROUTY.—No family name in Spencer is so common and none embraces so great a number of people as that of Prouty. The family sprung from

Lewis H. Roudy

Charles N Pierce

one Richard Prouty, who resided in Scituate, Mass., in 1667. Isaac Prouty is the fourth generation from Richard, and is the subject of this sketch.

He was born December 9, 1798, and was the founder of the well-known boot manufactory of Isaac Prouty & Co. In 1820 his occupation was making boots to order, from measure, in a small room in his own dwelling-house in North Spencer, so called. Little by little his work increased until he found it necessary to employ help to meet the demands of "the trade," and soon was forced to build a small one and a half story building in which he could extend the facilities for manufacturing. This building, together with a barn and other store-houses, subserved his purpose until 1855. He had subsequently purchased the homestead of Rev. Levi Packard in "the village," and this year he caused a factory to be erected upon the westerly part of this lot, and in 1856 occupied it for his business and the dwelling for his residence.

This factory, for those days, was a spacious one, being thirty by sixty feet, with three stories and a basement. The system and management was now thoroughly reorganized, and a partnership formed with two of his sons, Lewis W. and George P., under the firm-name of Isaac Prouty & Co. With the aid of machinery, which they now added, they were, in a great measure, able to supplant hand labor most advantageously.

This was really the first aggressive step taken by Mr. Prouty, looking towards an extension of business, and the success which in the following six years attended the undertaking proved the wisdom of it. His aim was now to build up and develop a large manufacturing enterprise, and in this effort he was heartily seconded by Lewis W., who had become superintendent and business manager under his father's direction.

In 1862 it became necessary to increase the factory capacity, and for this purpose they purchased the "Mason property" and erected a building forty-two by one hundred and four feet, five stories with basement, adding an engine and boiler to run the works by power. The old firm moved into this factory in January, 1864, and Charles N., a younger son, was admitted to the firm, the firm-name remaining the same. By these improvements and with the addition of valuable room and machinery adapted to power, the concern made a radical change both in mode and facility of doing business. Mr. Prouty was early convinced that machinery was eventually to be an important factor in cheapening the cost of manufactured goods, and also in enabling the manufacturer to produce a greater quantity in a given time, and he was foremost to introduce such machines as promised good work and quick results. He lived to see their enterprise outgrow these accommodations and to plan for a further enlargement of the factory of one hundred and thirty by forty-two feet, with new engine, boilers, etc. But while in the midst of these improvements he was taken sick, and died after an illness of seven days. Five days later his son, Lewis W., followed him.

Mr. Prouty was noted as a careful and shrewd business man, giving his individual attention to his entire business, watching closely every detail, and scanning as closely the economy of the various departments in their use of stock and other materials. He thoroughly believed in the old maxim, "economy is wealth," and to practice it was one of the important distinguishing features of his business life, and was a strong corner-stone to that structure, Success, which he in his life planned with much care. He was one of the most unpretending of men, and to an unfamiliar observer was indifferent to what was transpiring around him, but in matters of business, or socially, he was quick of hearing and keen of vision. and it was a matter of trifling importance that escaped either. His customs and habits were those of the New Englander of an earlier date, and he persistently ignored the conventionality of the people during the latter days of his life. He clung tenaciously to the social and domestic habits formed in early life, but in his business he was decidedly modern and progressive. He was a tireless worker, and this characteristic was prominent from the commencement of his business enterprise. He died at the age of seventy-three years, but remained vigorous and attentive to the demands of business up to the beginning of his last sickness.

Charles N. Prouty was born October 6, 1842, and he remained at the homestead until he reached the age of seventeen years. At this age he was employed as clerk in the country store of Grout, Prouty & Co., and the experience gained there, in a year's service, by contact with the people and matters pertaining to business, he regards as the first and valuable step in his business education. From eighteen to twenty years of age he attended school at Wilbraham, Mass., and at the close of his last school year returned home, and was admitted a partner in the firm of Isaac Prouty & Co. Four years previous to the death of his father and brother, early in 1872, he acted as general superintendent of the labor department of this manufactory, employing the help and having the charge of the manufacturing interests generally.

The death of these two business members of the firm following so closely upon each other were events of extraordinary importance to the surviving members, and how to meet the situation and overcome it was their first care and thought. Unexpected responsibilities, with new cares and burdens, were suddenly thrust upon them, but they *must*, if possible, show themselves equal to the emergency. It is true that each had ably filled a position in the prosecution of the business thus far, but to the knowledge of the markets, for buying and selling, the financial management and the relationship be-

tween manufacturer and customer, they were strangers, as these duties had been the exclusive prerogative of father and brother, now gone.

They at once reorganized the concern, and it consisted of George P., Charles N. and Jason W., a younger brother, and they still retained the old firm-name of Isaac Prouty & Co. Each entered upon his duties full of confidence and hope, and each took a position in the management of the business where he thought he could best promote the interests of the concern. Many of the important details were assumed by George P. and Jason W., while by common consent the general management fell to the lot of Charles N. Under the circumstances this was a difficult task for him to perform, but as time passed on, and he became more familiar with the new duties, he gave evidence, by his management, that he was abundantly able to assume the trust so suddenly imposed upon him.

The business received a fresh impetus under this new order, and in a short period of time it became necessary to increase the facilities, by additions and extensions, in both buildings and motive-power. These have been made from time to time, until at present the building containing the boot and shoe departments measures 457 feet in length by 42 feet in width, and is five stories high, with basement. There are also two large brick store-houses, for leather and manufactured goods, and still another one of brick, used for the manufacture of boot and shoe boxes, lasts, etc.

The main building is divided into fire-proof sections, and the whole establishment provided with the latest improvements as safeguards against fire. It is lighted by the incandescent electric light, and the motive-power for the whole works is supplied by a 250 horse-power engine, and four 100 horse-power boilers. In 1872 this concern turned out 20,000 cases of boots, valued at $500,000, and in 1886 the value of the boots and shoes combined was more than $2,000,000.

Mr. Prouty married Jennie, daughter of Selby Richardson, of Spencer, May 25, 1864.

ERASTUS JONES.—Erastus Jones was born September 11, 1825. His father, Dr. Asa Jones, was a native of Charlton, Mass., where he studied medicine, and, in 1811, began his practice in Spencer. Here he became a physician of considerable note. Asa, his oldest son, commenced the manufacture of boots in Spencer in 1841, in the chambers of the "Livermore House," corner of Main and North Streets. Four years later he moved these works to his factory situated upon the site of the residence of Asa T. Jones, son of the elder member of this firm. Erastus, the younger son, and subject of this sketch, spent several years in his brother's employ, learning the trade and the details of the business. In 1846 he was made a partner, under the firm-name of A. T. & E. Jones. Although he had hardly attained his majority when he took upon himself these duties and responsibilities, yet his early business training and habits of industry were an assurance of his future success.

This partnership continued until 1862, when Asa T. retired from the business, and the style of the firm was changed to E. Jones & Co., by the admission of Hezekiah P. Starr as partner, and, in 1871, Frank E. Dunton was admitted, without change in the firm-name. In 1860 the rapid increase of business caused a demand for more room, and the present factory of E. Jones & Co. was erected. Several important additions have been made to this building from time to time. January 1, 1886, Mr. Starr retired from the concern.

Mr. Jones is a man of marked characteristics, in both his business and private life, and his kind and generous disposition, through long years of intercourse, has endeared him to his business associates and numerous employés. They have found him to be a man of few words, but yet enough to convey an unmistakable meaning, although spoken in an unobtrusive way. He is quiet to a fault, if that be possible; nevertheless, there is an energy in this quietness which has made his business life a success, and in a more private way has established for him a well-merited reputation for shrewdness and sagacity. Being a man of few words, subjects under his consideration have always been carefully weighed and his opinion given only after the most mature deliberation. His honor as a business man has never been doubted, and, as a private citizen, he commands the respect of all.

He is president of the Spencer National Bank, and for many years has been treasurer of the town. He has been Representative to the General Court, and in various ways has occupied positions of honor and trust. His life, from the beginning of his business career, has been one of untiring industry, and, with few exceptions, he has given it his daily care and management. This fidelity has returned to him a handsome fortune, from which many an honest, needy object has found pecuniary relief. Subscriptions, gifts and donations have been bestowed without number, although the public have had little or no knowledge of these numerous benefactions. His motto most emphatically is,—"Let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth."

Mr. Jones was married to Mary I. Starr, of Thomaston, Me., June 5, 1850.

COTTON AND WOOLEN INDUSTRIES.—"Clearing up" a spot to build a log-house or other rude structure for a place to live, then planting and gathering in his crops was the *first* business of the pioneer; next came the indispensable grist and saw-mills, and when the housewife began the manufacture of "homespun," the fulling-mill became a necessity also. The former were located upon small streams in various parts of the town, while the latter, two in number, were

Erastus Jones

situated at the foot of "Sumner Hill," just below the present grist-mill of T. J. Bemis.

The first record of these fulling-mills is in 1791, although they were probably established at a much earlier date. One, at a later date, was owned by William Sumner and one by Willard Rice. This year —1791—the property and industries of the town were made returnable by law to the Secretary of State, and was as follows, viz.: Whole number of dwellings and other buildings, 186; 6 grist and 6 saw mills, 2 fulling and all other mills and 1 pot and pearl-ash works.

In 1811 the number of buildings remained the same, but one "Tan House" and one "other mill" was added. This "other mill" was probably the one built in 1810 and known as the "Green Factory," and this was the first business enterprise of any magnitude started in the town. This was built for the manufacture of woolen goods and was owned and operated for several years by Jabez Howe, Isaac Jenks and Willard Rice. In 1825 this became the property of Willard and Horace Rice, and was run as the Spencer Woolen Company. From this period until 1837, when it was destroyed by fire, the ownership was fluctuating, but it was owned and run principally by Reuben Whittemore, Amos Brown and Augustus Rider.

Connected with this mill was another one standing upon the site of the present "Upham and Sagendorph Mill." This was originally a "trip-hammer" shop, for the working of iron in some form, but was converted into a woolen-mill about the time the "upper" one was built, and this was known as the "lower mill." The product of these two "four set" mills, containing thirteen looms, for the year ending April 1, 1837, was thirty-four thousand yards of woolen cloth, valued at eighty-seven thousand dollars.

The "upper" property lay in ruins until 1840, when it was purchased by Alonzo Temple, and he erected a stone factory upon it. In 1841 Silas Eldridge bought this property and formed a co-partnership with his brother Nathaniel and William Henshaw under the firm-name of Silas Eldridge & Co., for the manufacture of cotton cloth and satinet warps.

In 1845 Nathaniel Eldridge left the firm, and in 1849 Silas Eldridge retired from it and active business. The business was continued by Mr. Henshaw until 1852, when the factory was again burned. In 1857 Mr. Henshaw built a grain and grist-mill in its place, and he, together with James Capen as partner, occupied the premises until 1870, when Mr. Henshaw retired. The business on this property has remained the same up to the present time, but with changes in managers and ownership.

In 1843 Thomas H. Shorey purchased the property of the "lower mill" from Whittemore & Brown, and in 1844 he formed a partnership with Henry J. Lyman for the manufacture of satinet goods, but in 1845 Mr. Shorey purchased the interest of the latter, and the firm dissolved. In 1846 this mill was operated by Baker, Sibley & Co.; in 1847 and '48 by Baker & Bellows, and from that time until 1860 by Mr. Shorey. In 1866 and 1867 the work was carried on by Peel & Meyers, and from 1868 to 1871 by Joseph Peel. During these years the machinery was employed in the manufacture of satinets. It was now in a dilapidated condition, and standing until 1875, became almost a ruin. This year the privilege was purchased by Upham & Sagendorph, and they erected a three-set mill upon the site for the manufacture of fine woolen goods and fancy cassimeres. Jan. 1, 1880, George P. Ladd purchased the interest of Mr. Sagendorph in this property, and it was run by Upham & Ladd until the partnership was dissolved by the death of the former, since which time Mr. Ladd has been proprietor and sole manager.

A short distance below this mill, and standing upon the same stream, was a partial ruin of one of the earlier grist-mills. In 1832 a new building was erected near the old one by Amos Brown, and used as a grist and flouring-mill until 1841, when the property was sold to Samuel G. Reed, of Brookfield, and converted into a manufactory of wheels and wheel stock. He made quite extensive improvements on the premises, by enlarging and repairs, for the better accommodation of his works. He continued this business until 1845, when it was closed up, and in 1846 the privilege and property was purchased by Henry J. Lyman. The two original mills were moved away and used for dwelling and store-house, and Mr. Lyman built a two-set mill upon the old location, taking Mr. Upham as a partner in the business. For a further history of this mill, see biography of William Upham until his decease, after which this property passed into the hands of Mr. Ladd, and he is carrying on the business at the present time.

In 1840 Edward Smith, of North Brookfield, Mass., formerly in the employ of Samuel G. Reed, built what was afterwards known as the "Draper Mill," in which he attempted the manufacture of cotton batts and wicking in a very small way, but the business was not a success. This building was then occupied by L. J. Knowles and Warren H. Sibley, under the firm-name of Knowles & Sibley, and they carried on the manufacture of cotton warps in it until 1849, when they closed up their business here and transferred their works to Warren, Mass. In 1850 Eli J. Whittemore leased it for a term of three years for a manufactory of carriage-wheels and spokes, and December 15, 1852, the building was considerably damaged by fire. In 1854 it was again changed to a satinet mill, and as such was run one year by Wm. Stanley and George C. Holden. From 1855 to 1868 Mr. Stanley was interested in the mill, operating it at times in connection with Mr. Upham, and then again on his own account. In 1869 Mr. Upham became associated with Hugh Kelley in this property, and it was thereafter known as the Spencer Woolen Company. At the death of Mr. Upham, Mr. Ladd

took his interest in the business, and is carrying on the works at the present time in connection with Mr. Kelley.

When Nathaniel Eldridge left the concern of Silas Eldridge & Co., in 1845, he went to what is now called "Westville," made a water privilege, and built a mill for the manufacture of satinet warps. He continued in this mill until 1854, at which time he was obliged to close up his affairs. This property, after remaining idle for some time, was purchased by W. G. Fay, G. B. Dewing and John Gilman, of East Brookfield, and this company manufactured denims and balmoral skirts for a season, when Mr. Gilman bought the interests of Fay and Dewing, changing the works to denims and batting. In 1871 he sold the mill and privilege to Upham & Stanley, and they changed the machinery for the manufacture of satinets. This relation between these parties remained until Mr. Upham's death. These several mills contain eleven sets of machinery and one hundred and one looms. They are run under the direct management of Mr. Ladd, he being the sole owner of the "Valley Mill," and one-half owner in the remaining three. The production aggregates one hundred thousand yards of fine cassimeres per month.

HON. WILLIAM UPHAM.—William Upham was born in Brimfield, Mass., February 27, 1825. His parents were William and Nancy Smith Upham, and the father died when William, Jr., was but two and one-half years old. When four years of age, he was taken by a kind friend of the family, Deacon Jacob Bishop, with whom he lived, receiving the care and love of a son, working on the farm and receiving the benefit of the district school until sixteen years of age. Later he attended school at Warren Academy, and until twenty years of age he spent the fall and winter months at school or in teaching.

He came to Spencer in 1845, and entered the employ of his brother-in-law, Henry J. Lyman, as a common mill-hand. In 1846 he formed a co-partnership with Mr. Lyman, in the manufacture of satinet goods in a small way. In 1853 he purchased Mr. Lyman's interest in the business, and continued it, enlarging the capacity of the mill from time to time until 1865. He then disposed of the property and business to E. D. Thayer, of Worcester, to engage in an enterprise in Boston; but in 1868 he returned to Spencer, and leased the mill but recently sold, for a term of three years, at the expiration of which he re-purchased it. This was known as the "Valley Mill," and in 1874 George P. Ladd became one-half owner in this property. For several years Mr. Upham had more or less business connection with William Stanley in what was known as the "Draper Mill;" but in 1868 he formed a partnership with Hugh Kelley in this mill, which was thereafter known as the "Spencer Woolen Company." Two years later he associated himself again with Mr. Stanley, and they purchased the "Westville" property, replacing the cotton with woolen machinery, and commenced the manufacture of woolen goods. In 1876 he entered into partnership with Noah Sagendorph, and they erected the mill known as the "Upham & Sagendorph Mill," and their business relations continued until 1880, when Mr. Sagendorph withdrew from the firm, and was succeeded by Mr. Ladd. At the time of his death Mr. Upham was the head and general manager of these several mills. The product of the "one-set" mill in 1845 was about five thousand yards of goods per month, while in 1880, under his judicious management, the production of the above mills reached a total of one hundred thousand yards monthly.

Mr. Upham enjoyed the confidence of all who knew him, and when the citizens honored him with any office in their gift, they felt that the duties of that position would be faithfully and conscientiously performed. He was elected to town office in 1858, and from that date he served the town in most of its important offices. Two years he represented this district in the General Court, and one year was a member of the Senate. He was elected to a seat in the Executive Council, serving the first year with Governor Alexander H. Rice, and the second with Governor Thomas Talbot. He filled these positions with credit to his constituency and honor to himself. He always took a deep interest in the political affairs of the town or State, and would never countenance dishonorable means to reach a desired end. He was fortunate in the position he occupied with his employés, as he was scrupulously exact in his treatment of them, never giving offense, but, on the contrary, manifesting at all times the kindest regard for their welfare. This friendly interest, on his part, was the natural overflow of a sympathetic nature, and he easily won their confidence and affection. As a citizen, he gave liberally of time and money to such local enterprises or improvements as would promote the best interests of the town; and as a neighbor, his words of cheer and encouragement were not without a potent influence.

His temperance principles and habits were formed in early youth, and through all his life he was a consistent and energetic worker in the cause. He was thoroughly in sympathy with the principles of the prohibitory liquor law and favored a rigid and impartial enforcement of it. Being a member of the Congregational Church, he took a deep and active interest in its welfare, and gave generously towards its support. His benevolence, in church or out, was a distinguishing feature of his character. Mr. Upham was a member of the Raymond California excursionists who left the East in May, 1882, for San Francisco and surroundings, and at a re-union of the party at the Palace Hotel, on the eve of their departure for home, June 13th, he was stricken with apoplexy and died on the morning of the 14th, at the age of fifty-seven years, three months and seventeen days. Mr.

William Upham

Upham married Lucretia H., daughter of Wm. Pope, Esq., of Spencer, June 28, 1853.

Some years previous to 1825 (there is now no way of fixing the precise date) a small mill for the manufacture of linseed oil was located a few rods below the T. J. Bemis grist-mill. One Gardner Washburn was accidentally killed while employed there, by being "caught by a rope which was used in raising the press-beam." In 1833, or earlier, this property was owned and occupied by Willard Rice, and he changed the location of the works by removing the dam and buildings farther "down stream," making what is known as the privilege of the "Livermore Box Manufactory." Later on, this oil-mill was converted into a woolen factory, with one set of machinery, and from 1837 to 1839 the works were run by Chapin & Prouty. Near the close of the latter year it was partially destroyed by fire.

In 1841 Danforth Burgess bought the property, repaired the buildings, and fitted them for the manufacture of cotton wadding and batting, and, with the exception of the years 1846, '47 and '48, in which Dexter and Lorenzo Bemis were partners with Mr. Burgess, he owned and operated these works alone, until 1851. In 1853 Winthrop Livermore started the business of manufacturing boot, cloth and other boxes at "Howe's Mills," two and a half miles south from the post-office, introducing machinery to do the work usually performed by hand. He remained here until 1860, when he moved "to town," and became owner of the above privilege, erecting new and suitable buildings for the better accommodation of his increasing works. He was identified with this industry until his death, after which his son, Warren J. succeeded to it. The latter continued to carry on the business here until 1886, when he moved the machinery in these works to a brick building on the premises of Isaac Prouty & Co., and carries on the business there at the present time. The old works are unoccupied. The largest yearly production of Mr. Livermore's works was 100,000 boxes, consuming 2,000,000 feet of lumber.

One of the first saw-mills erected in the town was known as "Howe's Mill," and was situated two and a half miles southerly from the village. The working of lumber has been carried on there until the present time. The location of the mill, however, has been changed and also the ownership, but it has never passed out of the possession of the Howe family. Ebenezer Howe is the present owner and proprietor. He has been engaged in the manufacture of cloth, boot and shoe boxes for twenty-five years or more, and has produced 30,000 annually, using nearly 750,000 feet of lumber.

MANUFACTURE OF LEATHER.—Tanning and currying was an enterprise commenced in the early part of the present century and carried on by Ebenezer Mason. These works were located upon the site of the "Heywood block." Mr. Mason was succeeded by Thomas Pierce, who occupied them from 1825 to 1832, then Pierce & Barnes from 1833 to 1834 and Barnes & Muzzy in 1835. Following them, some years later, was Joseph W. Morse and Josephus Muzzy, under the firm-name of Morse & Muzzy. Their shop was located at the corner of Lake and Powers Streets, and was owned by the former. They carried on the business here until the building was destroyed by fire, in 1858. In 1859 a new one was erected, and the works were again operated by Mr. Morse until his decease, in 1860. In 1862 Edward E. Kent leased the establishment for one year, and in 1863 purchased it, carrying on the same business until 1864, when he turned it into a boot-factory. It was, after this date, operated by Mr. Kent, then by Kent & R. S. Watson, and lastly by Mr. Watson alone, until his death, in 1875. The building was then converted into a tenement-house, and is now known as "Condrick's block."

In 1851 Edward Proctor began currying rough leather in a shop near his present residence, and continued the business until 1868. In 1864 Isaac Prouty & Co. erected a building for this enterprise on North Street, which was run about two years, when it was closed up and the building moved away and this was made into a dwelling.

In 1837, 800 hides were used, valued, when finished, at $3,000; in 1845, 2,000 hides, at $4,500; and in 1865, 3,200 hides, valued at $19,000.

Boot and Shoe Heels.—In 1865 a Mr. Rice started a small business in the manufacture of heels for women's, misses' and children's shoes. About this time William A. Barr, of Spencer, made eight dollars' worth of these goods, and taking them to Lynn realized sixty dollars for the lot. He returned home, and on October 1st of this year bought Mr. Rice out and continued the business, which, under his management, has proved to be a prosperous one. On October 1, 1883, he took his son into partnership, and the firm has been, since that date, William A. Barr & Son. They have a manufactory now, sixty by forty, three stories high, well equipped with rollers, presses and all the latest improved machinery, with steam-power for the business, and employ fifty girls in the works. Their sales have reached seventy thousand dollars annually. In connection with this business they have oil extracting works, and the sales of "chip and naphtha grease" have reached twelve thousand dollars annually.

WIRE WORKS.—From a very small beginning, the wire industry has grown to be an important enterprise in the town. At the commencement of the War of 1812 with England, the importation of wire ceased, and "Yankee ingenuity" was called into requisition. The card-factories of Leicester promised to be a market for the article, and being convenient and near at hand, the genius of some

of the citizens of Spencer was exercised with very favorable results. The first experiment in this line was by Windsor Hatch and Charles Watson, about 1812, at the house of Jacob Watson (later known as the Warner Livermore house), and the wire was drawn from two tubs by hand. This was a small seed from which a larger plant was to spring in the future. About this same date Elliot Prouty began the business below what is now the "Sugden lower mill," but it was not until 1820 that wire-drawing became an industry, and then, only in a small way. Mr. Russell Prouty commenced it this year, in connection with his brother Elliot, and they were followed by Foster & Roswell Bisco, and in 1847 Myrick & Sugden succeeded the Bisco's. Below, on the same stream, was the small works of Eli Hatch, in 1830, and in 1840 this mill passed into the hands of David Prouty, and in 1846 he sold the same to Liberty Prouty. Mr. Prouty's sons, Jonas R. and Joel E., succeeded him, and they built up a large and prosperous business after a labor of about twenty years.

In 1876 this concern was consolidated with that of Myrick & Sugden, and made a stock company, called the Spencer Wire Company. In 1837 the total product of four wire-mills was 19 tons, valued at $10,000; in 1845 two wire-mills, 32,000 pounds, value $8000; and in 1888 the product of the consolidation was 1200 tons, valued at $160,000.

Scythes, Hoes and Cutlery. — Joel Wright came to Spencer in 1809 and began the manufacture of scythes, and in 1812 Ziba Eaton came to work in his manufactory for him. The latter purchased the works of Mr. Wright, continuing the scythe business and, a little later on, adding hoes and cutlery. These works were situated near the "Wright house," northeast from the "Upper Wire Village." Mr. Wright soon after started the manufacture of hoes and cutlery. Eli Putnam was early connected with this business. These works were closed about 1853. In 1837 eighteen hundred scythes were manufactured, valued at $1200, and in 1845 two thousand and forty scythes, at a value of $1530. In 1850 carriage-springs were manufactured in one of these shops by Sibley & Belcher.

Powder.—The manufacture of powder was one of the early industries of the town, and was first carried on by Isaac & Lemuel Smith, from 1812 to 1815; by the latter from 1815 to 1824; by Smith & Walton Livermore from 1824 to 1831; and by Livermore & Lewis Bemis to 1835. For two years Mr. Bemis carried on the works alone, and from 1838 to 1851 his partner in the business was Edward Hall, the firm being Bemis & Hall. In 1837 there were manufactured at the two mills 162,500 pounds of powder, valued at $14,500; in 1845 one mill produced 132,500 pounds, valued at $15,000; and in 1865 the production was valued at $12,500. But little, if anything, was done at this business after this latter date. During the year 1840 two mills blew up, killing three persons, and in 1853 another explosion took place, in which five men lost their lives.

Centennial.—The centennial of our national history was appropriately observed by a grand display of various organizations in the town, on parade; an address by Hon. George H. Loring, and a public dinner.

By-Laws.—Previous to 1875 by-laws had been adopted by the town at various times, but on the 2d of November of this year a full code, regulating the town, was accepted in town-meeting, and on the 8th following were approved by the Superior Court. Additional ones were made and approved in 1887 concerning dogs, and minor alterations were made in them in 1881.

Salaries.—The number of salaried persons employed during the year ending June 3, 1885, was nineteen, and the amount of salaries paid was $16,969.

Wages.—The total amount of wages paid in the business establishments for the year ending as above was $694,908, and the average number of days of actual running time worked in sixty of them was three hundred and seven.

Growth.—In the census of 1880 there were thirteen cities and towns in the State which presented most striking instances of growth, independent of annexation. Upon this list Spencer stood third, and her rate of gain was eighty-eight and a fraction per cent.

Old Customs.—One of the oldest customs of the town was to allow the swine, horses and cattle of the inhabitants "to run at large, yoked and ringed as the law directs" Strangers' cattle were charged two shillings eighteen pence per head, and sheep one shilling, "to run on the Common."

In 1757 it became a question how the voters should be notified of the town-meetings, and it was decided that "in the future they be warned by the constable going from house to house;" and at a later meeting, by vote of the town, they were allowed "to keep on their hats while in meeting," if they pleased to do so.

In 1759 the ministerial and school lands were sold, the former bringing £100 14*s.* or $357.67, and the latter £130 16*s.* 10*d.* or $436.14. On the 6th of May, 1822, these moneys were divided and loaned as follows, viz.: To Jeremiah Watson, $183.00; to Nathan White, $152.87; and, being the ministerial fund, these amounts were made payable to the Congregational Society. Of the school fund $113.33 was loaned to Joseph Prouty; $93 33 to Estate of Elisha Prouty; $165.28 to Charles Watson, and $64 41 to John Muzzy.

In 1794 the General Court ordered a survey of the town to be made, and the work was let out to the lowest bidder. John Sumner, being the lowest, was made chief, at 5*s.* 6*d.* per day, and Levi and Zerub-

abel Baldwin were assistants, at 2*s.* 8*d.* and 2*s.* 5*d.* per day, respectively. In 1830 a second survey was made by William Baldwin, under the same authority.

SMALL INDUSTRIES.—Braiding palm leaf hats and labor upon hand cards were about the only industries that furnished employment for the women and children in the early part of this century, by which they were able to earn a little "spending money" for extra occasions. Hand cards were manufactured in Leicester from 1758, and until machinery superseded the nimble fingers, the setting of card teeth by hand constituted the "small work" of many families in Spencer. This was especially children's work, and no "time off" could be had by either boy or girl until the "stent" at card-setting had been performed.

Braiding the palm leaf was more of an industry, and was "farmed out" to the workers of straw in the same manner as were the cards. The number of palm leaf hats manufactured in Spencer in 1837 was twenty-nine thousand eight hundred, valued at seven thousand dollars.

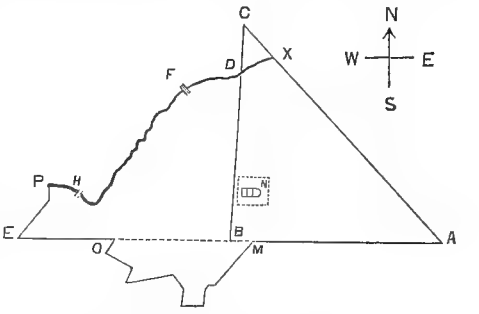
OLD LANDMARKS.—Of the twenty-five buildings (exclusive of barns) located upon the Great Post Road between Brookfield and Leicester lines in 1800, eight were standing in 1888, six of them but little, if any, changed from their original appearance and condition outwardly. These are the Pope Mansion, Mason House, Emerson Shepherd's, Aaron Watson's, Edward Proctor's and Israel Taft's. There are two off of the great road, on Ash Street, viz., Alford Wilson's and the old house of Thos. B. Clark.

CHAPTER LXXXVI.

NEW BRAINTREE.

BY GEORGE K. TUFTS.

INTRODUCTORY.—New Braintree is nearly in shape of an isosceles triangle, with sides of six miles and base of nine, nearly in the centre of the State, bounded by Oakham and Barre on its northeast side and Hardwick, from which it is separated by Ware River on its northwest side, and by Brookfield and North Brookfield on its base or south line. It contains 19¼ square miles. The surface is uneven and hilly. Its highest elevation is "Tufts Hill," in the eastern part, 1179 feet above sea level. It was made up of the territory of three towns—"Braintree Grant," a tract of 6000 acres, lying between Rutland and Brookfield, designated by the triangle C B A on the annexed plan; all that part of Lambstown (Hardwick) east of Ware River marked D E B, and about 1200 acres from the north part of Brookfield, south of line O M. That part, 400 acres north of Ware River, C D X, was annexed to Hardwick in 1814. N is the common land, in the centre of which the church stands. A, point of intersection with Spencer, Oakham, North Brookfield; E, with Ware and Brookfield. A tract of 320 acres,



PLAN OF NEW BRAINTREE.

lying the whole length of line AM, and omitted by error in original survey, was afterwards given to John Quincy, Speaker of the House, and assigned to New Braintree.

Before its settlement fires made in the woods had destroyed almost its entire growth of wood and timber; so it was feared there would not be a sufficient supply for the settlers, but Whitney writes, 1796, that "through their care and prudence there had, within a few years, sprung up fine growths of wood." At that time there were two hills of note—"Mohawk," probably "Tufts" Hill, and "Rattlesnake's Rocks," in the west part, a name that has passed away with its occupants. A plain extends across the west part, at the extreme south end of which, on land of W. & E. Pepper, is the narrow pass referred to by Capt. Wheeler in his "narrative," where, on his way under Capt. Hutchinson, with twenty men, to treat with Philip, August 2, 1675, he was surprised by the Indians, and eleven killed or mortally wounded. "Meminimisset was the name given by the Indians to the low lands at the upper end of this plain, once a hideous swamp." Here was formerly an Indian town of considerable importance and a military stronghold, the headquarters and chief place of rendezvous of the Indians when Brookfield was destroyed. Here Mrs. Howard, taken captive at Lancaster in 1679, was brought with two children, and one died. On the hill rising east from the plain is a small stone monument, resembling a tomahawk, which tradition affirms marks its grave. The town is well watered with springs and brooks. At the base of Tufts Hill, on its north and west sides, are the sources of the two brooks which, afterwards meeting at "Webb's" Pond and flowing southeast and west under the name of Sucker Brook, supply the water "privileges" at Wait's Corner and "Pepper's Mills," and empty into Quaboag Pond. The first saw-mill erected in Brookfield, in 1709, was in that part of it afterward set off and

forming a part of New Braintree, and located just above the bridge, east of "Pepper's Pond." A company of nine, headed by Thomas Barnes, received a grant of forty acres for their encouragement to build the mill. This privilege was afterwards used for a malt-mill.

Pepper's Mills were used as a blacksmith forge and trip-hammer. The first mill erected by an inhabitant of "Braintree Grant" was at what is now "Webb's Pond." Daniel Mathews, Jr., of Southboro', a millwright, bought the privilege in 1749, and erected a saw-mill soon after. His house was on site of present residence of J. T. Webb. The general appearance of the town is attractive. Whitney writes of it, "Excellent for grass and good roads. Its homes are neat and commodious." It has surely gained in these attractive features since 1795, and added, on miles of road, lines of shade trees of maple, ash and elm. It has many really fine residences, especially that of Mr. Francis Shaw. The first road built in town was in 1730, from the "Old Furnace," by Pepper's Mills to Brookfield.

The population was, in 1776, 798; 1790, 939; 1800, 875; 1810, 912; 1820, 888; 1830, 825; 1840, 752; 1850, 852; 1860, 805; 1870, 640; 1880, 610; 1885, 558. Its valuation 1776,—real, £3226; personal, £1435, including 272 head of cattle and horses. Highest valuation, 1871, $590,430; number of heads of stock, 1340.

Braintree Grant.—In 1666 the freeholders and other inhabitants of Braintree, in town-meeting, passed the following resolution: "Whereas, much of the best and most available arable surface is held by non-residents and citizens of Boston as a matter of speculation and by others in large farms, that it is a source of great inconvenience to the permanent inhabitants of the town, as they in their poverty are not able to pay the high rents asked, nor the necessary expenses of the town; therefore, Resolved: To petition the General Court for an additional grant of land." In answer to this petition the court, in consideration of the reasons therein expressed, judged meet to grant them "sixe thousand acres of land in some place, limited to one place, not prejudicing any plantation or particular grant." In 1670 Braintree selected a tract lying between Braintree and Plymouth, which was not confirmed by the court. No further action was taken until 1679, when Braintree again petitioned the court that "since the *Lord* out of his rich grace had made them *lords* of the heathen land" (referring to their victory over Philip) "they might have an opportunity to have ratified the former grant." In answer to this petition, October, 1679, the court allowed the petitioners "to lay out their sixe thousand acres of land in *any* vacant place within the Court's jurisdiction." Here the matter rested for thirty-four years, until June, 1713, when Braintree chose a committee to ascertain if the former grant had "lapsed," and if not, to find and lay out the six thousand acres granted in 1666, and do what is needful to be done in the space of one year and have for their work, if effective, thirty pounds; otherwise nothing.

The treasurer was evidently never called upon to pay the money, for in June, 1714, we find Colonel Edmond Quincy, in behalf of Braintree, petitioning the court for the appointment of a surveyor to lay out the land. The petition was granted and a surveyor, Samuel Jones, Jr., appointed.

December 17, 1715, in the House of Representatives it was ordered that "a Plot of six thousand acres of land, lying in angle between Brookfield and Rutland, be accepted, and land confirmed to Braintree as by plan annexed, in fulfillment of original grant." This six thousand acres was nearly in form of a right-angled triangle, with right angle B at a point just southeast of the present residence of Alfred Boyden; the upper acute angle C included the farm recently occupied by Colonel Joseph Robinson in Hardwick. The perpendicular B C of the triangle is identical with the west line of our present common, while the base A B extended to O would be identical with the present boundary between lands now owned by Mr. J. B. Fobes and Mrs. S. W. Peckham. For twelve years after the "Braintree Grant" was confirmed, it was a constant source of contention in Braintree town-meetings. A vote to sell it would be passed at one meeting, only to be reconsidered and reversed at the next, and sometimes the same meeting, and *vice versa*. No rule of division of the land could be agreed upon. A question arose as to the ownership, whether it belonged to the town in its corporate capacity, or to its inhabitants in 1666 (the time of the original grant) and their posterity, or the inhabitants of 1715, when the grant was confirmed, and we find the town on record at different times as in favor of each of these views. Finally, in 1727, a vote was passed that, to promote peace, the land be divided as equally as possible between the two precincts of Braintree, to be henceforth managed, improved and further divided or disposed of as each should decide, from henceforth and forever. Here "Braintree Grant" disappears from Braintree records, and does not again reappear until 1749, when it appeals to the General Court to be admitted into the sisterhood of towns.

For some years portions of the "Grant" were used for pasturing of stock during the summer season by residents of Braintree, and hence came the title of "Braintree Farms." It seems reasonable to suppose that previous to 1738 it was extensively settled, as the inhabitants in Lambstown, east of Ware River, petitioned the General Court in that year to be annexed to the "Grant" without success.

March 20, 1749, George Shaw, James Robinson, John Wilson, James Thompson, Jona. Cobleigh, John Blair, Jacob Nichols, Jona. Higgins, William Baxter, Edward Ruggles, John Barr, Roger Sprague, Abram Joslyn and Andrew Shaw (total, fourteen), all occupants of Braintree Farms, with John Peacock, Joseph

Little, Eleazer Warner, Beriah Hawes, James and Edward Blair, David and James Woods, Matthew Barr, Josiah Benet, Samuel Steele, David Ayres, Phineas Warner, William Anderson, Israel Day, Samuel Ware, Hugh Barnes and Wareham Warner (total, eighteen), from Hardwick, east of Ware River, and Joseph and Jacob Pepper, and Joseph Pepper, Jr., Moses and Obed. Abbot, David and Solomon Gilbert, Joseph and Sarah Barnes, Thomas Hammond, Eben. Spooner and Roger Haskell (twelve), from the north part of Brookfield, met and chose their "well-beloved and faithful" friend, James Thompson, to convey their petition to the proprietors of the land known as "Braintree Farms," that inasmuch as the petitioners make a body large enough to support the gospel, and were a long way off from any preaching, and for the interest of said proprietors, they would unite with them in a petition to the General Court to be set off as a separate district.

May 31, 1749, James Thompson, in behalf of said petitioners, memorialized the Governor, Council and House that, being of sufficient ability to make a town or district, being of one mind and having obtained the full consent of the non-resident proprietors, humbly prayed their excellencies and honorables to consider the premises and order therein as they should deem best.

The names of the non-resident proprietors were, Thomas Hovey, Nathan Goodell, John Weeks, Joseph Tidd, Wm. Wheeler, Edmond Quincy, Wm. Torrey, Thomas Cutler, Joseph and Thomas Crosby, Richard Faxon, Moses Belcher, David Rawson, Josiah Ruggles, Samuel Paine and Eben Adams.

March 6, 1749, Hardwick in town-meeting opposed this petition, and August 11th chose an agent to present their reasons for it to the General Court; but October 8th, of the same year, voted its "willingness" to the annexation. In June, 1749, a counter-petition, signed by James Craig, Samuel Crawford, Alex. Bothel and others from the west wing of Rutland (now Oakham), and Adam Homes and Robert Hunter, from Braintree Farms, was presented to the court praying that inasmuch as the two tracts of land aforesaid laid in a commodious form for a township, being about five miles square, capable of a sufficient number of settlements to support a minister, and neither could ever be accommodated for public worship as it was or by annexation to any town, that they might be set off as a separate township. On both these petitions the court ordered the usual notices served on all parties interested to appear at its next sitting and show cause, if any existed, why they should not be granted. The proprietors of Rutland warmly favored the plan.

In August following a committee, consisting of James Minot and John Otis, with three others added by the House in December, was appointed to take the several petitions into consideration and report. December 9th this committee reported that the west wing of Rutland and Braintree Farms ought to be set off with their inhabitants into a separate district, with all powers then conferred upon towns except the right of representation in the General Court. This report the Council accepted and sent down to the House for concurrence; but that body refused to concur and ordered the several petitions and the report upon them back to the committee for further consideration. January 3, 1750, the same committee again reported to the Council that after another careful review of the situation they saw no reason to change their opinion, but reaffirmed their former one, and further recommended that the petitioners for a union of Braintree Farms and portions of Hardwick and Brookfield be dismissed. This report was also accepted by the Council and sent to the House for concurrence, but the House again refused to concur and referred the whole matter to the next General Court To this the Council agreed. It is well to state here that the religious preferences of the petitioners had much to do with their choice of their future townsmen; those desiring a union of the west wing with the Farms being Presbyterians, while the petitioners for a union of the Farms with portions of Brookfield and Hardwick were nearly all Congregationalists.

The latter party, defeated twice in the Council and as many times victorious in the House now went to work with renewed zeal and vigor. March 22, 1750, they again sent a petition to the Council, desiring a speedy answer by the sending of a committee to view the lands designated unless it saw fit to grant the petition without such viewing. To this the Council replied by the appointment, April 20th, of another committee of which Samuel Watts was chairman and who were instructed to repair to the land, view it and report in following May.

To this committee the inhabitants of the Farms presented the following reasons against a union with West Wing: 1st. The quality of the land in the West Wing was so inferior to that in the Farms it could not pay its share of the common expenses. 2d. They hoped the Court would not impose upon their consciences by forcing them to unite with a society differing so much in religious views; that the boast had already been made by some of their neighbors of the Wing that they would soon have a Presbyterian minister over them. 3d. A union with a part of Hardwick was much more desirable, because they were better able to pay common charges and were well-agreed to unite. The inhabitants of Hardwick, east of Ware River, informed the committee that, having been annexed to Hardwick for want of a better place, they were not essential to its support; that in the location of Hardwick meeting-house no regard was paid to their interests, as it was understood they would at some future time be annexed to the Farms.

At this juncture Brookfield, hitherto silent, interposed a vigorous protest against any scheme, as it

termed it, of its neighbors of the Farms to benefit themselves at the expense of Brookfield, giving as a reason for the delay of its protest that it had never been officially notified of the petitions. The full protest of Brookfield, for which there is no space here, gives credit to the adroitness of its author, and was without doubt the cause of the subsequent action of the Council, to whom it was referred.

The committee, appointed April 20th, reported June 14th that the tract of land known as Braintree Farms, that part of Hardwick east of Ware River, and seven families in Brookfield, with their estates, viz.: Joseph Pepper, Moses Abbott, David and Jona. Gilbert, Sarah Barnes, Eben. Spooner and Joseph Pepper, Jr., be erected into a distinct and separate precinct, and invested with all powers and privileges accorded other precincts. The same day the Council refused to accept this report, and ordered the petitioners to be dismissed and sent it to the House for concurrence. The House refused to concur and ordered that the report *be* and hereby *is* accepted, and then sent it back to the Council for concurrence. The Council referred it to the next General Court, but after pigeon-holing it for three months, reconsidered its action and ordered it accepted. Here the fight ended. What reasons or persons, if any, influenced the Council to decide uniformly against the popular voice, as expressed in the petition and uniform action of the House, is a matter of conjecture. It is noted in this connection that all but eight of the original petitioners for a union of West Wing with the Farms withdrew their request for that union three weeks before the report of the committee, recommending that union, was made.

First Doings.—June 13, 1751, the court issued the final order constituting the precinct and appointing Eleazer Warner to call the first meeting. Agreed to by Council and signed by Lieutenant-Governor. The powers conferred included all rights of towns except that of representation in General Court. Nor did the precinct become a town until 1776, when it became so by a general law of the province. The name of New Braintree was given to the precinct the next April. A space of one hundred and ten years intervened between the date of the original grant and its incorporation. There were at this time forty-five families in town. The first meeting for the choice of officers was held March 13, 1751, at the house of David Ayers (on the site of the present residence of Francis Shaw). Officers chosen: Eleazer Warner, moderator; David Woods, town clerk; Eleazer Warner, David Gilburt and Cornelius Cannon, selectmen and assessors; James Woods, treasurer; James Thompson, constable; James Blair, tything-man. Two of these had already taken part in the organization of Hardwick, 1739—Cannon as its first town clerk, and Warner as chairman of its first Board of Selectmen.

Church Buildings.—At the next meeting, March 25th, voted "to find the centre of the tract of land already laid off in this district, and that it be the prefixt spot for a meeting-house." This vote was rescinded at a later meeting, and a deed of another piece of land for the meeting-house was accepted, but no record exists of the deed or by whom given. Ten pounds were appropriated for preaching, and a committee chosen "to procure a preacher as soon as conveniently he could be had."

October 4th the town finding it difficult, by reason of smallness of its numbers and straitness of its circumstances, to secure sufficient support for a minister, petitioned the General Court for authority to lay a tax of twopence per acre on all lands, improved or otherwise, in the district. The court granted them one-half the sum asked for for three years. This tax amounted to fifty pounds, and was the sum annually paid the minister for twenty-five years. The next step was the erection of a meeting-house. A vote was passed in November to procure the material the coming winter. Robert Hunter was chairman of the building committee. January 1, 1752, voted "To build a house 40 by 50 feet and 20 feet between joints," "to be enclosed and clay-boarded." The price of labor per day in winter in its erection was one shilling fourpence. It was not ready for occupany until July, 1753, and then but little better than a barn. For fourteen years it was minus lath and plaster. It faced the west on site of present building, and for twenty years nothing was erected to shield the worshippers, when the doors were opened, from the cold blasts that swept thirty miles in a straight line unimpeded. Our forefathers must have valued highly Gospel privileges to sit four hours each Sabbath in a room the natural temperature of which was at zero, with nothing but their own breaths and a few foot-stoves to warm them. In 1772 porches were added at the east and west ends. It is said that one winter the cold was so intense that the snow on the south side of the meeting-house roof never melted a drop for six weeks in succession. For a long time there was no belfry, and the bell hung by itself on the Common. The house was colored a dingy yellow. The fore-doors on the south side were double. There was a single door at each end. The broad aisle led directly from the fore-doors to the pulpit on the north side and the deacons' seat in front. The main floor, for a space of ten feet in from the walls on all sides and ends, was assigned for the pew-ground. This was divided into twenty-one lots, appraised at three to seven pounds each, old tenor, according to its dignity (location), and assigned by a special committee, appointed by the town, to twenty-one freeholders, according to their ability to pay, age and influence in the community. James Blair had the first choice. The bounty money received from sale of pew-ground was used to build a "decent" pulpit, deacons' seat and a "suitable body of seats." In addition to the bounty, each purchaser of pew-ground must build his own pew and ceil the walls against it. The seats in the body of the house were plain benches

occupied by the other members of the district, seated annually by a special committee who were governed in their duty by the same law as that which assigned the pew-ground, viz.: the relative standing in the community of the attendant. A feeling of uneasiness arising in the pit that the pews had got their privileges too cheap, an "indifferent committee was selected from Brookfield and Hardwick to fix the bounty."

On the two ends and south side were galleries, the west half occupied by men and the east half by women. Young men must receive special permission to occupy these seats. Five shillings annually were allowed the sexton, James Thompson, for sweeping the house and shutting the doors. As the town grew in numbers and wealth the pews encroached upon the pit, the pit becoming better able to build pews. Every available foot of ground on main floor and in galleries, and even in the porches, was used for pews. From 1790 to 1800 the town had the largest population of any time in its history, and the old house was not only too small, but unsuited to the improved tastes and pockets of the people. The erection of a new house was begun in 1800 and completed in 1802. The frame is the same as that of the present structure. Henry Penniman gave three hundred dollars to buy a new bell, and his son, Henry, and son-in-law, Joseph Bowman gave two hundred dollars to buy a new town clock. In 1806 Henry Penniman, Jr., asked and obtained leave of the town to place an organ in the new church. The value of this addition in church worship seems not to have been appreciated by all, for one deacon was heard to remark that he'd "rather hear the filing of his old saw than that noise." In this building no alterations were made until 1846, when it was lowered six feet and entirely remodeled, with town-hall and vestry below; dedicated October 26, 1846, the fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of Rev. John Fiske, D.D. A new organ was bought at a cost of eleven hundred dollars. In 1877 house repaired at a cost of six hundred dollars, of which three hundred dollars was contributed by Edward Fiske, of Brooklyn, N. Y.

Although one of the first acts of the new district was the selection of a committee to provide a preacher, two years passed and none of the many candidates heard were sufficiently acceptable to be called. Discouraged, the district appointed February 23, 1753, a day of fasting and prayer for divine help, and invited the neighboring ministers to take charge of the services. In July, voted to hear Rev. Benjamin Ruggles, of Middleton, on condition that he be dismissed from the pastorate he then held. In this they were both shrewd and honorable. Mr. Ruggles came, was liked, and invited to preach longer. Five of the neighboring ministers were consulted as to the advisability of settling him, and invited to preach a lecture to the people Jan. 23d. Feb. 4th, a call was extended to Mr. Ruggles. The settlement given him was thirty pounds, and annual salary fifty pounds. This call Mr. Ruggles accepted, "sensible in a measure of the difficulty of the calling, but relying upon the sincerity and fidelity of the people." He was installed April 17, 1754. To the council installing him was referred by the district a petition of several of its members for the free use of the meeting-house two Sabbaths yearly that the sacrament might be administered in the Presbyterian way by one of their order. The council decided that though willing to promote union and communion between the sects, yet, considering the circumstances and fearing the consequences, they did not deem it wise to grant it.

Of Mr. Ruggles a successor writes that he was "a man of average ability and sincere piety, and his relations to the people were entirely harmonious and productive of great blessing." To this end he contributed more than his share. A letter from him to the town, when the matter of a colleague and his proportionate salary was under consideration, reveals some of his trials and the spirit in which he bore them. He writes "My salary has *never* been paid when due. Not only for one year, but for the twenty years I have been here it has been six and seven months overdue, so that I have been straightened for money to buy the necessaries of life, and often obliged to borrow so small a sum as half a dollar of the Treasurer (Dea. James Woods), who, out of his own money, would give me a dollar, or if I asked one dollar he would give me two. Every town around, altho' poorer than this town, has paid their minister more. In those days," he adds, "I kept these things much to myself, careful that neither by word or deed it might get abroad to the discredit of the town." His name heads the long roll of the Brookfield Association of Ministers, of which he was one of the original five founders when it was organized, June 22, 1757. Mr. Ruggles was sole minister twenty-four years and associate senior pastor six years, until his death, January 6, 1784. The whole period of his ministry was fifty-nine years.

After a period of five months on probation, in July, 1778, Rev. Daniel Foster received a call from church and town to become associate minister with Mr. Ruggles, with one thousand pounds settlement and sixty-six pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence annual salary, and thirty cords of wood eight feet long at his door, the salary to be regulated by the following standard, *i. e.*, rye at four shillings and Indian corn at two shillings eight pence per bushel. Mr. Foster accepted the call, "relying upon their generosity as to Temporals while he ministered to them in Spirituals." October 28th was set apart for the ordination. Seventeen churches were invited. Committees were chosen to carry the letters missive, to prop the meeting-house and to keep the doors and reserved seats. In his examination by the council Mr. Foster differed in a measure in his theological views from the majority of its members, but it was finally voted satisfactory and the ordination proceeded. He was

born September 1, 1750; ordained October 28, 1778. January 28, 1779, married Miss Betsey Reed, of Western. February 17, 1779, bought of Rev. Benjamin Ruggles the premises now occupied by Mr. Frank Gaffney for $2350.

His ministry continued until his death, September 1, 1795. Mr. Foster was a man of much personal magnetism, especially popular with the young men, who, at his decease, out of respect wore a badge of mourning on their left arms for thirty days. He was fluent and often extravagant in speech. A good dinner appeared to be more to his liking than spiritual penance. He was an unbeliever in creeds. Soon after his settlement some of the church-members avowed their belief in his denial of some of the fundamental truths of the Gospel and presented their grievances at a church-meeting. The church sustained its pastor. Several attempts, among them an appeal to the Association, were made to reconcile the differences. In most cases they seem to have been successful. One or two, however, joined the Baptists, two absented themselves from church and rode every Sabbath to Rutland for conscience' sake.

Rev. John Fiske, D.D., writes that he seems to have overcome opposition and ultimately won the affections of his people. His death was the occasion for many popular expressions of grief; all the ministers in the association were invited. The town paid all the bills and had printed the funeral sermon. After Mr. Foster's decease the town was without a minister more than a year. August 15, 1796, a unanimous call from church and town was given Rev. John Fiske, with a settlement of two hundred and thirty pounds, and an annual salary of ninety-five pounds. He was installed October 26th. Rev. Dr. Lyman, of Hatfield, preached the sermon, afterwards published. The installation services occupied two days and closed with a ball on the evening of the second day, in which all that could, joined.

Rev. John Fiske was born at Warwick, October 26, 1770. Fitted for college partly with his pastor and partly with his brother, Moses; graduated at Dartmouth, 1791; studied theology with Dr. Lyman, of Hatfield; licensed to preach and ordained to the ministry at Hadley, May 6, 1794; labored for a season in Northern New York; attacked with fever and ague and returned to Massachusetts; preached a while at Milford and North Brookfield. Overtures to settle at both places were made him, which he declined; received degree of D.D. in 1844 from Amherst College, of which he was one of the founders and long a trustee—published a spelling-book in 1807; "Fast Day Sermon," in 1812; "Dedicatory and Semi-centennial discourse," in 1846; was chosen first president of the Brookfield Auxiliary Foreign Missionary Society 1824, and held that office twenty years. During his ministry of fifty-eight years in New Braintree he was called to one hundred and twenty-one councils and attended one hundred and fifteen. As Dr. Fiske's pastorate covered a period of marked changes and great contrasts in not only the social customs, but also the moral and religious sentiments and practices of the people of this town and all New England as well, a glimpse at the state of society at the close of the eighteenth century through his eyes may be of interest: "There were really two classes of ministers as to theological doctrines and the methods the gospel reveals whereby sinners are to obtain an interest in Christ, altho' no division had taken place nor had it entered into any one's heart to conceive of it. There was then no Unitarianism in this Association, but the character of Christ was not frequently brought into view in preaching. While some of the older ministers were sound in the faith and preached the doctrines of grace with consistency and earnestness, others had become comparatively lax, and were disposed to avoid in their preaching what they esteemed doubtful points and things not well understood nor received by the people. There were great objections to metaphysical subtilties. The character of the preaching was defective as to doctrine and pungency. The great day of labor of the minister was the Sabbath. It was expected of him that he deliver two sermons on the Sabbath and administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper once in two months, except in winter, when it was the cause of much suffering. No custom existed of holding an evening or third service. He was wont to exchange one-fourth to one-third of the time and to go and come to the place of exchange the same day—such arduous labors were generally thought to require the sustaining power of comforting cordials and the best dinner that could be provided between services and were always furnished without grudge or measure. He was often called upon to preach a service to an aged person unable to attend church at his own home. On the records of the Association, which he was expected to attend three times yearly, no allusion was to be found to seasons of prayer for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the churches, for no such seasons were held. Nothing was said concerning the state of religion in them. No question proposed for discussion was selected on account of its relation to the spiritual condition of the people, or aim at the conversion of sinners or edification of believers. Formalism reigned. No multiplied meetings or visitations; no efforts to publish the gospel at home or abroad or diffuse knowledge by lectures, conferences, Sabbath-schools, Bible classes or anniversaries.

"Of the church it might be said 'Like people, like priest.' If the minister did little, the church would do less, and be less concerned for its own or others' salvation. In some of the churches there had been revivals of religion, but in most of them there never had been any, nor were they expected, and in some not desired. No efforts were made to obtain them, —no weekly prayer-meeting. There were no young

people in the church by profession of faith. Their membership was neither expected nor sought after. It was held in the estimation of sober people that when persons entered into family relations and became parents, they should join the church and have their children baptized, but in one-third of the churches the latter was performed and the former neglected. Religion among professors and others alike was seldom a topic of conversation. There were many social gatherings and festivities and much story-telling, but little said or done to promote godliness. There were some godly persons in church who were waiting and praying for better times, but their number was so few that they found their cross too great to venture forth against the strong current of public sentiment. The people at large were apparently (but only apparently) more religious than now. Every person, except a few obstinate Baptists and occasionally an emigrant from Rhode Island, all of whom were looked upon as pestilent fellows, paid a tax in proportion to his worth in support of the Congregational ministry; exemption from this tax was no more thought of than exemption from support of Government. Both were paid on same principle, viz.: from necessity laid on them by the strong arm of the law. There was one advantage in this custom. Every inhabitant had a right to such services of his minister as he might need. 'There was no stealing of preaching or begging of prayers.' There was much ignorance of the nature of personal religion. Infidelity prevailed. Paine's 'Age of Reason' was widely circulated and had many believers. The Bible was almost a proscribed book, but little read in families by youth. Morals were much vitiated. There was much lewdness in language and action; much Sabbath-breaking. The great roads were filled with teams on their way to and from market, and with droves of cattle, sheep and swine.

"All classes of persons, Christians and sinners, high and low, rich and poor, could meet on same platform so far as drinking rum and brandy was concerned; almost all men would drink, and multitudes to repletion, on such occasions as town-meetings, raisings, huskings, auctions and trainings. Especially was indulgence thought to be not only allowable, but praiseworthy, on the glorious Fourth of July. It would have been looked upon as a most indecorous thing in the year 1800 had a Christian funeral been attended at which the mourners, bearers and other friends were not comforted together in well-filled tumblers of grog. It was a dark day for New England churches. But at the beginning of the 19th century light began to dawn out of darkness. Ministers began to talk and pray and preach differently. They appointed church-meetings for conference and prayer, instituted Bible-classes and Sabbath-schools for the young, preached the Gospel to the poor, and interpreted literally the last command of Christ. They found many supporters in the church, and the result was not one, but repeated visitations of the Holy Spirit upon pastors, churches and congregations, that recalled the day of Pentecost." Dr. Fiske was, from the first, fully in spirit and action with these movements. As a result, from 1800 to 1821, with one exception, the church received yearly accessions to its membership by profession of faith. From 1809 to 1811, forty-five; 1819 to 1821, one hundred. In 1810 it was formally and publicly re-organized with articles of faith essentially the same as in 1850. The later largest accessions during Dr. Fiske's ministry were in 1826, thirty; 1831, twenty-five; 1845, forty-three.

1817, Sabbath-school was first organized.

The church was first gathered and formed (as by memorandum of Deacon Jonathan Woods), April 18, 1754, date of the installation of Mr. Ruggles. No records exist for forty-two years, except in 1778 and 1779. Since 1800 there has been from it a constant emigration. Its membership, in 1800, was fifty-eight; 1888, seventy-three; and reaching as high as two hundred in the interval. Its deacons have been William Witt, Samuel Ware, James Woods, Jonathan Woods and Jonathan Gould chosen previous to 1775; George Barr, between 1775 and 1800; Abijah Bigelow, 1805; James Woods, 1808; Jacob Pepper and Samuel Warner, 1815; Phinehas Warner, 1817; Francis Adams, 1828; Amasa Bigelow, 1830; Welcome Newell, 1830; Henry M. Daniels, 1855; Elbridge Gleason and Moses Pollard, 1862; Dwight G. Barr, 1871. In 1819 a legacy of one hundred dollars was left by Lieutenant Jonas Newell to the church for the purchase of furniture for the communion table.

Of Dr. Fiske, Rev. Mr. Hyde wrote:

It was especially true of him that he was *young* when he was *old* and *lived until he died.* In person, tall and well-proportioned, with large and regular features and but slightly bended form, with eye still bright and voice still strong and clear, with slow but solid footstep; generally reading, writing, singing or talking when he was not visiting or sleeping, he seemed, when I first knew him, at 83 years of age, to be about as vigorous as he was venerable,—with a serene and intelligent countenance, with mild and dignified manners, with an active and well-balanced mind,—discriminating in judgment, skillful in management, cautious and yet determined in action, in conversation at once inquisitive and instructive, deeply interested in the practical affairs of men and with as deep an insight into their character and motives, he made his presence to be felt by all around him, without ever attempting to exert an influence or make an impression. Fixed in his opinions and ways, but seldom arbitrary, strict in his principles, severe in his sense of propriety without being sanctimonious, equable in temperament and yet playful in feeling, generous in sympathy and uncommonly companionable to those who really knew him, siding always with a noble impulse and a steady faith in favor of whatever seemed right or useful, nervously sensitive to suffering, timid and sometimes impatient, but always submissive and trustful, thoroughly republican in simplicity, truly patriarchal in hospitality, he presented to my eye a rounded completeness of character seldom found, except in those who have grown old with a silent and natural growth without any special excitement or constraint, but in the quiet service of the Gospel. In the pulpit he spoke not with enticing words nor impassionate appeal, but with sterling good sense and with great appropriateness, particularly in prayer. In all the councils of the Church, especially in difficult cases, he was eminently wise and efficient.

He died, 1855, at eighty-five years of age and sixty-first of his ministry.

May, 1853, a call was extended to Rev. James T. Hyde to become associate pastor with Dr. Fiske; salary, eight hundred dollars. The call was unanimous by the church and three to one in the society. The call was accepted, and Mr. Hyde ordained June 22d following. Mr. Hyde was a graduate of Yale College, ranking second in his class. He was a varied and accurate scholar, an able writer and preacher of refined tastes. His natural gifts were of a high order. Most of those opposed to calling Mr. Hyde were men of extremely liberal views—two or three Unitarian, or with Unitarian views, prominent in society, to whom Mr. Hyde's strong orthodoxy and forcible expression of it were distasteful. During the two years following his settlement twenty withdrew from the society, many of them large property-owners, part from dislike of Mr. Hyde, part on account of the greatly increased rate of taxation, and part through fear of a still higher rate. The breach widened. That spirit of bitterness which Dr. Fiske, in his communication to the society on the eve of settling a colleague, deprecated, had already sprung up. A few determined that Mr. Hyde must go and a few determined that he should stay. Finally, the good sense of the majority triumphed. The votes on the two following resolutions, taken in June, 1855, indicate the true state of affairs. The first resolution was, "That we, personally, without reference to the feelings or acts of others, are satisfied with the ability and faithfulness of our Pastor." Yeas, 26; nays, 2; silent, 5. The 2d, "That it is expedient under existing circumstances that the pastoral relation be dissolved." Yeas, 19; Nays, 6.[1] August 13th the dissolution was effected. Notwithstanding his comparatively unsuccessful pastorate, which he attributed in a measure to his own inexperience, he always retained a strong affection for his first parish, remarking to the writer that he would have been content to have lived and died among this people. He died while Professor of Pastoral Theology in Chicago Seminary. It was said of him that "no man in all the West would be more missed. Another might fill his chair in the seminary, but no man in all the land could be found to touch the seminary at so many points or be so conspicuously useful in all that concerns the welfare of the Churches." Rev. John H. Gurney received a unanimous call to succeed Mr. Hyde, and was installed April 23, 1856; salary, nine hundred dollars. A resolution, "That the Church for a third service in the Sabbath be free to other denominations when unoccupied by the pastor," was lost by a majority of one. Mr. Gurney possessed, in addition to other ministerial qualifications, a strong mind, good common sense, a fondness for agriculture and the highest capacities of a citizen. His pastorate lasted thirteen years, during which there was one extensive revival. May 3, 1871, Rev. John Dodge was installed. His pastorate was terminated by his death, in June, 1872. He was much esteemed and beloved. He was succeeded by Rev. William B. Bond October 30th of same year, whose pastorate continued seven years. Of him it could be said, "he never preached a poor sermon." He was the last settled pastor. Since then the church has been supplied successively by Rev. William Barrows, D.D., Rev. T. A. Merrill and Rev. U. W. Small.

[1] Fourteen persons voting yea on first resolution also voted yea on second.

EDUCATION.—The support of schools has always been liberal and hearty. In 1796 Whitney writes: "The people in New Braintree are particularly attentive to the education of their children and youth. They have eight reputable school-houses, and in the winter season as many instructors; two Latin grammar masters, and in the summer they have generally two or three masters and as many mistresses, and they expend more annually in supporting schools than in supporting their public teacher of piety, religion and morality, though he is honorably maintained." This interest was fostered and increased by Dr. Fiske, who for fifty-five years held the active superintendence of the schools, who exercised a sort of parental care over them, and whose constant aim was to raise the standard of qualifications among teachers. In 1845 and for several years previous, the amount raised per scholar exceeded that of any town or city in the State, excepting Boston and six adjoining towns. In the published address at the semi-centennial of the Brookfield Association, New Braintree is accredited with having furnished to that date eighteen ministers to the Congregational denomination,—two more than any other town in the association. There have been thirty-two liberally educated and professional men from this town, of which the following is a list:

Levi Washburn, graduated at Dartmouth; died 1776.
Jonathan Gould, graduated at Brown, 1786; died 1794; minister.
James Tufts, graduated at Brown, 1789; minister.
Joseph Delano, graduated at Brown, 1790.
Edwards Whipple, graduated at Williams, 1801; minister.
Luther Wilson, graduated at Williams, 1807; minister.
Thomas Pope, graduated at Harvard, 1806; lawyer.
Frederic Matthews, graduated at Harvard, 1816; lawyer.
Luke B. Foster, graduated at Vermont University, 1811; minister.
Henry H. Penniman, graduated at Harvard, 1822; teacher.
Charles Eames, graduated at Harvard, 1831; lawyer.
Frederic C. Whipple, graduated at Union, 1837; lawyer.
Waldo F. Converse, graduated at Wesleyan University, 1839; lawyer and business.
Eli W. Harrington, graduated at Amherst, 1833; minister.
Charles D. Bowman, graduated at Harvard, 1838; lawyer.
Wm. Penniman, graduated at Amherst.
Joseph Washburn, graduated at Yale, 1793; minister.
James Woods, graduated at Columbia, 1832; minister.
Gustavus Davis, D.D., minister.
Jesse A. Penniman, graduated at Amherst, 1833-35; minister and physician.
Charles Delano, graduated at Amherst, 1840; lawyer.
Wm. Barrows, D.D., graduated at Amherst, 1840; minister.
Wm. Miller, graduated at Amherst, 1842; minister.
Simon Barrows, graduated at Dartmouth, 1842; minister.
Lewis Barrows, graduated at Waterville; minister.
David Burt, graduated at Oberlin, 1848; minister.

George H. Gould, D.D., graduated at Amherst, 1850; minister.
Henry M. Daniels, graduated at Chicago Theological Seminary, 1861; minister.
Nathan Thompson, graduated at Amherst, 1861; minister and teacher.
Charles S. Brooks, graduated at Amherst, 1863; minister.
George K. Tufts, graduated at Yale, 1863; business.
Henry Penniman, graduated at Andover Theological Seminary, 1882; minister.
Emerson Warner, physician.

James Tufts, born 1764, completed his theological studies with Dr. Emmons, of Franklin, and ordained November 4, 1794, over the Congregational Church at Wardsboro', Vermont. His pastorate continued forty-seven years, until his death. He was a minister highly respected and venerated in the circles in which he moved.

Luke B. Foster, born 1789, son of Rev. Daniel Foster, second pastor of this church, had but one pastorate, at Rutland, commencing 1813, and continuing four years till his death, 1817.

Edwards Whipple, born 1778, was one of the three most distinguished scholars in his class. He studied theology and was installed at Charlton, January 25, 1804; remained there seventeen years; dismissed March, 1821; was then installed colleague pastor at Shrewsbury, where he remained one year, until his death, September 17, 1822. He was an able and faithful pastor, a man of decided talents and undoubted piety.

Luther Wilson, born 1783, son of Joseph and Sarah Mathews Wilson, fitted for college at Leicester Academy, entered Yale 1804, and Williams 1805; became English preceptor at Leicester Academy 1806; received his degree 1807. Made principal of Leicester Academy a few years later, and filled that position three and one-half years; studied theology with Rev. Zephaniah Swift Moore, D.D.; settled over First Congregational Church, Brooklyn, Connecticut, as colleague pastor with Rev. Josiah Whiting, D.D., June 9, 1813. During this ministry he changed his theological views and became Unitarian; resigned his charge September, 1817; installed pastor First Congregational Church, Petersham, June 23, 1819; resigned his pastorate October 18, 1834; died November 20, 1864; married November, 30, 1806, Sally, daughter of Abijah Bigelow, of New Braintree.

Thomas Pope commenced practice of law in Dudley, where he married, raised a family, lived and died.

Frederic Matthews, son of Elisha Matthews, graduated at Harvard Law School; commenced practice of his profession at Albany, N. Y.; remained until his death, about 1820.

Gustavus F. Davis, born in 1797, in Boston. At three years of age his father died, and mother married Adin Ayres, who removed to New Braintree in 1812. Young Davis went to Worcester to learn a trade; was converted, and became a Baptist, under the preaching of Elder William Bently; began to preach at the age of seventeen in Hampton, Conn.; at nineteen was settled over the Baptist Church at Preston, Conn.; at twenty-one became pastor of the church at South Reading (now Wakefield), Mass.; removed to Hartford in 1829, as pastor of the church there; died in Boston, while on a visit there, September, 1836. He was never a graduate of any college or other institution; a self-educated man, but largely interested in the cause of education; a trustee of Trinity College, and of the Connecticut Literary Institution; received the degree of D.D. from Wesleyan University, 1835.

Henry N. Penniman was for many years principal of a boarding-school in New York, and afterwards in business.

Waldo F. Converse began study of law in 1840; commenced practice in Sandusky, Ohio, 1842; continued in practice until 1859, afterwards engaged in business; is now president of Sandusky Machine and Agricultural Works.

Simon Barrows, born 1811, studied theology at Union Seminary, N. Y., engaged in various ways in cause of education, then entered into the active and hard duties of home missionary life beyond the Mississippi. Sometimes pastor of four churches, he has carried the New England church and school system into our border land.

Lewis Barrows, born 1813, has devoted his whole life to missionary work on the border.

William Barrows, born 1815, completed his theological studies at Union Seminary, N. Y., 1843, and since that has been variously in the Gospel ministry. There is space for a few quotations from a sketch of him in the "History of Reading," where he has resided since 1856: "Dr. Barrows comes of a type of family slowly disappearing from New England. His early home was a family of twelve; a farm of sixty acres and obstinate for boy's culture; parental common sense; a spindle; a loom; annual barrels of home beef and pork; a few books well chosen; a district school well attended without regard to weather and the Sabbath uniformly divided between home and the Lord's house 3 miles away. The old-fashioned virtues, ideas and knowledge ruled the home more than a dinner, new jacket, or 2-story house. No winter snows were too lively or deep for the ox-sled and a load of neighborhood children on the way to school, where the firewood was 4 feet long and many of the boys 6. Naturally, from such a home the boys entered college, yet with pecuniary struggles. Garden roots were cultivated by day and Greek roots by night by the youngest of the three in Phillips Academy. In the seminary private teaching by the hour, theological polemics in the seminary, classics in Brooklyn and five minute lunches in Fulton Ferry were sandwiched together. So every bill was paid and every borrowed dollar returned. Ill health has hardly cost him a day from the pulpit, perhaps because he has kindled so many vacation camp-fires all the way from New Brunswick to the head-waters of the Missouri and Columbia. Dr. Barrows has had three pastorates and was for some years secretary of the Congregational & Publishing

Society and the Massachusetts Home Missionary Society. He has taken deep interest in western civilization and Christianization, and with this in view has made eleven tours over the border and published 'The General, or Twelve Nights in the Hunter's Camp,' a true narrative of his brother William's life; 'Oregon: The Struggle for Possession;' 'The United States of Yesterday and To-morrow;' also 'The Church and Her Children;' 'Purgatory, Doctrinally, Practically and Historically Considered;' 'The Indian Side of the Indian Question.'"

William Miller graduated at Andover Theological Seminary, 1845, and settled at Halifax, Vt.; has been in ministry forty-two years.

David Burt, born 1822, graduated at Andover Theological Seminary 1851; preached at Raymond, N. H., 1851–55, at Rutland 1856–58, and acting pastor at Winona, Minn., 1858–66; engaged in work of Freedmen's Bureau 1866–68; State Superintendent of Schools in Minnesota (1875) until his death, 1881.

Eli W. Harrington, born 1804, graduated at Andover Theological Seminary 1836; pastor at Lunenburg 1836–47; Marion, N. H., 1848–50; Rochester, Mass., 1850–59; North Beverly 1860–67. Since that time impaired health has interfered with continuous pastoral service.

Charles D. Bowman studied law at Harvard Law School and practiced in Oxford, where he died.

James Woods was for many years a minister in San Francisco and Sacramento, Cal., where he died.

Charles Delano, born 1820, called at his death, 1882, the most distinguished member of the Hampshire County bar. Member of Congress 1859–63, resident of Northampton, a close student, a man of broad culture, social, public-spirited, liberal, whose integrity and conscientiousness were never questioned.

George H. Gould, born 1827, graduated Union Seminary, 1853. For eleven years his impaired health seriously interfered with the continuity of his public ministry. Traveled in Europe four years with John B. Gough; 1862 and 1863 with Olivet Church, Springfield; 1864–70 with Centre Church, Hartford, Conn.; has since resided in Worcester and been acting-pastor of both Piedmont and Union Churches. What a few churches have lost by his inability for continued pastoral service, the general public has gained.

Henry M. Daniels, graduated Chicago Theological Seminary, 1861; pastor First Congregational Church, Winnebago, Ill., 1861–75; home missionary at Dallas, Texas, 1875–79; at Lebanon, Md., 1880–83; De Luz, Cal., 1883–88.

Nathan Thompson, born 1837, graduated Andover Theological Seminary, 1865; home missionary, at Boulder, Col., 1865–75; acting-pastor at Roxborough and South Acton, 1876–81; president of Board of Trustees of Colorado University; principal Lawrence Academy, Groton, Mass., 1881–86; principal Elgin Academy, Elgin, Ill., 1886–88; author of two local histories.

Chas. S. Brooks, born 1840, graduated Andover Theological Seminary, 1869; pastor Congregational Church, Tyngsboro', 1869–72; church at South Deerfield, 1873–77; Second Congregational Church, Putnam, Ct., 1877–87; installed pastor Rollstone Congregational Church, Fitchburg, 1887.

Henry Penniman, graduated Andover Theological Seminary, ordained over First Church, East Derry, N. H., 1884.

Willard Barrows, born in 1800, early in life left the East for the Mississippi Valley, and was for many years deputy-surveyor for Government of wild lands in Missouri, Arkansas, and the territory comprising the present States of Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. The first map of the latter he published from his own field-notes, which, with his brief historical outline, was afterwards published by the State in 1845. Afterwards he wrote out the history of a part of Iowa, published in "Annals of Iowa." In 1850 he led a company of sixty men and one hundred and twenty-five horses over the plains to California, in the wild rush for gold, when he gained the title of "General." In 1864, he made up a private party for adventure into Montana and Idaho, 1600 miles and 160 days; and another the next year to the same region, *via* the Missouri River, 3000 miles. Died 1868—ending the career of a stirring frontier man, honored, beloved and lamented.

Revolutionary Period.—On the first Monday in June, 1773, in reply to a letter from "ye Inhabitants of ye Town of Boston," the town voted, "That the Freeholders and other Inhabitants of ye Town of Boston hereby receive the hearty thanks of this district for the vigilance, firmness and wisdom which they have discovered at all times in support of ye rights and liberties of the colony, and so heartily concur with them in all their constitutional determinations." March 7, 1774, a committee was chosen to draw up something in reply to "ye Inhabitants of ye Town of Boston" relative to the difficulties the Province labors under. April 4th the following resolves were reported, which being twice read and considered, were passed unanimously:

1st. That we will, in conjunction with our Brethren in America, Risk our Fortunes & even our Lives in defence of his Majesty King George the third, His Person, Crown and Dignity, and will also with y^e^ same Resolution as his free-born subjects in this country, to the utmost of our Power And Ability, Defend our Charter Rights that they may transmitted Inviolate to the Latest Posterity.

2. *Resolved* that every British Subject in America has by our happy constitution as well as by Nature, the sole Right to dispose of his own Property either by himself or by his Representative.

3. *Resolved* that y^e^ act of y^e^ British Parliament Laying a Duty on Tea Landed in America payable here is a Tax whereby the Property of Americans is taken from them without their consent.

Therefore Resolved, That we will not, either by ourselves or any for or under us, buy or sell or use any of y^e^ East India Company Tea Imported from Great Brittain, or any other Tea with a Duty for raising a Revenue thereon in America, which is affixed by acts of Parliament on the same. Neither will we suffer any such Tea to be made up in our Families.

Resolved, that all such persons as shall purchase, sell or use such Tea shall be for the future deemed unfriendly & Enemies to the happy Constitution of this Country.

At the same time—

Voted Ninety-one Pounds to provide a Town's Stock of Powder & Lead & Flints with.

August 25th Deacons James Woods and Samuel Ware were appointed a committee to meet like committees from other towns in the county, "to consider what measures they ought to come into at this critical, difficult day," and a Committee of Correspondence was chosen. September 2d Deacon James Woods chosen a delegate to a Provincial Congress to be held in October; the town then chose officers for a standing militia. November 7th a committee of seven, chosen to inspect all tea-drinkers and post their names. January 9, 1775, the town accepted the proposal of the minute-men to serve without pay, on condition that the other members of the district provide themselves with arms and ammunition. Same date a committee chosen to receive and forward the donations to the poor of Boston, and a committee chosen to see that the Provincial and Continental resolves be strictly adhered to.

May 22, 1776, "the Question being put whether y^e^ Town would willingly support y^e^ General Congress if it shall declare Independence. Passed unanimously in the affirmative."

February 17, 1777, Ephraim Woods chosen delegate to a County Congress, to obtain a more equal and just representation in the General Court for smaller towns.

February 24th the Committee of Safety, to prevent monopoly and oppression, fixed a uniform price of all produce and merchandise and all kinds of labor. Following are a few of these prices:

"For men's labor in haying or reaping, 3 shillings per day, & the same for Carpenters; Blacksmiths for plain shoeing, all round, 4 shillings; with steel corkings, 5 shillings. To Cordwainers, for making good men or women's shoes *Strong*, 2 shillings 8 pence pr., exclusive of thread.

"Doctor's Fea for riding, 6 pence per mile & Business in proportion. Good wheat, 6 sh. per bu.; Rye, 4 sh.; Ind. corn, 3 sh.; Oats, 1 sh. 8 Pence; Fresh Pork, 4 Pence lb.; Grass-fed Beef, 2½ Pence; Stall-fed do. 3½ pence; N. E. Rum, 5 sh. per gall.; Good W. I. Flip, 10 pence per mug; Horsekeeping at Farmers, 1 sh. pr. night by hay, & 6 Pence by grass. One meal of victuals of the best, ten pence, other victuals accordingly; new-milk cheese, six pence per lb.; firkin butter, 8 pence lb.; Beans, six shillings bu.; Potatoes, one shilling per bu. in fall, one & six pence in spring; good yarn, men's stockings, 5 shillings 4 Pence pair; mutton, four pence; veal, two pence per lb.; Home-made flour, twenty shillings per cwt.; Eng. Hay, 2 shillings cwt.; hire of a horse, 2 Pence pr. mile; maid labor in spring, 3 shillings per week. Mch. 31 a bounty of 20 pounds was offered soldiers who should enlist in the Continental Army for 3 years, & a com. chosen to collect evidence against all persons appearing enemical to this country. June 5, 1778, Voted that the town has no objection to articles of Confederation & perpetual Union between the United States of America. But the town refused, 54 to 4, May 19, & again May 31, 1780, to adopt the Constitution of the state of Massachusetts Bay, except on certain conditions, one of which was a provision for a Judge of Probate & Register of Deeds in each town in the county."

The total cost to the town of the war is unknown, but the records from 1778 to '82 are replete with votes for filling quota of men and horses, paying bounties, monthly wages and furnishing clothing and provisions to soldiers and their families. A complete list of the members of the company of minute-men from New Braintree that marched to Boston April 19, 1775, may be found on the town records.

The town furnished sixty-seven men for three years, nineteen men for six months, seventeen men for nine months; thirty-eight men for three months, and fifty men for a less period of service in the Revolutionary War.

May, 1786, the town gave instructions to its Representative to the General Court, Captain Artemas Howe, setting forth the great extortion and oppression practiced by the lawyers of the Commonwealth; their growing importance as a class in numbers, wealth and grandeur, and the danger to civil liberty thereby; the tardiness in obtaining justice in the courts and the high fees of certain court officers; that instead of the courts and juries being enlightened and assisted in searching after and doing justice in the cases that came before them by the gentlemen of the bar, they were left by them more perplexed and embarrassed; and expressing the belief that our only hope of existence as a nation rested in the frugality, economy and industry of the people.

SHAYS' REBELLION.—The views embodied in these resolutions seem to have been held by the large mass of the people of the State. Many were embittered by the feeling that adequate compensation had never been made the soldiers for their sacrifice in saving the country, nor the widows and orphans of those who were killed. That many in office who had remained at home had enriched themselves at the expense of those who had gone to the war. The debtor class was large. The war had demoralized the people. The majority hoped for a remedy for many of the existing evils through the constituted authorities and the General Court, peacefully; but a great many were in favor of resorting to force for a redress of their wrongs. Conventions were held in several counties. September 25th a committee chosen by the town recommended that for the peace of the town no representative should be sent to the General Court that year. This was the act of the minority, who had no faith in legislation to attain their ends. At a

subsequent meeting the conservatives rallied and voted to send its representative as usual and seek redress in a lawful way. The trouble culminated in what is known as "Shays' Rebellion." Twenty-three from New Braintree joined Captain Shays, some of them soldiers in the late war. A large body of insurgents collected at New Braintree. Their chief acts were to obstruct the courts and prevent their assembling.

Jan. 30, 1787, the town characterized the proceedings of the "Regulators," as they termed themselves, as illegal and irregular, and chose Rev. David Foster, Benjamin Joslyn and Percival Hall, Esq., a committee to confer with General Lincoln and officers, and Captain Shays and officers, for the purpose of effecting a reconciliation. February 3d, voted to petition the General Court for a general pardon of the insurgents, provided they laid down their arms and returned to their allegiance, and issue circular letters to a number of towns in this and other counties to do the same. February 5th, met and heard the report of the conference with General Lincoln, including a letter to the town, in which he advised them "to call home, without delay, all the men then with Captain Shays belonging to the town, and not to afford any aid, support or comfort to any of y^e^ insergents." When this letter was received, after being several times read and considered, such a disagreement appeared concerning the adoption of the course advised, that the meeting adjourned without action. Captain Artemas Howe was appointed major and commissioned as aid-de-camp of General Warner, August 28, 1886, in the campaign against the insurgents. The other men from New Braintree, who were in the service of the State and endured the sufferings and dangers of the night-march from Hadley to Petersham, which Minot styles "one of the most indefatigable marches ever performed in America," which resulted in the rout of the rebels, were: Sampson Whitherley, First Lieutenant; Wyman Hoit, Second Lieutenant: Elisha Mathews, Sergeant; John Doty, Corporal; John Thompson, Corporal; James Woods, Corporal; Elijah Barnes, Robert Voaks, William Tidd, Percival Hall, Isaac Denni, George Whetherell, James Weston, Privates; John Stevenson, Drummer; Samuel Shaw, Sergeant; Lemuel Kennedy.

March 17, 1787, twenty-two took the oath of allegiance. Some of the insurgents fled from the State, and among them Capt. Francis Stone, who, if not a citizen of the town at the time, was closely connected with some of its families. Hence we find the town, May 21st, instructing its representative to use his utmost exertions for a general pardon of the insurgents, that the banished might return home. The town further instructed him that "In all free governments that idea ought ever be kept in view that the rulers and ministers of state are the honorable servants and not the haughty masters of the people;" that he should use his influence to restrict the number of lawyers in the commonwealth to a small number of approved and upright character, to dismiss the Courts of Common Pleas, sheriffs and deputy-sheriffs of the county, empower the selectmen to do the business of judge of probate and have the General Court removed from Boston.

MISCELLANEOUS.—June, 1790, the town adopted an act to discourage unnecessary lawsuits, providing for a committee of three discreet freeholders, to whom should be submitted for settlement all demands whatsoever held by one citizen against another. The fees of the committee were two shillings each for each case. Any person refusing to submit his claim to the committee for settlement should be deemed unfriendly to the peace of the town and bad members of society, and treated by the inhabitants with contempt and neglect as to dealings and intercourse, save in the bare offices of humanity, and should have no votes for any town office for three years.

March 20, 1792, the town became security to Maj. Joseph Bowman, Elias Hall, Moses Hamilton and John Joslyn in a contract to support the entire poor of the State for ten years. They in turn agreed to collect all taxes during that time free of expense, to take all kinds of produce in payment of taxes at a generous price, and to purchase at a generous price from said town all produce needed besides for the support of said poor. They were authorized to procure immediately materials for and proceed to erect suitable buildings for their accommodation. The present residence of Wm. A. Felton was one of these buildings. The town was opposed to the War of 1812.

July 2, 1812, voted to co-operate with the town of Boston in using all constitutional means to avert it. July 24th memorialized the President of the United States disapproving of the war and abhorring an alliance with France.

In 1818 stoves were first introduced into the meeting-house at a cost of one hundred and seventy-five dollars.

Previous to 1826 the support of the poor had been put up at auction to the lowest bidder. In 1833 the town purchased the Little farm and supported its poor thereon. In 1835 rules were adopted for the regulation of its pauper establishment.

March 20, 1843, Congregational parish organized with a membership of seventy-nine. Until then religious institutions had been supported by a town tax.

WAR OF REBELLION, 1861.—The first town-meeting to act upon matters relating to the War of the Rebellion was held May 7th, at which the selectmen were authorized to pay each volunteer belonging to the town five dollars per month while in service, in addition to regular pay, and four dollars per month to his wife and two dollars to each child under twelve years of age.

July 21, 1862, voted to pay a bounty of one hundred

dollars to each volunteer who enlists for three years and ten dollars additional to those who enlist within one week.

August 26th, the bounty for three years' volunteers was raised to two hundred dollars and the bounty for volunteers for nine months fixed at one hundred and fifty dollars, which, November 4th, was raised to two hundred dollars.

April 11, 1864, voted a bounty of one hundred and twenty-five dollars to volunteers for three years' service, and this bounty was continued to be paid until the end of the war. The town raised $9000.55 for the war and seventy-eight men—four beyond her quota—two-thirds of the men subject to military duty and one-tenth of her population. One only, Lieutenant George Davis, was a commissioned officer. The following are the names of the volunteers on town records:

For Three Years.—Nahum H. Ayres, John Birmingham, Henry H. Bush, Albert Barrett, Josiah C. Converse, George Cooley, Daniel W. Dean, Carlton DeLand, Richard T. Davis, George A. Davis, Joseph Goddard, Lyman A. Holmes, William Hunter, William Jerome, Harrison Lamb, Peter McCue, Henry Mullett, David D. Pierce, Sidney Smith, Jr., Josiah Tuly, Oramel F. Thresher, Charles Q. Wetherell, Albert G. Wilder.

For Nine Months.—Rufus Boyden, Loring S. Barlow, Frank D. Brigham, Alfred D. Barr, Michael Bowen, Benjamin Fagan, Theodore S. Pierce, Brigham Pierce, Elijah T. Randall, Albert A. Thresher, George Woods. The rest of the seventy-eight were furnished from the surplus in other towns, this town paying the bounties.

Business.—In 1791 Joseph Bowman, Jr., entered into trade in foreign goods in a small one-storied building, situated at the north end of the present line of horse-sheds. In 1793 Henry Penniman, Jr., became a partner with him and for twenty years the firm of Bowman & Penniman was a household word in many homes in towns in the west part of Worcester and east part of Hampshire Counties. Mr. Penniman retired in 1813 and was succeeded by John Wetherell. In 1824 Mr. Wetherell removed to Petersham and Amory H. Bowman assumed the management of the business, his father furnishing the capital. In 1835 he was succeeded by Benj. F. Hamilton, who remained till 1840, when Edwin A. Read (who had had charge of the currying business of Hiram Wadsworth, at Barre Plains), in company with Samuel Wadsworth, took the place until 1850. The firm was successively Read & Wadsworth, Read & Smith and Read & Anderson. In 1850 Wm. Bowdoin commenced business and sold out in 1855 to Charles B. Frost. In 1858 Abijah Eddy succeeded Mr. Frost and remained until the spring of 1863, when a protective union store was opened with Mr. Frost as agent. In 1865 Mr. Frost bought out the stockholders and December 1, 1886, sold out stock and store to George K. Tufts, who now occupies it.

In 1812 Elisha Mathews, in company with Deacon James Woods, induced by the high price of woolen goods incident upon the war, purchased a water privilege and erected a mill one-fourth mile below the saw-mill built by his father, Daniel, on the same stream, and commenced the manufacture of woolen cloths. Mr. Mathews was on his way to market with his first load of cloths when peace was declared and prices dropped. Deacon Woods soon sold out his interest, and Mr. Mathews continued for some years, but at a constant pecuniary loss. The enterprise ruined him financially. In 1839 Isaac Hunter, Jr., James Hunter and T. P. Anderson commenced the manufacture of shoes under contract with Clark Bates, of South Carolina, to furnish two thousand pairs per month. In March, 1840, Anderson withdrew and David Wetherell took his place. The enterprise was a failure through the rascality and irresponsibility of the parties to whom the goods were sold. The business, which was carried on in a part of the store, closed in 1841. In 1848 a steam mill was erected by a stock company. This was sold to Joel Garfield, and then to Jos. P. Cheney, and finally to James Penniman, and burned in 1853; rebuilt in 1854 by a stock company and sold to Jos. M. Green, Wm. A. Mixter, Moses Pollard, Henry A. Hoyt and Hollis Tidd; burnt in 1863. Henry A. Delano made carriages and wagons from 1820–60, and later Wm. T. Felton carried on the same kind of business.

The pursuits of the inhabitants have been almost wholly agricultural. Whitney writes of New Braintree, 1796: "For its bigness it exceeds any other town in the county in fine grazing land, as is evinced by the annual product of the dairy & Beef." Then the product of beef far exceeded that of the dairy. An inventory of that time shows that one man was taxed for twenty-eight oxen; several years after the same farm maintained thirty cows. The increased profits of the dairy over those of beef changed the business from fatting cattle to making cheese, and the labor also from out-doors to in-doors. New Braintree cheese had acquired an enviable reputation in Boston as early as 1800, and many a dairy of cheese from other towns passed through the hands of Bowman & Penniman to be sold as New Braintree make. Previous to 1865 cheese was made in private dairies; during that year the New Braintree Cheese Manufacturing Company was organized, with a capital of $4000, and erected and furnished a factory at a cost of $11,000. The greatest quantity of milk received for eight months was 3,021,000 lbs. The cheese factory in 1886 became a creamery, and was then abandoned. Making milk supplanted making cheese for Boston market. In 1888 not one dairy in town made cheese through the season, a thing that had not been before for a century.

There has been but little manufacturing. Samuel Harrington made, in a small way, shoe-shaves for several years.

Besides the mills already referred to, there was a grist-mill built by Solomon Mathews on the site of the present residence of Mrs. B. F. Hamilton, on the stream north of the road.

PHYSICIANS.—Dr. Percival Hall was probably the first physician in town and almost the only one for thirty years. He commenced practice about 1760; married a daughter of Deacon Samuel Ware, 1764; removed to Boston 1793. One of his children, Betsey, born February 29, 1780, died at the age of one hundred and four years. He was a very popular man, holding many town offices, and especially in demand as chairman of committees to draw up instructions to Representatives. His productions are models in their clear, concise and comprehensive statements of the points at issue, and would do credit to any statesman of to-day. Dr. John Frink practiced in 1786–87. In 1794 Dr. Benjamin Severance succeeded Dr. Hall, and continued until his death, in 1832. During that time there were usually two physicians. Dr. Thomas Fletcher, 1789–91; Dr. John Blair, Jr., 1793–98; Dr. Increase Mathews, 1799; Dr. March, 1803; Dr. Fairfield, 1805; Dr. John Field, 1810–15; Dr. Luther Spaulding, 1816–20; Dr. Thomas Boutelle, 1820–24; Dr. Daniel McGregor, 1825–33; Dr. Oramel Martin, 1833–45; Dr. Julius Miner, 1847–52; Dr. A. A. Kendall, 1852–55; Dr. Saxton Martin, 1857–66. Since that time there has been no resident physician.

"Dr. Martin was a Democrat in politics. When he came, that party in town numbered four; during his stay it increased to thirty-five. He was thoroughly Democratic (as that word was used then) in town, as well as in State and national affairs, and believed that the ability to govern existed in the many, not the few; accordingly, he labored in all town elections for a more equal distribution of town offices."

The only resident lawyer there has ever been was Hon. Charles Allen, who came here from Worcester after being admitted to the bar in 1818; practiced six years and then returned to Worcester.

BUILDING.—A prominent feature of the Centre is the long row of horse-sheds. Previous to 1816 there were but three sheds to shelter the horses from heat, cold and storm on the Sabbath, owned by Elisha Mathews, Lieutenant Jonas Newell and Captain Abijah Bigelow. These, with the old school-house, built in 1774, that replaced the first, built in 1760, "twenty feet square with chimney in the middle," occupied the present site of the store. In 1816 Joseph Bowman exchanged the land on which the sheds now stand with the town for a portion of the land on which the store is, and Bowman & Wetherell erected the brick store, sixty by thirty feet and thirty feet high, at a cost of thirty-five hundred dollars. The same year a wooden building, twenty-seven by forty-three feet, and two storied, was built five hundred and fifty feet farther north, the lower part of which was used for a school-room and the upper for a hall. In 1865 the building was enlarged, the lower part converted into a cheese factory and the hall retained. In 1861, five school-houses were built; cost, $5,000.

In 1837 the New Braintree Temperance House was erected by a stock company (cost, six thousand dollars) to furnish a place of entertainment free from the sale of intoxicating liquors, and for thirty years it remained true to its name. It changed owners twice, and was burned in 1880. Much of the stock, with a par value of one hundred dollars, sold at eight dollars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—In 1810 the town was visited with the spotted fever, and two hundred and forty dollars paid for attendance of physicians. In 1860 pleuro-pneumonia appeared among cattle; two whole herds were slaughtered and five hundred dollars paid for relief of the owners. The greatest loss to the town, and one which badly defaced the looks of the Centre, was by fire, in 1880—one-third of an acre covered with buildings being burned. The cheese factory, Temperance House and Bigelow House were destroyed, and but for the timely assistance of fire companies from North and West Brookfield, the church and other buildings must have shared the same fate. Loss, fifteen thousand dollars. A new cheese factory is on site of the old one. A reward of one thousand dollars offered failed to find the incendiary.

March 7, 1832, the New Braintree Thief Detecting Society was formed, with a membership of forty-eight. It has been chiefly a social organization, having observed for the last forty years, on the first Wednesday in January, nearly every anniversary of its formation by a hot turkey supper. Sometimes the attendance reaches one hundred. For many years a characteristic feature of society was the annual temperance supper, instituted for the encouragement of the Temperance House. It was thoroughly democratic. Everybody was expected to attend and respond to a toast. It was the occasion for much badinage, wit and some eloquence.

The Free Public Library was founded in 1878 on a gift of one hundred dollars by F. W. Delano, of Boston, and was sustained for a few years by private contributions and the exertions of the Young Ladies' Literary Society. In 1884 it became the property of the town. It numbers eight hundred volumes, well selected.

The Third Regiment State Militia, including, with others, one company of militia from this town and one company of grenadiers from New Braintree and Oakham jointly, mustered every alternate year on the parade-ground granted by Henry Penniman. The commissioned colonels of the Third Regiment from New Braintree were Samuel Mixter, Louis Blackmer, Henry Penniman, Stephen Fay, Asa Barr, Roswell Converse and Amory H. Bowman.

In politics the Federalists, Whigs and Republicans have in succession usually been in a majority. Notable exceptions occurred in the reign of the Know-nothing party and in the Presidential election in 1884, when Blaine and Cleveland polled the same number of votes. The greater inequality was in 1803, when Gerry, the Democratic candidate for Governor, received only one vote against eighty for Strong, his opponent. There has been but little disposition for frequent changes in office. Men once chosen to office, and proving themselves capable and faithful therein, have received the continued support of the people.

In 1796 Whitney wrote of the people of New Braintree, "They have the reputation of being good husbandmen, frugal and industrious, and they live much independent." This frugality and industry brought most of them a competence and many wealth. But this wealth was held in no miserly spirit. They could beautify their own homes and the Lord's house, erect and sustain a public house of entertainment in the interests of temperance, give liberally to promote education at home and abroad, and in support of all benevolent objects. They were liberal in appropriations for musical education. The "independent" spirit referred to increased with the increase of wealth and intelligence. There was a just pride in the relative position the town held among other towns and in the character of its men.

INDIVIDUALS.—Of the early settlers, Capt. Eleazer Warner was already a veteran soldier. He was born in 1686, and early entered the military service of his country during the French and Indian Wars. At twenty-seven, was an attendant of a commission sent by Governor Dudley to Canada to redeem prisoners in the hands of the French; is on record, at forty, as teacher of the first school taught in Brookfield. In 1822 he married Prudence, sister of Comfort Barnes, who built the first house on Brookfield soil, that afterward became New Braintree, and located on the south bank of Sucker Brook, opposite to the house of Jonathan Nye; removed 1730 to the place known afterwards as the "Perez Cobb" place, near the North Cemetery, a portion of which house he built. In the "History of Hardwick" he is referred to as probably the first settler in Hardwick, and his son, Wareham, as the first white child born on New Braintree soil; his nephew, Joseph Barnes, was the second. His farm included a part of the Indian fort before referred to.

Three brothers, active in the town's early history, were David, James and Jonathan Woods, who came from Marlboro' respectively in 1744, 1746 and 1752. David was town clerk (1750–78) and assessor; Jonathan, second representative to General Court; James, moderator, treasurer, delegate to Provincial Congress and first representative to General Court. Jacob Pepper was at least fifty times moderator of town-meetings. John Barr, who came from Ireland about 1730, became the owner of five hundred acres of land in the southwestern part of the town, including a large part of present School District No. 5. Cornelius Cannon came from Dartmouth in 1737, and settled on present residence of Mr. Graves. John Peacock, a native of Ireland, was a soldier in the French and Indian War, and his son, John, Jr., an adjutant in Col. Timothy Ruggles' regiment, 1757. Oliver Cobleigh was also a soldier in that war. The Abbots, Barneses, Gilberts and Cannons were all connected by marriage, as well as the Peppers, Woods and Barrs. Abraham Hunter, the father of all the Hunters except Robert, came in 1753, having purchased a large tract of land in the east part of Braintree grant, which he divided among his sons and daughters. Daniel Matthews, who erected the saw-mill in 1749 at Webb's Pond, married Huldah, sister of Gen. Rufus Putnam. To him the general was apprenticed at fifteen years of age. Mr. Matthews was a member of Committee of Correspondence and an inspector of tea-drinkers, 1774. Wm. Tufts came from Brookfield in 1758, purchased land of Richard Faxon, an original proprietor, and was for many years a member of the School Committee.

Joseph Bowman came from Lexington about 1765. He was an ensign of a company of fifty men from this town who marched to Boston on the report of the attack upon the company at Lexington on the 19th of April, 1775. He soon after joined the army, and commanded a battalion at the battle of Bennington and other battles, which resulted in the capture of Burgoyne. He was not only a leading man in New Braintree, but his family, uniting the blood of the Bowmans and Munroes of Lexington, became one of the most influential in this part of Worcester County. His daughters intermarried with the Delanos, Woods, Matthews, Fields, Hoyts, &c., in the town. His son, Hon. Joseph Bowman, born September 11, 1771, entered mercantile business in his minority in New Braintree without capital or expectation of any. His marriage with the sister of his partner, Col. Henry Penniman, materially aided him, but he was mainly indebted for his success to his untiring energy, industry and perseverance, his sagacity, judgment and unyielding integrity. He remained in trade thirty-five years, and accumulated a large fortune. He became the leading merchant in the region, and his store the principal place of resort for surrounding towns. For twenty-one years he was president of the Hampshire Manufacturers' Bank at Ware. In politics a Whig, but always reserving the right of individual action, independent of party. Office sought him, not he the office. He was elected representative to the General Court in 1806 and thirteen times thereafter; Senator, 1828–29; member of Governor Lincoln's Council in 1832–34. He was a liberal supporter of religious and educational institutions. In private life most agreeable, hospitable, courteous and even-tempered. Few retain the confidence of the public as long as he. He died January 30, 1852.

Henry Penniman came from Mendon, 1785, and was for many years the largest landholder in value, if not in acreage. His gifts to the town were, in 1795, six acres of land for a training-field (value, $333.33), east of Centre, and $300 for a new bell in 1800. His son, Colonel Henry Penniman, and Joseph Bowman gave a new town clock in 1802; was partner in trade with Mr. Bowman 1793–1813; also gave an organ for the church, and his family supplied it with players for more than thirty years, one daughter commencing at nine years of age. Colonel Penniman was a trustee and a liberal donor to the funds of Amherst College; was much in town affairs and twice Representative, but declined more honors.

Lieutenant Samuel Mixter came from Brookfield, 1775, and reared a large family, who became connected by marriage with the Tidds, Popes and Greens. His son, Honorable Samuel Mixter, was in nearly every town office, and settled estates, etc.; Representative, 1818–19; Senator, 1833–35; Councillor, 1837–38. A man of great native sagacity and influence.

The three brothers Tidd came from Lexington (Ebenezer and Joseph, 1768), the former receiving by his father a large portion of the farm formerly occupied by Hollis Tidd, the latter the farm now occupied by Mr. Mahan. Benjamin came in 1790, and located where Frank Roch now lives. He was a member of the company under Parker that took part in the struggle at Lexington, April 19th, at Cambridge, June 17th, and served Dorchester the following year. Ebenezer, as well as his son Hollis, were prominent men; the latter was an aid to General Crawford, School Committee over thirty years; Representative, and filled other offices. The limited space allotted to New Braintree in this history of the county forbids mention, as they deserve, of many others equally prominent and influential, such as Captain Benjamin Joslyn, Gideon and Philip Delano (the latter a model town clerk for thirty-four years), Elisha Mathews, Colonel Roswell Converse (who, in compliance with Dr. Fiske's wish, bought and fitted a parsonage, running the risk of returns for the investment), Josiah Gleason, Amasa Bigelow, James Bowdoin and scores of others (not omitting the women), some of whose names are on record and more not, all of whom contributed equally, by private virtues as well as public services, to make the town in a peculiar sense a representative New England town.

Of the original settlers the following are, with one or two exceptions, resident descendants:

David Woods. { Hon. Bonum Nye. / Mrs. Wm. Bowdoin.

James Woods. { Mrs. D. G. Barr.

John Barr and Jona. Woods { D. G. Barr.

James Thompson. { Moses Thompson. / C. B. Thompson. / Miss E. A. Hoyt.

Eleazer Warner. { R. P. Warner.

Wm. Anderson. { Wm. E. Anderson.

Jacob Nichols. { H. L. Pollard.

Sam'l Harrington. { Nath'l Harrington.

Abraham Hunter. { John Hunter. / Mary Hunter.

Wm. Tufts. { Hon. Washington Tufts, who, a life-long Democrat, was sent, 1875, to the State Senate from a Republican district. / Geo. K. Tufts.

Adam Homes. { Mrs. C. Wilcox. / Mrs. D. Wetherill.

John Barr. { J. H. Barr.

George Woods. { Mrs. J. H. Barr.

Jona. Woods and Jacob Pepper. { Geo. D. Woods.

Joseph Pepper. { All of that name.

Ebenezer Tidd. { Mrs. J. P. Gleason.

Benjamin Tidd. { Mrs. Charles Burt.

Joseph Bowman. { H. A. Hoyt. / Geo. K. Tufts. / Miss E. A. Hoyt. / Mrs. H. M. Tufts.

Daniel Mathews. { Mrs. H. M. Tufts. / Geo. K. Tufts.

LOCATION.—So far as known, the original settlers located themselves as follows, the second column indicating present occupants of their farms, with due allowance for additions and subtractions incidental to a century and a half:

Former.	Present.
James Robinson	Col. Robinson Place, Hardwick
John Wilson	Thomas Loring
James Thompson	Est. M. H. Fay
Jona. Cobleigh	E. of Geo. Needham
John Blair	Josiah Bush, near Pond
Jacob Nichols	H. L. Pollard
John Barr	John Cooney, where house was burned
Abram Joslyn	Edwin Hoar
Joseph Little	C. P. and H. I. Howard
Eleazer Warner	L. Crawford, "Perez Cobb house"
Beriah Hawes, Dennis Healey, on discontinued road to Hardwick	
Edward Blair	Jerry Mara
David Woods	Alfred Boyden
James Woods	Horatio Moore
John Barr	J. B. Fobes, John Sibley, M. Greenwood, P. Monahan.
Samuel Steele	Geo. F. Vaughn
George Woods	W. W. Gray
David Ayers	Francis Shaw
Phinehas Warner	J. H. Thresher
Wm. Anderson	Wm. E. Anderson

B. F. Hamilton.

Samuel Ware	Geo. F. Snow
Wareham Warner	John O'Brien
Joseph Pepper	Wm. A. and E. Pepper
Jacob Pepper	J. E. Barr
Moses Abbot	Dwight Tyler
David and Jona. Gilburt	M. Cota
Sarah Barnes	John Cooney, opp. side of brook
Ebenezer Spooner	M. D. Peckham
Wm. Tufts	John P. Day
Abraham Hunter	J. P. Hunter, H. Moore, M. Iago, J. D. Frost and pt. by John Danbruskie
Adam Homes	John Danbruskie
Cornelius Cannon	M. Graves

The cemetery in District No. 3 was given, in 1756, to the town by Edward Blair. For many facts and dates the writer is indebted to Mr. George D. Woods; for some facts relative to that portion of the town formerly in Hardwick, to the "History of Hardwick" to C. B. Tillinghast, acting State librarian, for his uniform courtesy and assistance in furnishing access to original documents.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

BENJAMIN F. HAMILTON.

Benjamin F. Hamilton, son of William and Rhoda Hamilton, and a direct descendant in the fourth generation of James Hamilton, father of Alexander Hamilton, of Revolutionary fame, was born in Conway, February 18, 1809. He received a common-school education in his native town. His was one of the old families of the town, and the name Hamilton was the name of the leading physician of Conway for nearly a hundred years. During his minority he engaged with his brother and uncle in the manufacture of woolens.

To him much was intrusted of the buying, selling and general management of the business. The depression in American manufacturing in competition with that of England after the declaration of peace following the War of 1812 rendering the business unprofitable, Mr. Hamilton went to Taunton as a clerk. From Taunton, in 1829, when twenty years of age, he came to Barre, in the employ of Harding, Woods & Co., as a clerk and book-keeper in their general store, remaining for six of the most receptive years of his life in one of the best kind of schools for the study of human nature that ever existed. Mr. Woods endorsed his services with him in this remark, that "He had been one of the most faithful, accurate and honest clerks he ever had in his employ." While in Barre he married Catherine Wilson, who died December 16, 1837, and by whom he had one child—Catherine—born December 11, 1837, who also died.

In 1835 he purchased of Amory H. Bowman his stock of goods in the old "Brick Store," and came first to reside in New Braintree. Here he remained until 1840, then removed to Petersham, where, in company with Sampson Wetherell, he engaged in the same kind of business. It was customary then for country traders to purchase large quantities of leaf, parcel it out among their customers to be braided into hats, then buy the hats and pay for the same from the store. The depression in the hat business, and the consequent failure of many large houses, caused the failure of many smaller firms, of which Hamilton & Wetherell were one. Mr. Hamilton returned to New Braintree, and spent the remainder of his days in farming.

May 27, 1841, he married Hannah D. Gleason, daughter of Josiah Gleason, of New Braintree. During his residence in New Braintree he was closely identified with its interests, civil, parochial, business and political, and was, for a longer or shorter time, the official head of all of them. He was thoroughly faithful to all these interests while in his charge.

From 1863–68 he was a member of the Board of Selectmen, one year its chairman. For the first fifteen years of its existence he was a director of the New Braintree Cheese Manufacturing Company, and five years its president. For eighteen years he was a member of the Parish Committee, and much of the time its chairman. It was a favorite saying of his that "He had been a member of this Parish for a longer consecutive time, and paid a parish tax a greater number of years, than any other living member, with perhaps one exception." In his theological views he was diametrically opposed to the tenets held by the varions preachers, to whom he listened nearly forty years, but in the practical application of religious truth he stood upon the broad ground, so common to many men of all denominations, that "Faith without works is dead also,"—a doctrine that an eminent divine once said would have classed the Apostle James as a Unitarian had he lived in our day.

Channing, the great apostle of Unitarianism, never had a more devout admirer than Mr. Hamilton. To say that he was always cool and deliberate in judgment, or wise and temperate in action, would be to say more than he would have said of himself. He was always true to his convictions and fearless in their expression. He believed that truth was its own greatest safeguard and its declaration better than its suppression.

Besides, he never hit a man in the back; his blows were always in front, and whatever criticisms he had to make were made in so open a manner that the one criticised had ample opportunity to defend himself. If he sometimes went to extremes, he never did things by halves. If he was impulsive, he was also generous. He was methodical in business, paying close attention to details, enterprising and public-spirited. He died August 28, 1884.

J. P. GLEASON.

Josiah Parsons Gleason, son of Josiah and Mary (Hitchcock) Gleason, was born in New Braintree, May 15, 1822. His early education was mainly obtained in the district-schools of his native town, supplemented with a term or two each at Leicester Academy in 1835, at Phillips Academy, Andover, 1836, and at Munson Academy and Hadley in 1839. In 1837 and '38 he was clerk in the store of his brother-in-law, J. S. Marsh, in Hardwick, Mass. He became the home son and at the death of his father came into possession of the "Homestead" of about 250 acres, situated on the west slope of Fort Hill, overlooking the beautiful valley of the Ware River, and one of the most productive farms in New Braintree.

He was a member of the Board of Selectmen from 1865 to 1884, excepting 1868, and several years its chairman; assessor from 1867–80. He was always the scribe of both boards, and the entire transactions of both during his membership are recorded in his bold, legible handwriting. His public as well as private affairs have always been conducted on business principles, with promptness, accuracy, thoroughness and system. He has always advocated a liberal, but never extravagant, expenditure of the public funds, both for the general interests for which the town provides, such as schools, etc., as well as for special objects which the law does not make obligatory.

In politics he has always held it to be the right of the individual to form his opinions and act in accordance with his own convictions, independent of the opinions or acts of others, although by so doing he occupied a position opposed to the party to which he nominally belonged. Hence he has found himself at different times allied to both parties. In his early life he was much in general society, but later a family of wife and eight children furnished him with ample opportunities for the play of his social faculties, and this devotion to home has been fully reciprocated even after its younger members had grown to maturity and made homes of their own.

He married, November 21, 1849, Mary Newton Makepeace, born May 19, 1822; died September 16, 1855. His children by this marriage were: Josiah Makepeace, born September 11, 1850, died March 2, 1852; Mary Parsons, born May 29, 1852; Robert Rantoul, born September 7, 1855, died September 22, 1855; Albert Makepeace, born September 7, 1855.

He married, February 24, 1859, Ellen Augusta Tidd, daughter of Hollis Tidd, Esq., born April 30, 1831, The children by this marriage are: Edward Hollis, born February 4, 1860; Herbert Parsons, born August 1, 1861; Alexander DeWitt, born March 1, 1863; George Davis, born November 21, 1864; Ronald Prentiss, born August 24, 1866; Alice Hamilton, born October 15, 1870.

Albert Makepeace Gleason married, September 8, 1883, Elizabeth Aiken, of Greenfield.

Edward Hollis Gleason married, May 30, 1885, Julia Hamilton, of Boston. Children: Ellen Harris, born August 23, 1886; Hollis Tidd, born April 13, 1888.

CHARLES EAMES.

Charles Eames was a native of New Braintree. His mother was a descendant of the Ebenezer Tidd who emigrated from Lexington to this place in 1768. He was fitted for college when twelve years of age, but did not enter till the next year. He graduated at Harvard at the age of eighteen, the first scholar in a class in which were Wendell Phillips and Motley, the historian, with both of whom his friendship lasted till his death. In early life he acquired fame by his eloquence and rare oratorical powers. At the close of Mr. Polk's administration he was appointed commissioner to the Sandwich Islands, to make a commercial treaty with that government, which he accomplished. President Pierce appointed him Minister Resident at Caraccas, Venezuela, with which government he also negotiated a treaty. On his return from that country he resumed the practice of law in Washington.

During the War of the Rebellion he was counsel for the Navy Department and the captors in all the prize cases, and for the Treasury Department in all the cotton cases. It was in arguing before the Supreme Court of the United States the great prize case of the "Sir William Peel," in which William M. Evarts was the opposing counsel, that he was stricken down with the disease that terminated fatally in two months. He rallied sufficiently in a month to appear again in the Supreme Court as counsel for the navy and the captors in the great prize case of the "Grey Jacket," involving a million of dollars, which he gained for the government, and that ended his professional career. He died March 16, 1867, in his fifty-fifth year. For many years his house was a great centre of celebrities in politics, jurisprudence, letters, art and society. Governor Andrew, in a notice of his death which he wrote for a Boston newspaper, said: "I think this tribute is due to a native of Massachusetts, the first scholar in his class at Cambridge, and a lawyer who has won the leading reputation for his mastery of the learning of Prize, and the various other questions arising out of the War of the Rebellion, involving, as they do under our special national statutes, a great, difficult and philosophical branch of judicial study.

"Mr. Eames was the special counsel of the Treasury Department in all the great cotton cases, in which he has displayed alike ingenuity and native sagacity and skill.

"Many of our Massachusetts people will always remember the house of Mr. and Mrs. Eames as the most hospitable, agreeable and attractive house in Washington. With great simplicity, but with every charm of gracious and cordial manners, they received constantly, informally, and for years. There all the best and strongest men were to be seen, and though not

J. P. Gleason

Charles Eames

exclusive in a political sense in their friends, Mr. Eames was still, while with Democratic antecedents, warmly and faithfully loyal to the most advanced ideas, both during and since our struggle with the rebels. His employment professionally by the government in no sense seemed to compromise his thorough and manly regard for the truth, as it naturally lay in the mind of a man *trained to think*, and educated in the original ideas of Massachusetts. To his birthplace, to his native Commonwealth, he was faithfully and warmly attached."

An International Episode.—"By a curious coincidence, just as our attention is turned to Mr. Sandham's notable painting of the 'Battle of Lexington,' I have received a call to-day from a Scotch gentleman who is the great-great-grandson of Major Pitcairn. He was greatly interested in our Pitcairn pistols and other relics, and spent several hours in looking about town. To make the coincidence still more striking, his wife, who accompanied him (an American lady), is a descendant of Joseph Tidd, who lived in the old Tidd homestead, which is still standing in Lexington, and whose sons, Benjamin and John, were in Captain Parker's company on the 19th of April, 1775.

"It is related by this John Tidd that, being one of the last to leave the Common, he was pursued by the British, struck down and robbed of his arms. At the same time his cousin, Lieutenant William Tidd, retreating up Hancock St., was chased by a British officer (supposed to be Pitcairn), who cried out, 'Stop or you're a dead man.' The plucky lieutenant sprang over a pair of bars, made a stand, took aim and fired at his pursuer, who dodged the shot, wheeled about, and hastened back to join his men. That a descendant of this 'Britisher' should, after one hundred years, marry a descendant of this 'rebel,' and that the two should to-day come with eagerness to see, for the first time, the spot where their ancestors fought against each other, is a fact as strange as anything in fiction. Cupid has healed many a wound, but he was more than usually adroit when he contrived that a Pitcairn should at last marry a Tidd."

MOSES THOMPSON.

Moses Thompson, son of Nathan and grandson of James Thompson, the first captain of militia in town, whom, under the title of their "well-beloved and faithful" friend, the inhabitants of "Braintree Farms" selected from among their number to convey their petition to the non-resident proprietors, and secure their co-operation in their efforts to become incorporated as a town, and who afterwards bore the petition for incorporation to the General Court, was born in the south room of the house now belonging to the estate of M. H. Fay, formerly the residence of his grandfather.

November 21, 1807, when James Thompson first came to reside here, there was only one standing tree on the farm—a rock maple. The whole territory of the "Farms" had been burned over by the Indians, to afford pasturage for deer.

Nathan, the father, died when Moses was seven years old. He remained with his mother three years, then went to live with Moses Felton, where he remained four years, and afterward two years with Joseph Bowman. His mother having bought the farm now owned by Michael Boyle, on the road to West Brookfield from Wait's Corner, Moses went to live with her.

At twenty-two he bought of Baxter Ayres a farm in North Brookfield, where he remained five years. While there he married, June 29, 1830, Hannah Bush, daughter of Josiah and Molly Bush, born December 4, 1811, who has been a faithful and devoted wife and mother. They came to New Braintree in 1834, and bought of Daniel Woods the homestead they now occupy. This farm Mr. Thompson has about doubled in area since the original purchase. Mr. Thompson is the only living original member of the Congregational Parish, that has always retained his connection with it. He was for many years its treasurer and collector and a member of its committee annually chosen to manage its affairs. He held the office of town treasurer, with the exception of two years, from 1858 to 1884, and for some years had the sole management of its town farm, with its occupants. He is conspicuous for the same traits that created public confidence in his grandfather, and his faithfulness, integrity and good sense have especially characterized his public and private dealings. He likes trust and responsibility. He has always been a constant attendant of divine worship (including fast and thanksgiving days), and a constant and liberal supporter of religious institutions, not from impulse, but from principle, and equally liberal in his support of schools.

He is peculiarly fond of his family and friends, of visiting and receiving visits, and seldom is to be seen riding unaccompanied by one or more of his grandchildren. He is a descendant, through his mother, Molly Doty, of Edward Doty, who came over in the "Mayflower" in 1620, "and was a party to the first duel fought by Englishmen in New England."

His children are: Charles Bush, born September 20, 1834; Nathan, born August 26, 1837; Harriet Delia, born November 6, 1841.

Of these, Charles married, January 23, 1858, Elizabeth D. Fagan, born February 6, 1837. Their children are: George Hilliard, born May 22, 1863; Annah Maria, born April 30, 1865, died April 13, 1877; Frances Hunter, born May 21, 1867; Harry William, born November 8, 1873, died April 8, 1877; Charles Moses, born September 13, 1875, died April 6, 1877; Ethel Garfield, born September 21, 1878; Gertrude Elizabeth, born February 14, 1884.

Of these, George Hilliard married, December 10, 1887, Adelaide Wight, born June 28, 1863. They

have one child—Georgia Elizabeth—born September 10, 1888.

Nathan (to whom further reference is made in list of educated men) married, January 1, 1870, Mary E. Dartt. Their children are: Clarence Dartt, born February 14, 1871, died September 10, 1871; Mary Florence, born January 3, 1873; Helen Morton, born March 9, 1875.

Harriet Delia married, April 9, 1874, L. Kirke Harlow, who died March 15, 1887.

CHAPTER LXXXVII.

LEICESTER.

BY REV. A. H. COOLIDGE.

SETTLEMENT.

Location—Indian Deed—Proprietors—Incorporation - Settlement—Hardships—Snow Storm—Thomas Green—Struggles—Rural Life—Houses—Mills—Lovell's War—Fortified Houses—Discouragements—Spencer "set off," also parts of Paxton and Auburn—Cyclone.

THE town of Leicester stands upon the ridge of the water-shed of Central Massachusetts, one thousand and seven feet above the sea level. Its waters flow easterly, through Lynde and Kettle Brooks, into the Blackstone River; southerly, through French River, into the Quinebaug and Thames, and westerly from Shaw Pond, through the Chicopee River, into the Connecticut. Lynde Brook Reservoir, on the east, is one of the sources of water supply for Worcester, and Shaw Pond, on the west, is the source of the supply for Spencer. Leicester is about forty-eight miles from Boston. It is six miles west of Worcester and five hundred feet above that city. Its location is 42° 14′ 49″ north latitude, and 71° 54′ 47″ west longitude.

Its villages are the Centre, at first called Strawberry Hill; Cherry Valley, two miles east of the Centre, generally so-called since 1820; Rochdale, at first South Leicester, named Clappville, from Joshua Clapp, who purchased the mill property in 1829, and changed to Rochdale in November, 1869; Greenville, which about the middle of the present century began to be so called from its founder, Captain Samuel Green; Mannville, two miles north of the Centre, which was named after Mr. Billings Mann about the year 1856; and Lakeside, which has come to be so called within a few years. The northeast part of the town is called "Mulberry Grove," the name being first given in 1827 to the estate of Silas Earle, on which he raised mulberry trees and produced silk from the silk-worm.

At the time of its original purchase the township of Leicester was a part of the extended domain of the Nipmuck tribe of Indians. The character of this tribe had been greatly changed, and many of its members had been converted to Christianity through the labors of John Eliot and Daniel Gookin. Gookin, in his "Historical Collections," mentions seven "new praying towns" among the Nipmuck Indians. One of these was in Oxford and another was Pacachoag, in Worcester and the southeastern border of Leicester. That the Indians of Leicester had been brought under the same influences is indicated by the fact that one of the signers of the deed is styled "deacon." Few Indian relics have been found here, there are few Indian traditions, and there is little to indicate that the place ever had a considerable native population, although it was of sufficient importance to have a sachem.

The Massachusetts Colony, like the Plymouth, recognized the claim of the aborigines to the land, and secured it of them by fair purchase. The territory embracing Leicester, Spencer, a part of Paxton and a small portion of Auburn was bought of the Indians by nine gentlemen of Roxbury and vicinity, who became the original "Associate Proprietors." The sachem, Oraskaso, had recently died, and the deed is signed by his heirs. The price paid for the land was fifteen pounds, New England money.

The deed is an interesting historical document. It declares

That the heirs of Oraskaso, Sachem of a place called Towtaid, situate and lying near the new town of the English, called Worcester, with all others which may, under them, belong unto the same place aforesaid, Towtaid, these heirs being two women, with their husbands, newly married; which, being by name called Philip Tray, with his wife, Momokhue; and John Wampkson, with Waiwaynom, his wife, for divers good causes and considerations us thereunto moving; and more especially for and in consideration of the sum of fifteen pounds, current money of New England to us in hand paid by Joshua Lamb, Nathaniel Page, Andrew Gardner, Benjamin Gamblin, Benjamin Tucker, John Curtice, Richard Draper and Samuel Ruggles, with Ralf Bradhurst, of Roxbury, in the county of Suffolk, in New England, the receipt of which we do fully acknowledge ourselves to be fully satisfied and paid, have given —— a certain tract of land containing, by estimation, eight miles square, situate, lying and being near Worcester aforesaid, abutting southerly, on the lands of Joseph Dudley, Esq., lately purchased of the Indians; and westerly, the most southernmost corner of a little pond called Paupakquamcock, then to a hill called Wakapokotownow, and from theuce to a little hill called Mossonachud, and unto a great hill, called Aspomsok; and so then easterly, upon a line, until it comes against Worcester bounds, and joins unto their bounds; or howsoever otherwise abutted and bounded, &c.

In witness whereof, the said Philip Tray and Momokhue, and John Wampscon, Waiwaynow, being their wives, have hereunto set their hands and seals, this twenty-seventh day of January, *anno Domini*, one thousand six hundred and eighty-six.

Signed, sealed and delivered, in presence of us:

PHILLIP TRAY × his mark. [Seal.]
MOMOKHUE TRAY × her mark. [Seal.]
JOHN WAMSCON. [Seal.]
WAIWAYNOW WAMSCON × her mark. [Seal.]
WANDWOAMAG, × the deacon, his mark. [Seal.]
JONAS, his × wife's mark. [Seal.]

TOM TRAY × his mark.
NONAWANO × his mark.
CAPT. MOOGUS × his mark.
ANDREW PITTEME × his mark.

The deed was acknowledged before William Stoughton, "one of his Majesty's Council, of his territory and dominions of New England," June 1, 1687.

Twenty-seven years afterward the number of proprie-

tors was increased to twenty-two. They were men of wealth and influence, and some of them were owners of large tracts of land in other towns of Central Massachusetts. None of them ever settled in Leicester. The purchase was a pecuniary investment, but was also designed to encourage the speedy settlement of the province.

The speculative venture was, however, for a long time unremunerative, and Towtaid remained for almost twenty-seven years an unbroken wilderness. The period was unpropitious for interior settlement, and it was well that none was undertaken. Leicester was thus saved from perils and horrors to which other towns were subjected, while her primeval forests waited in silence for more peaceful occupation. Under the influence of the Christian religion, the Nipmuck Indians had become a peaceable and friendly people; but upon the outbreak of King Phillip's War, they became divided and broken. That wily and powerful chief came among them, and by persuasions and threats, and by the force of his fiery eloquence, won a portion of them to his cause. Many of them remained true to their English neighbors; but others followed their great leader. Their savage instincts were reawakened, they took the war-path, and brought disaster and ruin to the scattered settlements. In this, and the successive French and Indian Wars, all the earlier settlements of Central Massachusetts were broken up. Worcester was twice attacked, and the colonists killed or driven out. Lancaster was burned, and its people massacred. Brookfield suffered the same fate; and the interesting colony of Huguenots in Oxford, were attacked, and forced to abandon their homes, their vineyards, their church and the burial-place of their dead.

There was little encouragement in circumstances so adverse to seek homes on the bleak hills of Leicester, in the heart of the Indian territory.

After the close of the French war in 1713, measures were taken to make the grant available. The original deed was recorded March 8th, 1713-14. The title had been confirmed by the General Court, February 15th, with the usual conditions, that portions of the land should be reserved for the Gospel ministry, and for a school, and that within seven years fifty families should settle themselves, with reasonable provision for self-defence, on a part of the land. This was a virtual, and indeed is the only, act of incorporation of the town of Leicester.

The early English explorers found on Leicester hill a luxuriant growth of strawberries, and therefore gave the place the name of Strawberry Hill, which it had hitherto retained. It now received the name of Leicester, and was assigned to Middlesex County. It was on the 23d day of the same month that the number of proprietors was increased from nine to twenty-two. At this meeting the proprietors voted to offer one-half of the town to settlers, and chose a committee, consisting of Colonel William Dudley, Captain Joshua Lamb, Captain Thomas Howe and Captain Samuel Ruggles, to determine which half should be opened for settlement, and which should be reserved for later and more advantageous sale. They decided to offer for occupation the eastern half. On the 14th day of May the allotment was made; and the next day the committee came to Leicester to locate the lots. In June the township was, by order of the General Court, surveyed by John Chandler, "to fix the bounds."

Fifty "house-lots," of from thirty to fifty acres each, were laid out, and sold for one shilling an acre, with "after rights" of one hundred acres for each ten acres of "house-lot." Thus the purchaser secured a farm of five hundred and fifty acres for fifty shillings. The lots were to be settled in three years or forfeited for the benefit of the public. One lot of forty acres was to be reserved for the ministry, one of one hundred acres for schools, and three lots of thirty acres each for mills.

Special grants were also made of seven and a half acres of "meadow," to each lot, for "feed." These meadows were evidently regarded as of special value; but the event has proved that the hilly ridges and slopes are more productive. The cedar swamps were left undivided.

The lots were numbered, and the purchasers drew for choice. The first choice was drawn by John Stebbins. He chose the lot on Strawberry Hill, on which the house of Rev. Samuel May now stands. Here the first house in town was probably built.

At a meeting of the proprietors, held July 23, 1722 a committee of the proprietors was appointed to convey deeds to those who had complied with the terms of purchase. The deed itself was not, however, executed till January 11, 1724, (O. S.), more than forty-seven years after the purchase of the town. It was recorded November 29, 1729.

The names of purchasers were John Stebbins, Joseph Stebbins, James Wilson, Samuel Green, Arthur Carey, Moses Stockbridge, Hezekiah Russ, John Peters, William Brown, Thomas Hopkins, Daniel Denny, John Smith, Ralph Earle, Nathaniel Kanney, Samuel Stimpson, Benjamin Woodbridge, John Lynde, Josiah Winslow, Josiah Langdon, Joshua Henshaw, Joseph Parsons, Nathaniel Richardson, John Menzies, Joseph Sargent, Daniel Livermore, James Southgate, Daniel Parker, William Brown, Thomas Baker, Richard Southgate, William Green, Samuel Prince, Dorothy Friar, Thomas Dexter, William Kean, James Winslow, Stephen Winchester, Paul Dudley, John King.

Thomas Baker and Joseph Parsons did not settle in Leicester.

These men and their families, and those who had already joined them, together with those who soon afterward united their fortunes with the infant colony, were the founders of Leicester. Some of them were men of superior quality. To the hardships and toils

of these pioneer families, to their intellectual and moral character and their Christian fortitude, the town is largely indebted for its prosperity and its worthy standing and honorable history.

The settlement of the place began soon after the allotment was made. In a few instances the purchasers engaged families to hold the lots for them, but others took direct possession.

According to early traditions, the first inhabitants found upon their arrival a solitary hermit, named Arthur Carey, living on the hill which from him was named Carey's Hill. Whitney, in his County History, states that he "went thither and digged a cave in the side of this hill, and lived there as a hermit many years, while that part of the country was in its wilderness state." What were his feelings when his solitude was disturbed by the approach of civilization no one now can tell, nor what had been the romance or the tragedy of his life, nor why he had retired from the world and buried himself in the lonely forest.

Leicester was then an unbroken wilderness. Worcester was just beginning, for the third time, to be resettled. There was no settlement of whites, except Brookfield, between Leicester and the Connecticut River. Bears and wolves and wild-cats and moose and other wild beasts roamed undisturbed in the forests, and the place was infested with serpents. The dams and curious homes of the beaver were long afterward visible in the meadows. There were, as late as 1740, pits for the capture of wolves; and the names "Moose Hill," "Raccoon Hill" and "Rattlesnake Hill" are suggestive of realities familiar to the early inhabitants, while "Bald Hill" stood peculiar as a tract of land which had been already cleared.

The first town-meeting of which there is any record was on March 6, 1721–22, although meetings had evidently been held for two or three years previously. A meeting-house had already been built. Judge John Menzes had served the town in the General Court the year before, and was re-elected the two succeeding years. He declined any remuneration for his services, "being fully satisfied and paid." The precedent thus established was so popular that when, in 1724, a successor was to be elected, it was voted that whoever should be chosen "should be paid the same as Judge Menzes and no other." Lieutenant Thomas Newhall was then elected "to serve on the above conditions."

At the first recorded town-meeting Samuel Green was chosen moderator, first selectman, first assessor and grand juror. The town offices then were the same as those now filled at town-meeting. Two tithingmen were also elected to keep order in the meeting-house.

At first the families were sheltered in rude log-houses. The first impression which one of these houses made upon the mind of a little child is indicative of their outward aspect. Daniel Henshaw came to Leicester about thirty-four years after its first settlement to take possession of a house already built for the family. The household goods had been moved from Boston on an ox-cart. As the family approached the house, by the narrow cart-path, the little daughter exclaimed "Oh, father, this is Leicester jail, isn't it?" In this household was a dog, named Hero, which came with the family from Boston. There was then no regular means of communication with the outside world, and Hero was for several years the mail-carrier of the family. Receiving verbal instructions as to his destination, he hastened at a rapid pace to Boston, with letters fastened to his neck, delivered them as directed, and after rest and refreshment returned with letters to the home friends.

In February and March of 1717, when there were only a few families here, and these were provided with hardly more than temporary shelters, the whole of New England was visited with a series of snow storms of almost unparalleled severity. For several weeks no mails could reach Boston, and when they came they were brought by men on snow-shoes. The low houses were covered so that in some cases the chimneys could not be seen. Families for days were prisoners in their own houses, and first made their exit from the attic windows. Many domestic animals perished, and some were said to have been rescued alive weeks afterward. After the storm ceased, cattle could be seen walking over drifts twelve feet deep, and feeding upon twigs on the tops of trees. Such was the welcome of these hills to the men and women who settled Leicester.

It was not far from this time that Dr. Thomas Green, then a boy of eighteen years, was left alone, in the summer, in charge of his father's cattle. Attacked with a fever, he sheltered himself under a shelving rock, by the stream on which his father's mill afterward stood. Here, alone in the wilderness, his shrewdness saved him. He tied one of the calves within reach, and as the cow came to it, nourished himself with her milk. In this distressing condition he remained till found by passing land-owners, in the vicinity. They hastened on to inform his friends. His father at once came and removed him back to Malden, on horseback—a four days' journey.

The progress of the settlement for many years was slow. Its location was isolated, and the people, on their scattered farms, must have been lonely in the extreme. Expected and unexpected difficulties opposed their prosperity. The soil was hard and cold, although in many parts rich and strong. They cut down the forests and cleared the fields, they were busy "breaking stubble," "ditching meddows," "splitting ye hills," and making roads. They struggled with rocks, and winds, and snow, and suffered from cold, the degrees of which there were no thermometers to mark. Portions of the town were infested with rattlesnakes, and as now there were various enemies to vegetation. A bounty of "Six Pence pr. hed" was voted by the town "for killing Rattel Snakes." In one year, nearly a quarter of a century after the incor-

poration of the town, Benjamin Richardson received eleven shillings as a bounty for killing twenty-eight rattlesnakes; and in 1740 the town paid in bounties forty-one pounds and three pence "for killing rattlesnakes, jays, red and gray squirrels, red-headed woodpeckers, and black birds," and even then there were "pits" for the capture of wolves.

The life of the town in the last century was primitive and rural. The cattle ran at large, and the office of "hog rieve" was no sinecure. In the town records are voluminous minutes of the special marks which each person adopted to distinguish his own cattle; and of the horses, cows, hogs, "hiffers," "steares," etc., which had "strayed" and were "taken up in damiag." The question annually came up whether "horses might go at large, being fettered and clogged as the law directs," and whether "hoggs" should "go at large, yoked and ringed as the law directs."

Even the best of the houses were devoid of architectural attractions, and of the conveniences and comforts which we regard essential. They are described as "small, low one-story buildings," with a "front room and kitchen," and in some cases an added bedroom. The hinges of the doors were of wood; there were no handles; and the wooden latch was raised by a "latch string" passing through a hole to the outside. The fire in the immense fire-places served to scorch one side, while the other was freezing. The hard necessities of frontier afforded little opportunity for adornment.

The people generally rode on horseback, the women often seated behind the men on pillions. In 1790 a lady, attended by her husband, rode from Leicester to Vermont on horseback, holding a child two years old in her arms. In 1733 there were four chairs in town. Daniel Henshaw's family came to Leicester in a chaise in 1748. In his account-book that year and onward there are charges for the use of a "chair." The rate from Leicester to Boston or Malden was three pounds. There was not a "buggy wagon" in town till 1810. Books were rare. Thomas Earle was repairing watches in 1768 and later. In Daniel Henshaw's account-book is a memorandum of his verbal agreement to "take care," for a year "of his watch when wanted, for one cord of wood." Watches, clocks and looking-glasses, however, were evidently rare. The hour-glass measured the hours, and "dinner-time" was indicated by the shadow at the "noon-mark" on the window-sill.

In 1722 the town voted that if Joseph Parsons would build a "corn-mill it should not be taxed." The mill was soon afterward erected at the outlet of "Town Meadow," where Sargent's brick factory now stands. The first saw-mill was built by Captain Samuel Green, at Greenville. He also, in 1724, built a grist-mill on the same stream, where Draper's grist-mill now stands. The "Mill lot" of Thomas Richardson also came, probably, into his possession, so that he became the owner of the original mill lots. The second saw-mill was built by Richard Southgate, in Cherry Valley, on the Auburn Road. William Earle had a grist-mill on "Hasley Brook" before 1730.

There was a carpenter here in 1717, and a few years later two other carpenters, a mason, a wheelwright and a tailor.

There was plenty of land, and land which had been secured at low rates. But, although the first distribution was on equitable terms, the equality of ownership did not long continue, and it came to pass, in the buying and selling of "rights," that some of the farms contained from twelve to fifteen hundred acres.

Even that early period of labor and struggle was not exempt from class distinctions and jealousies. Some of the families that came early to Leicester were in those days regarded as rich. Some were well-educated and refined. Coming thus from Boston, which had been settled a hundred years, their style of dress and their manners were doubtless somewhat in contrast with those of some of their neighbors. Soon after the family to which reference has already been made came to town, the congregation, one Sunday, was startled by the entrance of a man dressed in small-clothes, a green calamanco coat and gold-laced hat, and with a cavalry sword hanging at his side, which thumped against the floor as he strode to his seat. When asked, at the close of the service, the occasion of this remarkable display, he said, "It is to let the Henshaws know that there is a God in Israel."

In 1722, when there were hardly fifty families on the scattered farms in the wilderness, the Indians of Maine and Canada resumed hostilities. This war is called "Lovell's War," from its most tragic incident, "Lovell's fight," in which Colonel Lovell routed the savages, but lost his own life on the shore of the beautiful lake in Fryeburg, Maine, which bears his name.

There were no general engagements in this region, but the frontier towns were harassed and kept in fear four years by roving bands of Indians, who lurked in the woods waiting to shoot down or capture their unsuspecting victims. The tidings that Worcester was threatened, and that three men had been shot and scalped in Rutland, naturally alarmed the people of Leicester. Although there are no traditions of similar attacks here, the marks of bullets in the fortified King house remained for a century afterward. In a letter to Lieutenant-Governor Dummer, Thomas Newhall gives information that "a man reaping here, informs us an Indian had got within seven rods of him, and, looking up, he had a certain discovery of him; and stepping a few rods for his gun, he saw him no more, but hastened home."

Draper, also, in his "History of Spencer," informs us that "the earlier settlers of the town were frequently alarmed and disturbed by small parties or individual Indians prowling about the neighborhood, or through the town." Indians were also said to have been seen

in the woods southwest of Greenville; but they were deterred from making an attack by the fact of fortified houses in that neighborhood.

In 1722 two Worcester men were sent to Leicester as scouts. In the correspondence of those years there are affecting references to the sad, anxious and defenceless condition of the people. In an appeal for help from Worcester, in 1724, to Colonel John Chandler, of Woodstock, who had command of the defensive forces in this vicinity, there is this significant reference to Leicester: "As to Leicester, the people there more need help from us than are able to render us any." Colonel Chandler himself, in a letter to Lieutenant-Governor Dummer, seconding the request for protection, expresses his regret, in view of the disappointment of "the poor people of Worcester, Leicester," etc., in not receiving it, and pleads for "consideration of the distressed circumstances of the poor people of these towns." Soon after, twenty-nine soldiers were posted in Leicester.

The next April the Lieutenant-Governor gave Colonel Chandler notice of the approach of several parties of Indians from Canada, and ordered him to visit and warn the towns. The whole region was soon thrown into consternation by tidings that two companies of Indians were between them and "the Warchusetts," and the citizens of Leicester applied to the Lieutenant-Governor for speedy assistance of soldiers to defend them. "Our number of inhabitants," they write, "is very small, and several were much discouraged; it was so late last summer before we had soldiers that we were exceedingly behind with our business." That year the town was, by the General Court, released from the payment of the "Province tax" of seven pounds, on account, as the people in their petition say, "of being a frontier," and "being very much exposed and reduced to very low circumstances by the late Indian war."

The house of the minister was, at the first, surrounded by a "garrison" or stockade, and in 1726 this defense was, by vote of the town, repaired and strengthened. There was also a garrison on the place of Judge Menzes, the outlines of which, near the Henshaw place, remained till the middle of the present century. A house at Mannville was also fortified. The house of John King, between Leicester and Greenville, was made a fort. This house still stands, a solitary relic of those early times.

After its early trials and struggles, the town seems to have prospered generally as a farming community. Some of the early inhabitants were men of means, as well as of culture and standing, and other valuable families came into town. The farms greatly increased in value, and, with the building of better houses, the removal of the forests and the laying out and improvement of roads, the prosperity and comfort of the people were increased. Still, the growth of the place was slow, and there were repeated periods of great trial and depression. After forty years, there were less than one hundred families in the Eastern Precinct. At the time of the Declaration of Independence the population was ten hundred and seventy-eight. There was no increase during the war. At the opening of the present century the number was eleven hundred and three.

During a considerable portion of the last century the town, like other communities, suffered from the depreciation of the currency, and losses from State loans and private banking enterprises. These difficulties confronted the settlers almost at the first, and were increased by the heavy demands made necessary by successive wars; in the time of the Revolution paper-money depreciated so rapidly that it became necessary to rate its value every few weeks. It finally became worthless.

Even in these circumstances money was counterfeited, and in 1747 we find the town voting Mr. William Green the sum of "2 pounds towards the counterfeit bill he took as town treasurer."

The danger of small-pox at times called for town action. The question of establishing an inoculating hospital was evidently a subject of controversy. It was finally disposed of in 1777 (after being repeatedly deferred) by a vote "that the physician provide a hospital at his own cost, subject to the selectmen." September 17, 1792, the town "voted to have small-pox in town by inoculation."

At the March meeting in 1771 the town voted "that a list presented by the selectmen of the names of those persons who have come into town, and the place where they came from since June 1, 1767, be put on the town records, in order that posterity may know when and from whence they came, and that the selectmen be directed to present such a list at the town-meeting in March for the future." Such a list was presented every year; notices were recorded of persons who came to town until the year 1786; and as late as 1793 certificates were recorded of persons taken into houses and families.

On the afternoon of July 10, 1759, the town was visited by a remarkable cyclone. Two numbers of the *Boston Post* of that time are largely devoted to the details. It struck the tavern-house of Mr. Samuel Lynde, the last on the road to Spencer, passing from southwest to northeast. The house was lifted a considerable distance from its foundations, "and in the space of two minutes tore all to pieces." Several persons in the house were severely injured. "A little girl, being also at the Door, was carried by the Force of the Wind upwards of 40 rods, and had an arm broke." Four women were afterwards found in the cellar, "but could give no account how they got there." Articles from the house were found in Holden, ten miles distant, and "a watch was taken up above a mile from where the house stood." The barn and farm buildings were "torn to pieces," and a horse was killed. Trees were torn up by the roots, and fences broken down. A negro "standing at the

door of that House was carried near 10 Rods Distance in the Air," and was so much injured that he died; and "a Pile of Boards ('tis said 7,000 Feet), being near the house, was shivered to Splinters, and carried to a great Distance, so that there was not Pieces large enough to make a Coffin to bury the Negro in."

It is said that purchasers who drew lots on the Connecticut Road, near what is now the line between Leicester and Spencer, expected, as was natural, that this would be the centre of the town, with all the advantages of such a position. But favorable as that locality might have been as the site of a village, the basis of separation between the two parts was laid at the beginning, when the eastern half was selected for prior occupation. After disposing of the eastern portion, the proprietors divided the western half among themselves, and the farms began slowly to be taken up. Before 1725 there were only three families in this part of the town. The two sections were so far apart, and the circumstances of their early settlement were so unlike that their interests were never identical. There were differences with reference to laying out roads and the adjustment of appropriations; and the western portion was not satisfied to be without a minister, and desired to have the money raised by them for the ministry used for a minister in their part of the town. They also wished to be exempted from taxation for the schools, the advantage of which they did not enjoy. In 1741 the inhabitants petitioned to be "set off" as a town. The General Court readily passed an act of incorporation, but it was vetoed by Governor Shirley.

In 1744, July 18th, they were incorporated as a parish, and called "The Westerly Parish of Leicester." Five years later both precincts petitioned the General Court "to erect the west part of Leicester into a distinct and separate town." A bill of incorporation was passed, but it was vetoed by Lieutenant-Governor Phipps, on the ground that it would increase the number of representatives to the General Court. The House protested against the arbitrary action of the royal executive, but without effect. In April, 1753, the precinct was made a district, with all the prerogatives of a town except that of sending a representative to the General Assembly. The bill was signed by Lieutenant-Governor Spencer Phipps, April 12, 1753, and his honor condescended to have the town called after his own first name. In 1775, upon the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, the town assumed its right to send a representative to the Assembly, and in 1780 the right was made constitutional.

Upon the incorporation of Paxton, February, 1765, a strip of land two miles in width was set off to that town; and when Ward (now Auburn) was incorporated, April 10, 1778, the town parted with a small tract of land.

CHAPTER LXXXVIII.

LEICESTER—(*Continued.*)

FRENCH AND REVOLUTIONARY WARS.

Leicester in the French Wars—Louisbourg—Massacre of Fort William Henry—Quebec—Colonel William Henshaw—Revolutionary War—Leading Patriots—Town Meetings—"Instructions"—Committee of Correspondence—"Minute-men" proposed—Tea—Courts—Provincial Congress—Ammunition Stored—19th of April—Colonel William Henshaw's Orderly Books—Bunker Hill—Peter Salem—Provincial Congress—Suspected Persons—War Expenses—Soldiers—Leicester Men in the Service.

FRENCH WAR.—The history of the connection of Leicester with the wars of the last century shows how true it is that the life of a little settlement in the interior is identified in all its interests with the great movements of society and of nations. The people of Leicester had a somewhat prominent part in shaping, as well as in determining, some of the great issues which distinguished the last century. The convulsions of the old world, and the conflicts between the old world and the new, were felt on the hills of Leicester. While the people of the town were occupied with their arduous labors, and were struggling with the difficulties of a new country and of frontier life, they also accepted their full share of the service, and the burden of these exhausting wars in which the energies of the province were so largely engaged during the middle portion of the century.

The colonies loyally and heartily supported the mother country in the French wars from 1744 to 1763, and accepted with enthusiasm the hardships and sufferings of the several campaigns. They saw the perils to which their own settlements were exposed by the alliance of the French with the Indians, and comprehended, to some extent, the magnitude and importance of the great struggle between England and France for supremacy in America. "Our people," wrote Benjamin Henshaw, of Connecticut, "are *prodigiously spirited* to help in the work."

In the several expeditions and engagements of the war of 1744 many Leicester men took part. The earlier enlistment rolls are not to be found, and therefore the names of most of these men are unknown.

In 1745 the Legislature of Massachusetts planned an expedition for the reduction of the fortress at Louisbourg, on the island of Cape Breton. There are no means of knowing to what extent Leicester responded to this call. Captain John Brown commanded a company in the expedition, and was present at the surrender of the place. James Smith died in the expedition. Other Leicester men shared in the terrible hardships of the six weeks' investment of the fortress. The next year a French fleet was sent to recover the place, and to ravage the coast of New England. The approach of this fleet caused great alarm, and an attack on Boston was expected. In September Captain Nathaniel Green, "in his Majesty's service in Leicester," received and executed an order

from Colonel John Chandler for an immediate draft of twenty-five men, with ammunition and provision for fourteen days, to march for the defence of Boston. The fleet, however, was scattered by a storm, a pestilential fever broke out among the men, the whole expedition was given up, and the two admirals, in their chagrin, took their own lives. In the winter of 1747 and 1748 men were sent to Colraine, and to Fort Massachusetts, in Williamstown, for the protection of that region against Indian attacks; and others enlisted in the "Canada expedition."

In the French and Indian War, which broke out in 1754, still larger demands were made upon the town for soldiers. Leicester was represented by its soldiers, in the earlier campaigns of this war, under General Winslow, and at Crown Point. In 1756 fifteen men enlisted in the expedition against Crown Point. They were in the company of Captain John Stebbins, son of the early settler by that name, but then a resident of Spencer. In that year twenty men from Leicester joined the army, only two of whom were conscripts.

Thomas Newhall had command of a company of cavalry. Nathan Parsons, a native of Leicester, and son of the first minister, was present at the surrender and the "Massacre of Fort William Henry," as was also Knight Sprague, then a boy of 16 years. Governor Washburn, in his history, gives in detail Mr. Sprague's reminiscences of that terrible scene in which men and women were the victims of the wild and drunken fury of the savages. "Sprague escaped after being partially stripped, and made his way to Fort Edward. On the way he passed his captain, who had been entirely stripped and many women were in no better condition. The yells of the savages, the groans of the wounded and dying, the shrieks of the affrighted women and frantic soldiers, and the dead who lay scattered around them, made it a scene of unsurpassed horror. Fifteen of his own company of fifty were killed soon after leaving the fort."

In the final struggle of that war, in which Quebec was taken by General Wolfe, and Canada was wrested from the French, a large number of Leicester men participated. The names of twenty-three are given in Washburn's History. Dr. Thomas Steele, of Leicester, was surgeon's mate in the same campaign and there were probably other Leicester men.

It was at this time that Colonel William Henshaw began his distinguished military career. He received a commission as second lieutenant March 31, 1759, in Colonel Timothy Ruggles' regiment, in the company of Captain Jeduthan Baldwin, and served from May 10th to November 28th, in two campaigns.

He kept a diary of the daily experiences of these months, which is now in the possession of his granddaughter, Miss Harriet E. Henshaw, of Leicester. Marching orders were received on the 9th of May. "The Carriages to be loaded by Day Break to Morrow Morning, and all the Troops that have passed Muster to gett themselves ready to march to Morrow Morning by Sunrise." The troops were conveyed on horseback and in carriages. It was a journey of fourteen days through the forest and over "the mountains." They passed through the "Land of Contention," the disputed territory between the States, and, at length reached Albany, where they "drawed Tents and Provisions, and encamped on the Hill 100 rods from Albany City." They were stationed most of the time at Fort Edward and Crown Point.

"In the month of June," Lieutenant Henshaw writes, "I was taken from the Provincials and did duty in one of the British regiments under General Amherst, which afforded me opportunity of becoming acquainted with discipline." The severity and inhuman cruelty of the British "discipline" are evinced by such entries as the following: "Sentenced 200 lashes each;" "Two R. I. men whipped, One 1000 lashes, the other 500 lashes." While he was at Fort Edward, news was received of the taking of Ticonderoga, upon which the "other prisoners were pardoned." Here, also, the news of the taking of Quebec was received.

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.—In the preliminary stages of the Revolutionary struggle the town of Leicester acted a prominent and distinguished part. There were men here of unusual ability. Some of them were well educated, and many were trained for military service in the French wars. Several of the leading families were intimately associated with the Revolutionary leaders in Boston. Hon. Joseph Allen was a nephew of Samuel Adams. Adams, Warren, Otis and Hancock often met at the house of Joshua Henshaw, in Boston, before his removal to Leicester, to discuss and mature their plans. Other leading citizens were in the confidence of the Revolutionary leaders.

There was then no mail service, but early and confidential information was received by couriers on horseback, respecting the movements of the English and the plans of the patriots.

The records of the town show what a power the town-meeting was, in which, as the revenue commissioners of Boston complained, "the lowest mechanics discussed the most important points of government with the utmost freedom," and with what effect it unified and voiced the spirit of the people.

During all the years of British aggression, of the war, and the period which followed, in which the state and the federation were taking form, they came together in these meetings, in "the first meeting-house," and deliberated upon the great questions of principle and policy involved in the Declaration of Independence and the organization of government on the basis of personal liberty. From these town-meetings there issued manifestoes really statesmanlike in their grasp and expression.

The whole original township acted together until 1775. The people were truly loyal to the King until they saw that war was inevitable. Some of them, the Dennys, the Stebbingses, the Southgates and others, came directly from England to Leicester. The town had heartily responded in former wars to every call of the mother country. They approved the "Protestant succession" and were ready to hazard "their" lives in defence of "the person, crown and dignity" of the King; but they were equally ready to maintain their own rights and to resist every encroachment upon their own liberties at whatever cost.

Nearly ten years before the war began, the town, with the districts of Spencer and Paxton, adopted the practice of giving formal instructions to their Representatives to the General Assembly, and, from time to time, of passing resolutions representing their opinions upon public affairs.

In October, 1765, having elected Capt. John Brown Representative, they proceeded to give him formal instructions in "this critical juncture." The Stamp Act had been passed and was soon to be enforced, and Courts of Admiralty had been ordered for the trial of offenders without jury. The excitement occasioned by these acts had been so great that a mob had, in August, burnt the house of Lieut.-Gov. Hutchinson. With these facts fresh in mind, the town and districts gave extended and specific instructions to their Representative, in whose "ability and integrity" they confided. They declared their "inexpressible grief and concern" in view of the "repeated taxes," and especially the "Stamp Act," which they "had no voice in Parliament in making;" and expressed their alarm at the "unparalleled stretch given to admiralty jurisdiction," "by which every man is liable to be carried a thousand miles before a Court of Admiralty," "tried without jury," "amerced," "taxed with costs," and, if unable to pay, "to die in prison in an unknown land, without friends to bury him." They also expressed their disapproval of all "tumultuous ravages," and especially that "wherein our Lieut.-Gov. suffered," and their surprise that he should "charge the outrage to the province, thus representing them as an ungrateful and disloyal people."

In the summer of 1768 the colonies were aroused by new acts of oppression. The General Assembly of Massachusetts was dissolved by the Governor, and not allowed to meet again while it refused to withdraw an appeal to the other colonies. A sloop-of-war was anchored in Boston harbor, and troops were ordered to Boston to subdue the rebellious spirit of the people. In consequence of these proceedings the citizens of Boston called a conference of towns. Ninety-six towns responded. The call was issued September 14th, and five days afterward we find the citizens of Leicester in "the first meeting-house," called together hastily, and without due notice, to act upon the proposition. The proceedings of this meeting were legalized at the next March meeting, and thus recorded. Capt. John Brown was chosen delegate to the conference, "without any authority," and, in resolutions which breathe the spirit of fervent loyalty to the King and devotion to the English Constitution and the Magna Charta, and which yet declare the "dissolution of the 'General Court' a real grievance," instructed "to give his advice and use his influence that all rash measures be prevented, and every mild one adopted that may be consistent with Englishmen claiming their rights." The hour of rebellion had not yet come, but it was rapidly approaching.

In January, 1770, a meeting was called to "see if the town will come to any note or vote about the purchasing of goods of those that import from Great Britan, contrary to the agreement of the principal merchants in Boston and most others on the continent." A vote of thanks was passed to those merchants who were thus "sacrificing their own interest for the good of their country." The call for this meeting was prepared by William Henshaw, and was signed by twenty-eight persons. They asked the town to vote that those who should offend by purchasing the prescribed goods "shall be deemed enemies to America, and as such shall be recorded in the town's book of records," and the town appears to have adopted the proposal.

In May following, a military company of forty-six men was formed for drill. The next year the town bought one hundred pounds of powder, also bullets and flints.

In 1772 Committees of Correspondence were organized under the leadership of Samuel Adams. They proved to be one of the most effective agencies in advancing the Revolutionary cause. Two years later, Daniel Leonard, the Tory writer, pronounced them "the foulest, subtlest and most venemous serpent ever hatched from the egg of sedition. It is the source of the rebellion. I saw the small seed when it was planted; it was a grain of mustard. I have watched the plant till it has become a great tree." They were at first voluntary bodies, but were afterward recognized by the Legislature. The date and manner of the appointment of the committee in Leicester are not known. It was in existence and in correspondence with the Boston committee in January of 1773, within less than four months after the introduction of the system. Later the committee was chosen annually by the town.

Of the first committee William Henshaw was the chairman and Thomas Denny, Joseph Henshaw, Rev. Benjamin Conklin, Hezekiah Ward and Thomas Newhall were members, together with William Green, Samuel Green and Joseph Sargent, who were added the same year.

A convention of the Committees of Safety in the county assembled in Worcester in August, 1774. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Mr. Conklin, of Leicester, and William Henshaw was made clerk.

Joseph Henshaw and Thomas Denny were also prominent members. The Leicester and Worcester committees were appointed a committee for the county, to conduct correspondence, and call a county congressional convention. The convention was continued by adjournment till May 31, 1775.

It was in accordance with the recommendation of Col. William Henshaw in the convention, and upon his motion, that the famed companies of "Minute-Men" were organized, who in the emergency proved, as he in his motion expressed it, "ready to act at a minute's warning." He also presented the resolution in response to which six thousand men came to Worcester, armed and officered, and prevented the assembling of the Inferior Court. At this time Judge Steele, of Leicester, was compelled, with other justices, to sign an assurance that the court would stay proceedings. He was also forced to make a written apology for a letter of congratulation which he, with other justices, had sent to Gov. Gage upon his assumption of command at Boston.

Early in the year 1773 the town and districts again met to instruct their representative, Mr. Thomas Denny, and to pass resolutions. The meeting was "full," and continued till a late hour. "The votes were unanimous." These resolutions and instructions contain a brief but comprehensive statement of the wrongs, and a declaration of the rights of the province. They were still loyal to the crown, but they resolve, "We have a right to all the liberties and privileges of subjects born within the realm of England; and we esteem and prize them so highly, that we think it our duty to risk our lives and fortunes in defence thereof." Mr. Denny was re-elected in May, and again instructed.

The patriots of Boston were greatly encouraged by the response of the towns of the interior. Two weeks after the instructions had been given to Mr. Denny, the Boston Committee of Correspondence wrote to the committee in Leicester, acknowledging the receipt of a copy of the proceedings, and added, "We think it must supprize our Oppressors to read your very ingenious and sensible Resolves, and your Instructions to your worthy Representative."

To this letter the committee replied at length, through Colonel Henshaw: "We have paid, and are still willing to pay due obedience to laws,—made by our own consent,—and lawful authority; but he who tamely submits to 'the tyrannical Edicts of the British Parliament and Ministry,' is unworthy even of the name of 'an American.'"

In November, 1773, four days before the arrival in Boston of the vessels loaded with tea, the Boston committee, in a long letter on "that worst of plagues, the detested tea," wrote to know the sense the "towns have of the present gloomy situation of our public affairs." To this the Leicester committee replied in no doubtful terms, expressing obligation to the committee in Boston for their "vigilance," and for their "late proceedings and manly resolutions in regard to the detestable tea sent here by the West India Company," "and as you have requested our advice, we shall, as a committee, freely give it: and that is to go on as you have begun, and on no account suffer it to be landed, or pay one farthing of duty." This was two days before the tea was thrown overboard. Joshua Henshaw is understood to have been one of the "tea party."

On December 27 the town and districts responded. They were loyal still to the crown, and ready to hazard their lives in its defence, but they asserted their provincial rights of property and person, denounced the Stamp Act as "a usurpation of authority to which no power on earth is entitled, and contrary to the fundamental principles of our happy Constitution;" and promised to oppose, "at the hazard of their lives and fortunes," any impositions unconstitutionally laid upon imported articles.

They also resolved "That we will not use any tea in our families or suffer any to be consumed therein while loaded with a tribute contrary to our consent, and that whoever shall sell any of that destructive herb shall be deemed by us inimical to the rights of his country as endeavoring to counteract the designs of those who are zealous for its true interests." They enforced these proceedings by choosing a committee of fourteen to "inspect any teas sold or used in the towns and districts and report the names of offenders at the annual meeting."

The objection of the people to "that destructive herb" was not to the tea nor to the tax, but to its imposition by a government in which they had no representation, and in 1781 we find the town voting to license persons "to sell Bohea tea and other Indian teas, according to the law of 1781," imposing "excise duties."

One of the acts of the crown which awakened special alarm, and against which the people indignantly protested, was that which provided that the judges of the Superior Court should be paid out of the royal treasury. Chief Justice Oliver was the only judge who accepted this provision, and the House of Representatives took prompt measures for his impeachment. Upon the meeting of the court in Worcester in April, 1774, the grand jurors, instead of coming forward to be sworn, presented a written protest, refusing to serve if Justice Oliver was to sit with the court. This protest was drawn up by Col. Wm. Henshaw. "By his own confession," it declares, "he stands convicted, in the minds of the people, of a crime more heinous, in all probability, than any that might come before him." The chief justice, however, was not present, and the business of the court proceeded without interruption. In a subsequent letter to the court, a draft of which, as well as the original protest, is in the possession of his granddaughter, Col. Henshaw, after explanations and the expression of satisfaction at the course of the

judges, makes complaint of what he styles "a great hardship," and at that early day recommends the course which now universally prevails in the courts. The complaint was of "having a foreman imposed upon jurys by the Court, which we think ought to be chosen by the Jurors." The reason given is that "the Jurors who live in the vicinity are better acquainted with the abilities of their neighbors than the judges can be." "We hope," he writes, "that this error in appointing a Foreman will be soon rectified, & the power vested in the Jurys to choose their own foreman by a fair Vote, which we think would be of vast utility to the Public and for the facilitating business & saving expense to the County."

The year 1774 was one of agitation and preparation. Repeated acts of oppression were effectually exhausting the loyalty of the people to the mother country, and the spirit of resistance was growing more determined. Eighteen town-meetings were held this year, and repeated instructions and resolutions were voted, some of which rank with the ablest and most eloquent manifestoes of that period. They cover the whole range of questions involved in the struggle, and counsel the most determined resistance. In May they protested against the Port Bill. In July resolutions, prepared by a committee, were adopted, which clearly, comprehensively and eloquently discuss the issues of the hour, and declare the duty of citizens loyal, at the same time, to the Province and to the rightful authority of the Crown. It is a dignified and determined declaration of rights, by the town of Leicester and the districts of Spencer and Paxton assembled, "not tumultuously, riotously or seditiously, but soberly and seriously, as men, as citizens and as Christians, to take into our consideration the present distressed state of our affairs." They pledged themselves not to purchase goods imported from England, and to have no dealings with those who import such goods while the duty on tea is continued, unless "other measures of redress be recommended by General Congress." They also urge the people to "associate together, and discourse and inform themselves of their rights and privileges as men, as members of society and the English Constitution."

In September Thomas Denny was chosen Representative to the Great and General Court, which, driven from Boston, met the next month in Salem, and instructed to be sworn only by an officer appointed under the charter, and to refuse to be sworn by the Lieutenant-Governor. The Legislature was prorogued by the Governor, and immediately resolved itself into a Provincial Convention or Congress.

Mr. Denny was delegated to represent the town in this "convention" at its meeting the next month in Concord,—"An assembly," as they suggest in their instructions, "in which at this dark and difficult day, perhaps the most important business will come before you that was ever transacted since the settlement of North America." "Everything now conspires to prompt the full exertion of true policy, valor and intrepidity." The instructions are under ten "particulars." They urge, since "charters have become bubbles," resistance to all compromise, and "compliance with the advice of the Continental Congress." They urge an "endeavor to have the militia of the Province put on the most respectable footing, and that every town be supplied with one or more field pieces, properly mounted and furnished with ammunition. A militia composed of the yeomanry and proprietors of the country is its surest defence: therefore we esteem it a matter of the last necessity that they be properly disciplined and taught the arts of war with all expedition, as we know not how soon we may be called to action."

They demand restitution for the removal of arms and ammunition from Boston and Cambridge, and for loss and damage resulting from the blockade of Boston. They urge the encouragement of arts and manufactures, by granting premiums and preventing importation, recommend intercolonial correspondence and the apprehension and trial of persons "inimical to their country."

Mr. Denny died soon after the assembling of the Congress, and Col. Joseph Henshaw was chosen his successor. He was briefly instructed to promote with all his influence "any plan for the common good, generally adopted by the Congress," and urge upon it "an immediate assumption of government." "Particular matters will no doubt turn up in the course of the session, which, as we, your constituants, are not now apprized of, so cannot particularly instruct." This was January 9, 1775.

The anticipated "matters" were not far in the future. When they did "turn up" they found the people in this hot-bed of treason ready to convert their resolutions into actions. The standing company of the town was under the command of Capt. Thomas Newhall and Lieutenants Benjamin Richardson and Ebenezer Upham. An "independent company of volunteers," formed in 1770, had been reorganized, with Seth Washburn as captain and William Watson and Nathaniel Harrod as lieutenants.

The town had also made some provision for ammunition. The minute-men had met weekly for drill, under an officer of the regular army, whom they had hired.

In February the Committee of Safety and Supplies of the Provincial Congress decided to remove the powder stored at Concord to Leicester; also eight field-pieces, shot, cartridges and two brass mortars, with bombs. The letter of Joseph Henshaw to his brother, whom he styles "Brother Billy," gives minute directions with reference to the storing of the six or seven hogsheads of powder in the barns of Colonel Henshaw, Major Denny, Captain Newhall and Captain Green. It was afterward decided to distribute these stores in

nine towns, of which Leicester was one. In all the correspondence of these years the greatest secrecy was observed. The letters were often without signature, and often signed by fictitious names.

In March there were rumors of the movement of the British forces, and Colonel Henshaw and Joseph Allen walked to Worcester over the snow-drifts on "rackets" to ascertain their truth. It is said that at one time Mr. Allen had his knapsack and his trunk, with his wedding suit, packed, not knowing whether he should first be called to battle or to his marriage.

The scenes of the 19th of April, and indeed of the period which immediately followed, are graphically given by Governor Washburn in his history. Many of them were told him by the actors themselves, who have long been dead.

Early in the afternoon of the 19th of April an unknown horseman rode rapidly through the village, stopped long enough before the blacksmith's shop to say, "The war has begun; the regulars are marching to Concord," and then hurried on to alarm the towns beyond. "I saw," wrote Col. Wm. Henshaw, "the express that came from the town of Lexington, informing that the enemy had killed several men in that town." The blacksmith, who was Captain Seth Washburn, dropped a ploughshare on which he was working, rushed into the road and discharged his musket. The members of the companies were called together from all parts of the town. At four o'clock every minute-man was on the common. They were uniformed, but they came with their Queen's arms, and with their powder-horns and shot-pouches. Members of their families and other friends were assembled to render assistance and to bid them God speed."

Dr. Honeywood, an Englishman—the physican of the place—had never till that hour had confidence in the ability of the province to resist the power of Great Britain, but when he saw that little company of resolute, determined men, who had come at a moment's warning, some of them leaving their plows in the furrows, he said: "Such men as these will fight, and what is more they won't be beat."

The pastor of the church, Rev. Benjamin Conklin, himself a "high liberty man," was present, and before the company started, as the men leaned upon their muskets and all heads were uncovered, committed them, in prayer, to the guidance and protection of the God of battles. "Pray for me and I will fight for you," said the captain to his venerable mother, and then gave the order, "Forward!"

Within three hours after meeting on the Common, the company marched. They halted in front of the house of Nathan Sargent, in Cherry Valley, and Mr. Sargent, to supply the need of the company, melted down the leaden weights of the family clock, and distributed the bullets to the company.

There were forty-three men in the company. Captain Thomas N. Newhall, with the standing company of the town, consisting of thirty-four men, marched a little later. Companies from Spencer and other western towns followed. The march of the companies was rapid till they reached Marlborough, where they heard of the retreat of the British. Lights were burning in every window on the way through the night. Regimental officers in town were equally prompt in joining their commands.

A part of the company returned after a few weeks' service. Others enlisted under Captain Washburn for eight months. There were fifty-nine men in this company, most of them from Leicester. The embargo of Boston and its occupation by the regulars rendered it necessary to call upon the towns to contribute for the support of its poor. Thirty-six were apportioned to Leicester. In May Leicester was also required to furnish one barrel of powder and twelve muskets for the use of the province.

Colonel William Henshaw, who reached Cambridge on the forenoon of the 20th, was a member of the council of war, and, with Colonel Gridley and Richard Devans, reconnoitred the heights of Cambridge and Charlestown. The report of the committee is signed by Colonel Henshaw, as chairman. It recommended the fortification of Bunker Hill and the construction of redoubts between Charlestown and Cambridge. Colonel Prescott was detailed to execute this plan, but decided to fortify Breed's Hill, instead of Bunker Hill. On the 27th of June Colonel Henshaw was commissioned adjutant-general of the Provincial army, under General W. Ward. Upon the arrival of Washington, he was, on the 3d of July, superseded by General Gates, adjutant of the American army. He was, however, persuaded to remain as assistant of General Gates. The Orderly Books, in four volumes, covering the period from April, 1775, to October, 1776, are in the possession of his granddaughter, Miss Harriet E. Henshaw, of Leicester, and are an invaluable treasure. The first volume was published by the Massachusetts Historical Society, as its centennial volume. It contains the roster of the regiments, the "Parole" and "Countersign" for each day, the "Officer of the day" and "Field-officer" and the general orders from April 20, 1775, to September 26th of the same year.

On the day of the battle of Bunker Hill, Captain Washburn's company, which formed a part of the regiment of General Artemas Ward, in command of Lieutenant-Colonel Jonathan Ward, marched from Cambridge, by way of Lechmere Point, and took position at the rail-fence, "gallantly covering the retreat." It was to them a thrilling hour. They saw the hurried movement of the troops, they heard the beat of drums, the roar of British artillery and "the cracking of musketry over in Charlestown." Just before marching, Captain Washburn addressed his company in words of counsel and encouragement and committed them to God in a fervent prayer. "Some of them often spoke," says Washburn in his history, "in their old age, of the unfaltering confidence with

which, after this, they went through the experiences of the day." On their way to Charlestown Neck, they were met by a man on horseback, supposed to be Dr. Benjamin Church, afterward proved to be a traitor, who inquired of Lieutenant-Colonel Ward to what point he was marching. He answered, "To the hill." "Have you not had counter-orders?" "I have not." "You will have soon," he said, and commanded the regiment to halt. Most of the regiment therefore remained behind; but Captain Washburn stepped forward and said, "Those are Tory orders; I sha'n't obey them. Who will follow me?" The entire company followed the captain, and two other companies with them left the regiment and moved on toward the scene of action, exposed to the shot of the British fleet; the captain gave any who might be afraid the privilege of going back. Not a man of that brave company left the ranks. "Then we'll all go together," said the captain; and the whole company started on "double quick" and ascended the hill. Charlestown was on fire and the enemy were advancing on the redoubt. A ball lodged in the cartouch-box of the captain. The company for a time fought at the rail-fence, but were soon obliged to retreat. Several of the company were wounded and borne from the field under fire. One of the two strands of Daniel Hubbard's cue was cut off close to his head by a ball. Abner Livermore's canteen was shot away and rolled toward the enemy. His brother Isaac ran and secured it, saying, "I'll be darned if the regulars shall have that rum." Samuel Sargent lost the contents of his canteen, but saved the ball that pierced it. Four balls passed through the captain's coat and one through his wig. Israel Green, a native of Leicester, had three sons in the battle, one of whom was killed, the second died of wounds received, and a third was killed in the battle of Monmouth.

Among the soldiers in this battle was Peter Salem, a negro, and formerly a slave. He was a native of Framingham, and in Colonel Nixon's regiment. It was the shot from his musket which killed Major Pitcairn, just as he mounted the redoubt and shouted, "The day is ours." After the war he came to Leicester, where he remained until, in his old age and poverty, he was taken to the poor-house in Framingham, where he died.

In July of this year the inhabitants of Leicester, having chosen Hezekiah Ward Representative to the Provincial Congress, instructed him with reference to his duties. "To this important now," they say, "posterity will look back with joy and admiration, secure in the enjoyment of their inestimable liberties, or with keenest sensations of grief, while they drag the galling chain of servitude." He was directed to comply with the orders of the Continental Congress, to oppose the accession to power of those who had proved inimical to their country, or had failed to give it their support, "waiting the tide of events;" to watch "with jealous yet candid eye the disposition and motions of the American army, always remembering the importance of preserving the superiority of the civil power over the military;" to urge the execution of the laws against immorality and vice; and to act for the interest of the cause in relation to other specific matters.

In May, 1776, instructions were given to Seth Washburn, as Representative to the General Court, urging the utmost deliberation and caution in the measures of the court for protection and organization. At the same meeting it was "Voted by the inhabitants then present, unanimously, That in case the Honorable the Continental Congress should declare these Colonies independent of Great Britain, they would support said Congress in effectuating such a measure at the risk of their lives and fortunes."

With this declaration this remarkable series of instructions and resolutions ends. They cover a period of nearly eleven years previous to the Declaration of Independence. There is hardly a question involved in the controversy with the mother country, or the policy of the colonies, which they do not discuss. In clearness and breadth of view, in forethought and wisdom, in felicity and eloquence of expression, and in fervent, self-sacrificing, courageous, invincible patriotism, they are hardly surpassed, even in the historic productions of that period. Bancroft, in his history, quotes from them, as illustrative of the spirit of the time.

But the time for manifestoes had now passed; the time for action had come. Henceforth the work of the town, as its records also show, was enlisting soldiers, raising bounties, hiring soldiers, providing for the purchase of ammunition and entrenching tools, and the pay for carting provisions, buying beef and clothing for the army, aiding companies that had done more than their share of service, authorizing the selectmen "to supply the necessities of life to soldiers," abating the poll-taxes of soldiers, caring for soldiers' wives, providing for families of officers and soldiers and fixing the prices of commodities. There was no authorized government and all difficulties were settled by arbitration.

The people were also careful to guard themselves against treachery. Too many of the leaders of the Revolutionary movements were here to render the toleration of spies safe, and the people were too much in earnest to bear patiently the opposition of men "inimical" to the cause. In 1774 the selectmen, through Colonel Henshaw, had informed at least one suspected man that his "residedence" would be "peculiarly disgustful to the Inhabitants." "And as well-wishers of the peace and order of the town, we think it advisable that you move from hence as soon as may be; as the people, roused with the insults they have already sustained, will, in all probability, pay you a visit less respectful than the Intimation you now receive." Three years later Colonel Henshaw was instructed, by vote of the town, to "procure what

evidence he may be able of the inimical Disposition of any inhabitent of this town toward the United States of America, which inhabitent may be so voted to be, in the opinion of the town." One such man was at that time voted, in the opinion of the town, "inimically disposed." In July of the next year it was "Voted that the selectmen be directed to prefer a petition to General Court, that William Manning and family may be removed from this town."

When the Declaration of Independence had been adopted it was, in accordance with the direction of the Council, copied on the town records.

These minutes are full of interest and instruction. They show the true character of the people and the power of their deliberation and united action. Lord Germaine did not speak without provocation when he said, "This is what comes of their wretched old town-meetings."

According to a report made to the town in 1784, the town paid in bounties, from 1775 to that time, £9268 6*s*. (probably equivalent to about $11,000 in coin) to 244 soldiers. It is estimated that the town raised for the expenses of the war over $18,000, in addition to State taxes. There were twenty-eight requisitions upon the town for soldiers. These were filled by more than 254 men. Beside these were the men who marched on the 19th of April and at least thirty who enlisted for three years in 1777 and 1778. Some of these soldiers were veterans of the French wars; others were boys of sixteen years.

It is to be remembered that the population of the town in 1776 was only 1078, and that it decreased during the war. There were in Leicester in 1777 only 212 men over sixteen years of age, and the names on the muster-roll were less than half the number of enlistments and re-enlistments in the quotas of the town. The valuation of the town seven years after the close of the war was only $140,000.

In 1781 the town was divided into ten classes, which were each to furnish their proportion of soldiers upon requisition of the government. So exhaustive was the demand that it was necessary to hire substitutes from other places to meet it. The town was repeatedly under the necessity of electing new selectmen and assessors, on account of the absence of the regular incumbents in the army. Women worked in the fields, because all the male members of their families were in the war, and farmers sold their cattle to raise money for the payment of taxes.

The number of commissioned officers from Leicester was large, in proportion to the size of the town. Col. William Henshaw, to whom we have already referred, was in command of a regiment in the battle of Long Island. He was with a picket-guard which was cut off from the main body by a superior force of Hessians, and cut its way through with great gallantry and little loss of life.

Col. Seth Washburn was fifty-two years old when the war began. He was in the battle of Bunker Hill, and afterward, though not in the army, was muster-master for Worcester County and served the cause on several important committees.

Col. Samuel Denny marched as lieutenant-colonel with the minute-men, on the 19th of April, and served as colonel during the early part of the war.

Dr. John Honeywood was surgeon and died in the service at Fort Ticonderoga.

Dr. Israel Green was at Saratoga when Burgoyne was taken.

Dr. Austin Flint enlisted, at the age of seventeen, as a soldier and was present at the taking of Burgoyne. He was afterward surgeon.

Lieut.-Col. Joseph Henshaw marched with the minute-men. He afterward served on important committees, conferring with other States.

Capt. David Henshaw was in the service three years.

Capt. John Southgate, Capt. William Todd and Lieut. William Crossman were also in the service.

Lieut. Nathan Craig was at the battles of Bunker Hill and Saratoga.

Lieutenant Joseph Washburn was at the battles of Saratoga and Monmouth, and also at Valley Forge. Captain Thomas Newhall was in command of the standing company on the 19th of April, and was muster-master for Worcester County. Captain John Holden served through the war, and was present at the storming of Stony Point. Captain John Brown commanded a company in the French War, and was in the battle of Bunker Hill as a sergeant. Rev. Benjamin Conklin was probably a chaplain.

Joseph Bass, of the "water service," who resided in Leicester after the war, was one of the heroes of what Irving, in his "Life of Washington," calls the "gallant little exploit" on the Hudson, the attempted "destruction of the ships which had so long been domineering over its waters," by means of fire-ships. Washburn, in his history, gives an extended narrative of the affair. Bass had charge of one of the sloops, the "Polly," which was supplied with inflammable materials, and which, under heavy fire of artillery, he fastened to the tender of one of the frigates, setting it on fire and destroying it with most of the men on board. Bass, with all his men, leaped into the life-boat, and rowed away without injury. The frigates escaped, but were prudently withdrawn from so dangerous a locality.

Solomon Parsons was severely wounded in the battle of Monmouth. He was shot, his thigh was broken, and afterwards, as he lay upon the ground, he was robbed, stabbed and roughly dragged about by the enemy, and narrowly escaped being run over by cavalry and artillery. He lay all the afternoon of that terribly hot day, in the sun, until he was rescued by Lieutenant Joseph Washburn.

These facts and figures give but a faint idea of the

burdens and sufferings of the people in the gloomy period of the Revolution, and the strain upon their resources and fortitude. They did not flinch when the time came to test the sincerity and value of their resolutions. They well redeemed the pledge to maintain the cause of independence at "the risk of their lives and fortunes."

CHAPTER LXXXIX.

LEICESTER—(*Continued.*)

State Constitution: Objections, Adoption—Jealousy of Rights—Shays' Insurrection: Causes, Convention, High Feeling, Dispersion of the Insurgents, Captain Day, Oath of Allegiance—Fine for Non-Representation in the General Court—Slavery in Leicester—"Instructions"—Jews: Aaron Lopez—Rivera Letter to Colonel Henshaw.

Soon after the Declaration of Independence measures were taken for the organization of a Constitutional State Government. These movements were, however, regarded premature and ill-advised. In October, 1776, the town voted that the House of Representatives of this State ought not to institute any new form of government at present, and chose a committee "to show the court why the town objects to settling a new constitution." Some of these objections stated were that there was no provision for amendment, that the town was not fully represented, that they were not allowed a Representative, and "that a number of the first principal inhabitants" were "in the service." The Constitution first formed was rejected by the people.

In 1779 the town voted unanimously to send two men—Seth Washburn and William Henshaw—"to frame a Constitution of Massachusetts." These gentlemen were prominent in the convention. The Constitution was the next year approved by the town, article by article, by a large majority.

Struggling against the oppression of the mother country, the people were equally jealous of any encroachments upon their rights by the government they were seeking to organize and establish. In their various resolutions and other acts in the later years of the last century there is evidence of their determination to secure a government "of the people, by the people and for the people." They protested against "monopolies." In 1777 they earnestly condemned the act of the General Court, calling in bills of credit and sinking them in a loan, as "cruel and oppressive" and "grinding the faces of the poor." In January of the next year they raised twelve hundred pounds and loaned to the State. In 1787 they instructed their representative, Samuel Denny, to oppose the excessive tax on farmers and on polls; also to oppose high salaries, as in present circumstances it was not well to "support courtly dignity." They expressed themselves as opposed to the "support of commerce," so "as to prevent their giving due encouragement to our own manufactures." The location of the Legislature appears to have been a subject much agitated, and at the same time the town declared "the setting of the General Government in the town of Boston is a Matter which the Citizens of this Commonwealth are not generally satisfied with," and advised that its removal to some other place be tried by "experience."

The eight years' struggle of the Revolution had hardly ended when the State was threatened with a formidable civil war. It was the natural reaction from the long-continued strain upon the endurance of the people. They had been taxed to their utmost limit; all interests had suffered; the people were impoverished; the currency had depreciated and finally became valueless; the State had no credit; the condition of the Government and of the community was one of bankruptcy; and thousands of suits were brought before the courts, and forced sales were numerous. Some of the acts of the Legislature were regarded as oppressive. General conventions were held in the county to confer with reference to these complaints. Two of these were in Leicester. The presence of wise and loyal men like David Henshaw and Col. Thomas Denny was a check upon rash action. When at length the dissatisfaction developed into insurrection, under the leadership of Daniel Shays, the town withdrew its delegates. The excitement was intense and the sentiments of the people were divided, some sympathizing with the insurgents and joining their ranks. As in the War of the Roses the parties had their distinctive badges, the insurgents a green sprig and the supporters of the Government a white fillet of paper. The Rev. Benjamin Conklin, loyal to the nation and the commonwealth as in the days of the Revolution, was repeatedly forced to leave his home and hide himself to escape seizure by the insurgents in the night.

The same loyal leadership and the same patient devotion to the government which were conspicuous in the Revolution, held the town to a wise and patriotic course. Every man in town over twenty years of age was by vote required to take an oath of allegiance to the State, and the list of those who thus complied was to be reported at town-meeting.

The excitement and peril of the rebellion culminated in Worcester, in December, 1786, in an attempt of the insurgent army to prevent the opening of the court. The house of Mr. Joseph Allen, then residing in Worcester, was guarded by a sentinel, who opposed him with a fixed bayonet to prevent him from going to court. Seth Washburn seized the guard and wrested his musket from him. Lincoln, in his "History of Worcester," states that Justice Seth Washburn himself was also met by the guard, and that two friends who "seized the gun presented to his breast" were arrested and detained in custody.

On the memorable 8th of December, the day in which Shays and his army retreated from Worcester

in a snow storm of such severity and cold so intense that many of his men were overcome and some were frozen to death, Luke Day, one of the insurgent captains, reached Leicester with one hundred and fifty men, but was prevented by the storm from joining the main body at Worcester. Scant courtesy did the rebels receive from the sturdy patriots of that day. When this same Day, on his way from Worcester to Springfield on a cold winter day, entered the house of Nathan Sargent and made free to warm himself by the fire and ostentatiously announced himself as Capt. Day, he soon found himself, with hat and sword preceding him, floundering in the snow-drift outside. Several Leicester men participated in the march through drifting snow and were present on the 3d of February when the insurgents, upon the approach of the State forces to their rendezvous at Petersham, fled without the firing of a gun, so completely discomfited that, as Lincoln in his "History of Worcester" expresses it, "had an army dropped from the clouds upon the hill the consternation could not have been greater." Dr. Austin Flint was one of the number, having, as he said, volunteered "to help drive the Mobites out."

During all the later years of the century persons who engaged in trade or kept public-houses were required to take a stringent oath of allegiance to the republic.

For many years the salaries of representatives to the "Great and General Court" were paid by the several towns. The town in 1789 was fined for not sending a representative; and in a memorial, an ancient copy of which is before the writer, the town petitioned to have the fine remitted. The memorial bears date of May 10, 1790, and is strikingly illustrative of the straits into which the people had been placed. They were still in debt for money borrowed to be loaned "to the Commonwealth" and for the payment of "soldiers," and for the erection of a "House of Public Worship," and they were "at a greater expense than most towns for repairing their roads owing to their hills being wet and rocky."

Slavery has never existed under the Constitution of the State of Massachusetts. There were slaves in the Province till the time of the Revolution, but the Constitution adopted in 1780 declared the right of "all men to enjoy and defend their lives and liberties." The number of slaves in Leicester was small; still they were here; Titus and Cain, and Cæsar, and Quashi, and Prymus, and Pompey, and Will, and Pegg, and Jenny, and Dinah, and Prince, and Jethro, the last person buried in the burying-yard by the church; but they were treated as wards rather than as slaves. They lived, and worked, and ate with the families, in some cases were paid wages, and in repeated instances were set free. Mr. Ralph Earle not only freed his slave Sharp, but also gave him in 1756 a farm of thirty acres. But slavery, even in its mildest form, was discordant with the spirit of a freedom-loving people. In 1773 the town gave expression to its views on the subject in instructions to its Representative, Mr. Thomas Denny: "And as we have the highest regard for (so as even to revere the name of) liberty, we cannot behold but with the greatest abhorrence any of our fellow-creatures in a state of slavery."

An interesting episode in the history of the town was the settlement here, in 1777, of a colony of Jews. Mr. Aaron Lopez, who was carrying on an extensive business in Newport, R. I., that year removed to Leicester, Newport being then in the possession of British troops; with him came several other Jewish families. There were about seventy persons in all, twelve of them being slaves. He built, on the part of the present Common now owned by the Academy, a house in the central room of which he "kept store," in which, in the words of H. G. Henshaw, Esq., he "carried on a successful trafic in Bohea and Gunpowder teas, serges, calamancos,," and doubtless a variety of other articles. Mr. Rivera had a store on the site of the hotel. "They were too patriotic to refuse in payment for their commodities Continental bills, the currency of the times; but felt rather scrupulous about holding such treacherous paper over the Sabbath, and were careful to pass it off to the farmers in exchange for neat stock or grain." They were strict in the observance of Jewish law. They carefully observed the seventh day, and also refrained from business on Sunday. A child having incautiously tasted of pork, at a neighbor's house, was treated with an emetic, by way of purification.

Mr. Lopez was a man of high character and standing, courteous and affable in manner, of extensive commercial knowledge and strict integrity in business, hospitable and benevolent. His style of living was for those days elegant. His stock in trade at the time of his death was valued at $12,000, and his estate at $100,000. Abraham Mendez and Jacob Reed Rivera were other prominent members of the colony, and carried on business, though on a smaller scale. On the 20th of May, 1782, Mr. Lopez, while on his way, in a sulky, to Providence, accompanied by his family in a carriage, was drowned before their eyes at Smithfield, R. I., in Smith Pond, into which he had driven to water his horse. At the close of the war the company returned to Newport, followed by the respect and regard of the people, with whom they had found a hospitable and congenial home. After their departure a friendly correspondence was maintained and probably an interchange of visits. One of the letters remains. It was written by Mr. Rivera to Col. Henshaw, in a clear and beautiful hand, and the whole style and spirit of the letter are indicative of the intelligence and high character of the writer, and of his appreciation of the friendship of the people of Leicester, and of the value of our national institutions. "I am happy," he writes, "to find my countrymen (the Spanish nation) begin to divest themselves from bigotry, ignorance and indolence, and adopt in

their room learning, liberty and liberality of sentiments in religious matters. That system, with propper encouragements to arts and sciences, make no doubt, will, in time, enable them to arrive to that state of perfection that will class them with all other civilized and enlightened nations, and enrich that impoverished nation, and I am confident to say. great advantages will derive to that nation in particular, and the whole world in general, from the American Revolution."

CHAPTER XC.

LEICESTER—(*Continued*).

ECCLESIASTICAL.

The First Church: First Meeting-House, Rev. David Parsons, Controversy with the Town, Rev. David Goddard, Whitefield and Edwards, Rev. Joseph Roberts, Rev. Benjamin Conklin, Dr. Moore, Dr. Nelson, Later Pastors, Second Meeting-House, Present Meeting-House, Church Music, Bible Reading, Sunday-School Parish. Friends' Meeting: Origin, Meeting House, Second House, Asa Swift, Intelligence, Anti-Slavery, Mulberry Grove School. Greenville Baptist Church: Church in Sutton, Pastors, Dr. Thomas Green, Other Pastors, Sunday-School, One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary. Second Congregational Church: Organization, Pastors, Christ Church, Rochdale, Methodist Episcopal Church, Cherry Valley, Centre, Wesleyan Methodist Church, Roman Catholic Church, St. Thomas' Church, Cherry Valley.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—The records of the First Congregational Church previous to the settlement of the Rev. Zephaniah Swift Moore, in 1798, are lost, with the exception of a few detached pages. The exact date of organization is unknown. The town was incorporated in 1714, and the farms purchased by the settlers began to be occupied soon afterward. It is not probable that church privileges in some form, and church organization were long neglected. A meeting-house had been built in 1719. It stood on the Common, nearly in front of the present church. It was a small and very plain, rude structure. It had a door in front and one on each end. It was clap-boarded, but not painted. It was without a porch, belfry, gallery or pews. The windows were small and lighted with diamond-shaped glass. It was sealed to "the great girt," but probably not overhead. Like all the churches of the time, it was without heating apparatus of any kind. Later, individuals built in it their own pews on the "pew ground" or "pew spots." There were comfortless "body" seats, the women sitting on the west side and the men on the east. Galleries were added about 1728. Repairs and modifications were made from time to time, by the addition of pews, placing seats in the galleries, adding in 1743 twelve feet on the back side, putting on a new "ruff," moving the pulpit to the back side, re-covering the house with "the old clap-boards taken off the back side," putting up steps, and in 1754 a sounding-board. In this house the people from all parts of the town came together to worship God. In it they held their town-meetings and all other public gatherings, and it was here that they earnestly, courageously, eloquently and with statesman-like ability and forethought enunciated the principles of liberty on which our republic was founded.

The first town action with reference to the settlement of a pastor appears to have been taken November 28, 1720, when it was voted that Mr. David Parsons be our Gospel minister. Two days later a call was sent him by a committee. In this letter they write, "Rev'd Sir, we with one heart and consent Do call and Invite you to be our Minister in the Work of the Gospel amongst us, if you see Cause to accept and see your way clear to remove; but alas if we reflect back upon ourselves, we can't but see we are utterly unworthy of so great a Blessing; but if you have such a Blessing to bestow on us, as we hope you will be, we desire forever to praise his name for his Goodness to us ward." He was to "have the forty-acre lot next the Meeting House," and "rights," "as other forty-acre lots," and a salary of sixty pounds, and sixty pounds settlement. As he hesitated to accept on these terms, thirty individuals agreed to add to the amount, so that the salary should be seventy-five pounds, and the settlement one hundred pounds.

Rev. David Parsons was born in Northampton in 1680, graduated from Harvard College in 1705, pastor of the church in Malden twelve years, where he had a church quarrel and lawsuit with the town; installed at Leicester in 1721, dismissed March 6, 1735, and died in Leicester, where he was buried October 12, 1743. Whitney, in his "History of Worcester County," gives the date of his installation as, "by the best accounts now to be had, September 15, 1721," but the town records indicate that he was already pastor early in the year. The town, "reduced to low circumstances by reason of the Indian War," soon found it difficult to comply with the conditions of settlement, and petitioned the Legislature for aid, which was granted to the amount of ten pounds. But the salary continued to be in arrears and Mr. Parsons appealed to the Legislature, and the town was notified to show cause. This was the beginning of a quarrel which lasted for sixteen years. Within six years the town, which had regarded itself "unworthy of so great a blessing," voted "that the town be willing that Mr. Parsons should remove, and remain out of this town." The town strenuously endeavored for years "to be relieved from Mr. Parsons' bondage," but in those days such an endeavor was attended with insurmountable difficulties. Memorials were made by the parties to the Legislature, complaints to the Quarter Sessions and appeals to the General Court. Those who were conscientiously opposed to Mr. Parsons were released by act of the Legislature from his support upon six months' notice, on condition of providing "an able orthodox minister, generally to dispense the Word of God among them," or attendance and taxation in

some neighboring congregation. The General Court passed an act releasing the town from Mr. Parsons' support, but the act was vetoed by Governor Belcher. "Six Worcester gentlemen came as mediators," but were unsuccessful. There were differences among the people and changes of town action in relation to the subject. Successive councils were called, one of which sat four days in Watertown, and adjourned to Boston, where it was continued four days longer. The result of this council reproves Mr. Parsons for "any rashness in his words, and hastiness in his actions," and shows that he had been arbitrary, had called the meetings of his opposers a "Mob," had assumed power not belonging to "a pastor according to the constitution of these churches;" that he, with "rash and injurious" expressions, had ordered the deacon "out of his seat," and had recognized the minority, composed of his friends, as the church, and received members into the church without due authority. But they judged, "as a former council did," that he had been "shamefully treated with respect to his support," and deprived of his "just and full title to lands in Leicester." The communion service had been withheld from his use and that of the church. "They had opposed his going into the pulpit on the Lord's Day," and "set up another in opposition to him," and had withdrawn from public worship to "private assembling." "The like was never done in this land before." He was at length dismissed by a mutual council. This controversy with the town, however, continued and he provided that his grave should not be with that of his people, but in his own grounds. The stone stood for many years near the Paxton Road; it for a time was lost, but at length was found in the house upon the place, used as the floor of the oven. It has now found a resting-place in the church building, together with that of Mrs. Parsons.

More than a year intervened before the settlement of the next pastor. In December a fast was appointed "in order to make choice of a minister." The Rev. David Goddard was the choice of the people. He was born in Framingham, September 26, 1706; graduated at Harvard in 1731; ordained June 30, 1736; and died January 19, 1754, at Framingham of "the great sickness," in that region, of which in the town of Holliston, fifty-four out of a population of four hundred died in six weeks. He was a man of devoted piety, morbidly conscientious, sympathized with the people in their financial straits, and was in full sympathy with the great religious movements of his time. In the afternoon of October 15, 1740, Rev. George Whitefield preached in Leicester, and in January, 1742, Rev. Jonathan Edwards, of Northampton, spent several weeks here in evangelistic labor. In connection with this work there were evidently some extravagances. Dr. Hall, of Sutton, while preaching here, was disturbed by "a woman somewhat troublesome," "frequent in fainting fits." Mr. Parsons, however, like Mr. Edwards, was judicious and cautious, and discountenanced all excesses; and his ministry was fruitful in spiritual results.

The Rev. Joseph Roberts, the third pastor, was born in Boston in 1720, and graduated from Harvard College in 1741. He was ordained October 23, 1754. His avaricious disposition soon occasioned dissatisfaction, and he was dismissed by council, December 14, 1762. He removed to Weston, where he was an active patriot, and was a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1779. Engaging in business, he lost, and refusing to pay the debts of the company, was in prison, as a debtor, three years. He became a misanthrope and a miser, and lived like a beggar. He died April 30, 1811, at the age of ninety-one. After his death bags of money were found in his house, the bags so rotten as to burst when lifted.

His successor was Rev. Benjamin Conklin, who was born in Southold, L. I.; graduated from Princeton in 1755 and installed November 23, 1763. He was dismissed, on account of failing health, June 30, 1794, and died in Leicester, January 30, 1798. Dr. Moore, in the church records, gives his age as sixty-six years and six weeks. The inscription on his grave-stone is, "aged 65 years." He was a prominent adviser and actor in the Revolutionary struggle, a member of the Committee of Correspondence, and supposed to have been at one time a chaplain in the army. He was respected and beloved by his people, and the record of his patriotism, in the struggle with England and in the Shays' insurrection, adds lustre to the annals of the town. It is related of him that when asked if he would preach in the pulpit of a distinguished Unitarian minister, his answer was, "Yes, I would preach on Mars Hill if I could get a chance."

Rev. Zephaniah Swift Moore, D.D., was ordained January 10, 1798. He was born in Palmer, November 20, 1770; graduated from Dartmouth College in 1793; and was dismissed October 8, 1811; made prefessor of languages in Dartmouth College in 1811; president of Williams College in 1815; and of Amherst in 1821. He left a permanent influence upon the church and the town. He was a man of marked intellectual power and literary culture. His style was clear, simple and persuasive. When he was called to Dartmouth College, his people regarded his appointment as little less than robbery. When he left town they accompanied him in carriages, and the children stood, with uncovered heads, in long lines on each side of the way while he passed.

Professor William Tyler, D.D., of Amherst College, describes him as "a man of medium size, but commanding presence, weighing some two hundred and forty pounds, yet without any appearance of obesity, neat in his dress, retaining the use of short breeches and long hose, which were particularly becoming to his person. In his manners there was a union of suavity with dignity, rare anywhere, especially in persons bred in the country, which marked

him as a gentleman of the old school, one of nature's noblemen, and which, while it attracted the love of his pupils, invariably commanded also their respect." Rev. Dr. Thomas Snell, of North Brookfield, in his funeral sermon characterizes him as "by nature a great man, by grace a good man, and by the providence of God a useful man, a correct thinker and a lucid writer, a sound theologian, instructive preacher and greatly beloved pastor, a wise counselor and sympathizing friend, and a friend and father especially to all the young men of the infant college in which he was at the same time a winning teacher and a firm presiding officer."

Rev. John Nelson, D.D., was the sixth pastor of the church. He was born in Hopkinton, Mass., May 9, 1786. He was graduated from Williams College in 1807, and studied theology with Rev. Samuel Austin, D.D., of Worcester. He remained pastor of the church till his death, December 6, 1871, a period of fifty-nine years, nine months and two days.

It is said that there were twelve hundred sleighs on and around the Common on the day of ordination, and that there were three thousand people assembled, only a portion of whom could, of course, enter the church. It was during the ministry of Dr. Nelson that the church had its principal growth, there being at the time of his settlement only sixty-five members. He was an interesting and animated preacher, a favorite in the surrounding churches, and honored and beloved by his own people. He received the degree of D.D. from Williams College, in 1843, was a trustee of that college from 1826 to 1833, and of Amherst College from 1839 to 1848. He was a trustee of Leicester Academy from 1812 to his death, in 1871, and president from 1834. He was for many years a corporate member of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. He was chaplain of the local regiment of militia sixteen years from 1812. He was often appointed to preach on public occasions, and was personally identified with the great moral and religious movements of his time. "Dr. Nelson descended from a strong, intelligent and pious ancestry. He early became a Christian, and united with the church. He was profoundly reverential and consecrated in spirit. He was preeminently judicious and considerate in action, and singularly broad and catholic in his moral and religious judgments. Forgetful of self, he was always thoughtful of the happiness of others. Nurtured in a genial and happy home, inured to labor and hardship in his struggles for an education, brought while in college into the atmosphere of a great religious awakening and intense missionary zeal, and actively associated with the great moral and religious movements of his time, he was trained and fitted for the ministry which he accomplished. His qualities were of the enduring kind. He loved his people and he loved his work. He was pastor of the church for nearly sixty years, and his loving, pure and gentle spirit won for him the lasting respect and affection of his people, and of all who knew him."[1]

The fiftieth anniversary of his settlement and marriage was celebrated May 6, 1862. His sermon was from Job 32: 7: "I said days should speak; and multitude of years should teach wisdom." Governor Washburn presided at the after-dinner exercises, and addresses were made by several clergymen. Rev. George Blagden, D.D., presided at the golden wedding. The occasion was as interesting as it was rare.

In consequence of failing health it became necessary for Dr. Nelson to have assistance in the pastoral office, and on the 4th of March, 1851, the Rev. Andrew C. Dennison was ordained as his assistant. He was born in Hampton, Conn., June 27, 1822; was graduated from Yale College in 1847, and from Union Theological Seminary in 1850. He was dismissed in March, 1856, and afterward settled at West Chester and Portland, Conn. He is now pastor of the Congregational Church in Middlefield, Conn.

Rev. Amos H. Coolidge, the present pastor of the church, was born in Sherborn, Mass., August 17, 1827, graduated from Amherst College in 1853 and from Andover Theological Seminary in 1856. He was ordained April 21, 1857. The day was made memorable by one of the most remarkable snow-storms of modern times. Eighteen inches of snow fell, and the furious winds blew it into drifts which made the roads impassable. Only about one hundred persons attended the services, and but a small fraction of the council was present. The sermon was by Rev. Prof. Austin Phelps, D.D., of Andover Theological Seminary.

The second meeting-house was built in 1784, a little in the rear of the old site. The pulpit was in front octagonal. It had over it a sounding-board, and just below, the "deacons' seat." There were galleries on three sides of the house, which, with the pulpit and deacons' seat, were painted to resemble shaded marble. The pews were square, and each seat was hung upon hinges. In prayer-time they were turned up and their united fall as the congregation resumed their seats justified the fears of the Philadelphian, unused to such an amen, in his movement to escape from the house. A belfry and steeple were added afterward, and in 1826 the building was moved back to the location of the present church building. In 1829 the interior was entirely renovated. A bell and a clock, made by George Holbrook, of Brookfield, were placed on it January 13, 1803. The bell was re-cast in 1810 and again in 1834, and about the year 1834 Joshua Clapp, Esq., presented the town with a clock. The first organ was purchased in 1827, the second in 1844 and the third in 1867. The house was first warmed by fires about the year 1821.

The present meeting-house was dedicated Novem-

[1] Proceedings of the Worcester Society of Antiquity, 1887.

ber 13, 1867. In 1888 the interior was changed by the removal of the organ-loft and galleries for the choir to the rear of the pulpit.

For more than sixty years the singing was purely congregational. The hymns were read by the deacon, and then sung line by line by the congregation. In 1780 a choir, by permission, occupied the front seat in the gallery. There was a short trial of sound between the deacon and the choir, in which the choir gained the permanent advantage, not, however, without greatly scandalizing some of the members, and causing them to leave the house.

Bible-reading formed no part of the service here in the last century. The first Bible thus used was published by Isaiah Thomas, and was presented to the society by Col. William Henshaw. It was read for the first time by Dr. Moore, May 4, 1800. The first action with reference to "a plan of Sunday-school" was taken May 3, 1819, and at first the schools were held in school-houses in different parts of the town. It is believed that before the year 1887 there had been but three regularly elected superintendents. The first was Deacon Joshua Murdock. Deacon Christopher C. Denny was elected in 1848, and Hon. Charles A. Denny April 6, 1862. He resigned after twenty-five years' service.

The parish was at first identified with the town, and its business transacted in the regular town-meeting till 1794. After this time those voters who had not withdrawn to other societies met after the regular town-meeting, on the same day, until February 9, 1833, when "The First Parish of Leicester" was organized.

FRIENDS' MEETING.[1]—Until about eighteen years after the incorporation of Leicester the people of the entire original township worshipped together on Strawberry Hill. A Society of Friends was then organized. It belonged to the "Yearly Meeting of Friends for New England," a body composed of several "Quarterly Meetings," each made up of minor "Monthly Meetings," which, in turn, embraced subordinate "Preparative Meetings," containing one or more "Meetings for Worship." The Meeting here was not only a Meeting for Worship, but a Preparative Meeting. "The Leicester Preparative Meeting" was at first a subordinate of the Smithfield, R. I., Monthly Meeting, but after the division of that Meeting in 1783, it became subordinate to the Uxbridge Monthly Meeting.

In 1732 Ralph Earle, his three sons—William, Robert and Benjamin—Thomas Smith, Daniel Hill, Nathaniel Potter and Joseph Potter declared themselves to the clerk of the town to be Friends and asked, on account of conscientious scruples, to be released from paying "any part of the tax for the Seport of the minister or ministers established by the Laws of the province." At the Smithfield Monthly Meeting, held January 29, 1739, according to the records, "Friends at Leicester make report to this meeting that they have agreed upon a Place for Building a Meeting-House at the Burying Place between Ralph Earle's and Nathaniel Potter's; and this meeting doth appoint Benjamin Earle, Nathaniel Potter, Thomas Smith and John Wells, all of said Leicester, to take Deed of the same; and Benjamin Earle, Thomas Smith and Nathaniel Potter are appointed to undertake for Building said House." The same meeting afterward contributed "four Pounds" toward its construction. The lot on which the house was built was a part of the farm which Robert Earle received from Ralph Earle, his father, with a small tract from the farm of Nathaniel Potter, located by the brook, and added in order that the horses of the worshippers, let loose to feed during the service, might have water. The land was conveyed to Samuel Thayer, of Mendon, Mass., on the 13th of August, 1739, and by him to the persons appointed by the Monthly Meeting on the 27th of December of the same year. It was "to go entire and without any division unto ye survivor and survivors of them, and to the heirs and assigns of ye survivors or survivor of them forever." The Uxbridge Monthly Meetings were held here three times in the year, and for a time the Smithfield November Quarterly Meeting. Washburn describes the house built at this time as "a low, one-story building, twenty by twenty-two feet." It was sold, removed and converted into a dwelling-house in 1791, and has since been destroyed.

The second meeting-house was built in 1791. It remained many years after the meetings were discontinued. Its location was secluded and singularly attractive. It was surrounded and shaded by ancient forest trees, and stood amid the graves of the worshippers of successive generations, some of them buried without reference to family relationship, and with graves marked simply by rough head-stones. It was of two stories, the upper floor being upon three sides a gallery, connected with the lower by an oblong opening in the centre. On a part of the lower floor were elevated seats for ministers, elders and overseers. The men were separated from the women by a partition, the upper part of which was hung on hinges so as to open and form one audience-room. The object of this partition was to separate the sexes at the business meetings, the women as well as the men holding a meeting of their own, the two being theoretically upon an equality. The house was taken down about twelve years ago.

In 1826, according to Washburn's history, the society had about one hundred and twenty members. This number was probably never exceeded. The last minister of the Gospel, recognized by the Yearly Meeting, who was a member of the Leicester Meeting,

[1] For most of the facts relating to the "Friends' Meeting," the writer is indebted to Dr. Pliny Earle. The history of the Baptist Church was written by Rev. H. E. Estes, D.D., and that of the Second Unitarian Church by Rev. S. May. The writer is indebted also to Rev. D. F. McGrath, the parish priest, for the facts relating to the Roman Catholic Church.

was Avis Swift, wife of Josiah Keene. She resided in Leicester from about 1812 to 1820. She was born in Nantucket, and was "a woman of much religious experience, of superior intellectual powers and of a large intelligence, and was greatly beloved by all who had the privilege of her acquaintance." She afterward lived in Lynn, where she died. In consequence of the removal of members from town, the society became reduced in numbers and the meetings were discontinued in 1853.

The Quakers, as the Friends are generally called, were averse to public life. They could not conscientiously take or administer an oath, and they were originally disposed to separate themselves as much as practicable from "the world's people." This disposition diminished with the lapse of years. Dr. Pliny Earle, to whom we are indebted for most of the facts of this history, truthfully says that "during the first quarter of the current century a no inconsiderable part of the most intelligent and highly cultivated society in the town was to be found among them." Early in the last century they in theory and practice renounced slavery. They were in this respect evidently in harmony with the sentiment of the people of the town, which found, as we have seen, an early and emphatic public expression. The Friends, however, were first to adopt the anti-slavery principle as one of the canons of their organization, and remained true to that principle in all the struggle.

In 1827, May 15th, a boarding and day school for young ladies was opened at the house of Pliny Earle, situated at the junction of Mulberry and Earle Streets, and continued till 1839. It was known as the "Mulberry Grove School," and was taught by Sarah Earle and her sisters Lucy and Eliza; the farm-house near being used for the recitation rooms. Sarah Earle was principal till her marriage, in 1832, when she was succeeded by Eliza. The French language and painting were taught; but it was professedly an English school, and the instruction was characterized by great thoroughness. The public examinations were in the Friends' meeting-house. At one of them Governor Emory Washburn, being present, remarked that he had often heard of the excellence of the school, but "the half had not been told."

GREENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH.—Some of the first settlers in Leicester were Baptists, and among them Dr. Thomas Green. He was dismissed from the First Baptist Church in Boston to aid in forming a church in Sutton in 1735. At least eight other persons residing in Leicester,—Thomas Richardson, Daniel Denny, Elisha Nevers, Martha Green, Joshua Nichols Abiathar Vinton, Bathsheba Nevers and Lydia Vinton—had been baptized in Sutton and Leicester by a Baptist minister, named John Converse, three years before. On the 28th of September, 1737, Dr. Green and Benjamin Marsh were ordained associate pastors of the church in Sutton, "and September 28, 1738, by mutual agreement, the brethren in Leicester became a church by themselves, and Green their pastor." ("Backus' History," vol. ii., page 31.)

Since its organization the pastors of the church have been Thomas Green, 1738–73; Benjamin Foster, D.D., 1776–82; Isaac Beall, 1783–88; Nathan Dana, 1794–97; Peter Rogers, 1803–13; Benjamin N. Harris, 1827–30; John Green, 1830–40; Moses Harrington, 1840–49; L. O. Lovell, 1856–58; H. C. Estes, 1860–62; N. B. Cooke, 1862–68; L. Holmes, 1869–76; J. Sawyer, 1876–77; J. W. Searle, 1877–81; A. W. Spaulding, 1882–86; H. C. Estes, D.D., 1886. Dr. Estes was graduated from Waterville College (now Colby University) in 1847.

Dr. Thomas Green was a man of great ability, prominence and influence. He was largely engaged in business and remarkably successful. He was a physician, eminent in his profession, with a practice that extended into neighboring States, and with many medical students under his instruction. And he was quite as distinguished and successful in his work of the ministry. After his death it was said of him in an English periodical that he had baptized not less than one thousand persons. The Rev. Isaac Backus, the historian of the Baptists in New England, visited him in 1756, held a meeting with his people, and the next day wrote the following words in his journal: "Oct. 19th. I can but admire how the doctor is able to get along as he does, having a great deal of farming business to manage, multitudes of sick to take care of, several apprentices to instruct in the art of physic, and a church to care for and watch over; yet in the midst of all he seems to keep religion uppermost—to have his mind bent upon divine things—and to be very bold in Christian conversation with all sorts of people."

His successor, Dr. Foster, was ordained October 23, 1776. In January of that year he had married Elizabeth, the youngest daughter of Dr. Green. He was a graduate of Yale College, and distinguished for his learning, faithfulness and successful work. Under his ministry the church was much enlarged and strengthened. He was the author of two learned works published while he preached in Leicester, and in recognition of the ability shown in another work published later, he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Brown University in 1792. After having been pastor of the First Baptist Church in New York ten years, he died there of yellow fever in 1798, at the age of forty-eight years.

Under the ministry of the Rev. John Green the church enjoyed much prosperity. In those ten years the additions were ninety-six, and the membership was increased to eighty, the largest in its history, though at one time in Dr. Forbes' ministry the number of members was seventy-six. The membership is now fifty-four.

When the church has been without a settled minister it has often had valuable stated supplies from ministers living in Worcester or elsewhere: Nathan

Price, 1799; Ebenezer Burt, 1802–3; Benjamin M. Hill, 1816–18; Luther Goddard, 1821; Ebenezer Burt, 1824–25; Otis Converse, 1850–51; John F. Burbank, 1852–53; N. Hervey, 1854–56.

Benjamin M. Hill was a distinguished man, not yet ordained when he preached in Leicester, but afterwards pastor in New Haven, Ct., and Troy, N.Y., nearly twenty years, then corresponding secretary of the American Baptist Home Mission Society twenty-three years, and widely known and honored as the Rev. Dr. Hill, who died in 1881.

In 1747 the church had a house of worship already built and occupied, which, with its grounds and the cemetery adjoining, two acres in extent, was the gift of Dr. Green, of whom, after his decease, the historian, Isaac Backus, said, "He was the main support of his society in temporals and spirituals all his days." That house was repaired in 1779 at a cost of three hundred and fifty pounds, and again it was repaired and enlarged in 1824; then, after it had been occupied more than a hundred and ten years, it was replaced by a new and attractive house, with organ, bell and clock, which was dedicated in 1860 and is now occupied.

The Sunday-school was commenced in 1821. At first it was held in the afternoon "after meetings." For several years its numbers were few, sometimes ten, sometimes twenty-five and, like most Sunday-schools of that time, it was suspended during the winter. But, in 1829 and 1830, it received a sudden and surprising impulse. In the latter year its number of scholars was increased to eighty, and in 1834 it rose to one hundred and sixty. Since then the school has numbered about one hundred—sometimes more, sometimes less.

On Friday, the 28th of September, 1888, the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the church, commemorative services were held, in which the Green family, descendants of the first pastor, took part; and an interesting feature of the exercises was the presentation of a fine brass tablet, which had been placed upon the wall by the Hon. Andrew H. Green, of New York, in memory of his distinguished ancestor, Dr. Thomas Green.

Second Congregational Society.—"In the autumn and winter of 1832–33," says Washburn, in his "History of Leicester," "several families in the town formed a Unitarian Religious Society." In April, 1833, sixteen gentlemen—among whom were Waldo Flint, Isaac Southgate, Joseph D. Sargent, John Whittemore, Dwight Bisco, Lyman Waite, Silas Gleason and Edward Flint—applied to be incorporated as "The Second Congregational Society in Leicester," and received incorporation on the 13th of said month. From that time forward regular services of worship were held in the old Town Hall, and in June, 1834, the society gave a unanimous call to Rev. Samuel May, of Boston, to become their minister, which he accepted. On the 12th of August following their new meeting-house was dedicated, when Rev. James Walker, of Charlestown, preached the sermon; and, on the following day, Mr. May was ordained by an ecclesiastical council, of which Rev. Dr. Aaron Bancroft, of Worcester, was moderator. The sermon of ordination was by Rev. F. W. P. Greenwood, of King's Chapel, Boston; the ordaining prayer by Dr. Bancroft; the charge by Rev. Dr. Charles Lowell, of Boston, and the right hand of fellowship by Rev. Samuel J. May, then of Brooklyn, Conn. A church of twelve members had already been gathered. The sermons of Rev. Messrs. Walker and Greenwood were printed in a neat pamphlet. Mr. May continued minister for twelve years, and in the summer of 1846 resigned the office. Since his time the changes in the ministry have been many; but the society has been sustained by an honorable devotedness on the part of its members, and the list of its ministers includes the names of men of eminent ability. Those whose terms were of two years or more duration were as follows: Rev. Frederick Hinckley, 1847–48; Rev. James Thompson, D.D., who had just closed a long and prosperous ministry in Barre, 1849–51; Rev. Wm. Coe, of Worcester, 1851–54; Rev. Joseph Angier, of Milton, 1855 and 1856; Rev. F. Macintyre, of Grafton, 1858–59; Rev. James Thurston, 1862–64; Rev. J. J. Putnam, of Worcester, 1864–65. In 1866 considerable changes were made in the interior of the meeting-house, on the completion of which Rev. Everett Finley became minister, February, 1867, and continued until his death, which occurred early in 1869. His body lies buried in Leicester, in Pine Grove Cemetery. In July, 1869, Rev. David H. Montgomery became minister, and so continued eight years. Rev. S. B. Weston followed. During his ministry a question arose as to the application of the trust fund left to the society by Isaac Southgate, Esq., which being, by mutual agreement, referred to arbitration, it was decided unanimously that the fund was not available in Mr. Weston's case. Mr. Weston received the decision with honorable good feeling, resigning his office in 1881. It was not until 1883 that the society were prepared to settle a minister; but in September of that year Rev. Lewis G. Wilson was ordained by an ecclesiastical council, of which Rev. Dr. A. A. Livermore, of Meadville, Penn., was moderator. Mr. Wilson continued two years. Rev. Rodney F. Johonnot was ordained in September, 1886, and his ministry continued until September, 1888.

Christ Church, Rochdale.—The fiftieth anniversary of Christ Church in Rochdale was celebrated July 4, 1873. The sermon of the rector, Rev. B. F. Cooley, preached on that occasion, gives the history of the church to that date. "Divine service, according to the Liturgy of the Protestant Episcopal Church, was performed for the first time in Leicester, Mass., and for the first time, it is believed, in Worcester County, on the sixth day of July, 1823." The

church owed its origin to Mrs. Ann Wilby, an English lady who came to Leicester in 1822. She was buried under her pew in the church in 1826. Her family, with that of Mr. James Anderton, were the only Episcopalians in town. Services were for some time held in the hall of Hezekiah Stone's tavern.

The church building was erected in 1824, first occupied on Easter Sunday, April 18, and consecrated May 26 by Right Rev. Alexander V. Griswold, D.D. Rev. Joseph Muenscher, D.D., became minister of the parish March 14, 1824. He resigned the cure March 10, 1827. He was also the village schoolteacher. He was born in Providence, R. I., December 21, 1798, and graduated from Brown University in 1821, and Andover Theological Seminary in 1825. His marriage to Ruth, daughter of Joseph Washburn, was the first solemnized in a church, according to the Episcopal form, in Worcester County. Among the positions afterwards held by him was that of Professor of Sacred Literature, and later, Instructor in Hebrew in the Episcopal Theological Seminary, Gambier, Ohio. He was succeeded by Rev. William Horton, D.D. Rev. Lot Jones became rector in June, 1827. He was afterwards rector of the Church of the Epiphany in New York. He died in Philadelphia in 1865, while in attendance upon the General Convention, in consequence of a fall upon the steps of St. Luke's Church. Rev. C. Millett became minister in 1833. He was afterwards rector of the parish in Beloit, Wis. In August, 1834, Rev. Henry Blackaller became rector. He resigned in the spring of 1838. He died June 21, 1862, at the age of sixty-nine. Rev. Eleazer A. Greenleaf immediately succeeded him, remaining one year. Rev. John T. Sabine was minister one year, beginning in 1839. He died March 15, 1851, aged sixty-one. Rev. William Withington became minister in February, 1840, and remained one year. He was succeeded for one year by Rev. Fernando C. Putnam. From 1842 to 1844 the church had no rector, but was under the missionary charge of Rev. Orange Clark, D.D., who also ministered to the churches in Hopkinton and Montague. This was a period of great depression, but the church was "saved from utter ruin by the occasional missionary services of Dr. Clark and a few staunch churchmen on the spot." Rev. James L. Scott became minister in October, 1845, being ordained to the deaconate and priesthood here, after acting as lay reader for nearly fourteen months. He retired in April, 1849. Rev. J. Hill Rowse was rector from June 10, 1849, until his death, July, 1870. During his absence of three years as chaplain in the army, Rev. William B. Colburn and Rev. R. S. Paine officiated.

Rev. B. F. Cooley, his successor, resigned October 1, 1875. Rev. S. R. Bailey followed in the autumn of the same year, and retired October 1, 1879. Rev. Thomas W. Nickerson came to the church February 8, 1880, and is still its minister, his rectorship being the longest in the history of the church, with the exception of that of Rev. Mr. Rowse.

Rev. Mr. Rowse was chaplain in the Foster General Hospital, in Newbern, N. C. He was in that city in September, 1864, when it was visited with yellow fever. Says Captain J. W. Denny, then in command of the Twenty-fifth Regiment, "We met Chaplain Rowse, a faithful, earnest chaplain among the soldiers; he looked worn out. He said he had buried thirteen soldiers that forenoon, and as many waited his offices. We said to him, 'Chaplain, you are not able to do this work; you look worn out, and ought to leave immediately in order to save your own life.' 'No,' replied the chaplain, 'I am sick and weary. Some one may be called upon to bury me next, but I must not leave these soldiers; if I must die, I will die at my post of duty.'"[1] He had the fever, but recovered.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—In the fall of 1842 a series of meetings, continuing eight weeks, was held in the town hall, under direction of Rev. Horace Moulton, of Oxford. In these services he was assisted by his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Moulton, a woman of great religious fervor and zeal.

As the result of these efforts, a Methodist Episcopal Church was organized October 15, 1844. The first minister of this church was Rev. William C. Clark.

In 1845, in consequence of differences of opinion with reference to the Episcopal mode of church administration, and the duty of the church in relation to slavery and temperance, the church was divided, and a Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized. The Methodist Episcopal Church then removed to Cherry Valley, and a house of worship was erected for it in 1846. The funds for building were subscribed by persons of different denominations, who recognized the need of religious services in Cherry Valley, and the control of the church was committed to trustees. It was stipulated in the compact that it was to be "a house of religious worship for the use of the ministers and members of, and the friends of, the Methodist Episcopal Church in said Leicester, according to the rules and discipline of said Church in the United States of America, except the First Calvinistic Congregational Church of said Leicester, or the Episcopalians of Cherry Valley, shall wish to occupy every other Sunday night for a third religious service, in which case they shall have the right."

This house was burned in February, 1856, and rebuilt by the trustees.

The appointments for the ministry of this church have been—Revs. George Dunbar, J. T. Pettel, George F. Pool, T. W. Lewis, D. Z. Kilgore, W. B. Olds, Daniel Atkins, G. E. Chapman, J. W. P. Jordan, Albert Gould, from 1859 to '60; W. F. Lacomb, from 1861 to '62, who enlisted as a member of

[1] Wearing the Blue in the Mass. Vol. Inf., p. 298.

the Forty-second Regiment; W. W. Colburn, from 1863 to '64; George Lewis, 1865; George F. Eaton, 1866 to '67; Charles H. Hanniford, 1868; Burtis Judd, 1869; J. B. Treadwell, 1870 to '71; A. Caldwell, 1872; N. Bemis, 1873 to '74; F. M. Miller, 1875 to '76; J. W. Fulton, 1877 to '79; W. A. Braman, 1880; W. N. Groome, 1881 to '82; W. E. Dwight, 1883; S. H. Noon, 1884 to '86; J. A. Mesler, 1887 to '88.

In 1867 a Methodist Episcopal Church was formed in the Centre, worshipping in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. This church continued to hold services and receive ministers appointed by the Conference for a few years, when it was merged in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Cherry Valley, the appointee of that church preaching at the Centre Sunday afternoons. The ministers have been Revs. Mr. Chase, Frederick M. Miller, L. P. Causey, Samuel F. Fuller, Eratus Burlingham and H. D. Weston.

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.—After the separation in 1845, those who objected to the Episcopacy, and the position of the Methodist Episcopal Church on the subject of slavery and temperance, organized themselves into a Wesleyan Methodist Church, March 1, 1845. The pastor, Rev. Wm. C. Clark, remained with this church, and, indeed, was the active agent in securing its organization. His successors were Rev. Messrs. Christopher C. Mason, David Mason, Simeon E. Pike, J. A. Gibson, Thomas Williams and Benjamin N. Bullock.

The house of worship on Pleasant Street was dedicated July 15, 1846. The services were entirely suspended in 1861.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.—The first Roman Catholic Church in town was St. Polycarp's, and was erected in 1854, half a mile east of Strawberry Hill. The corner-stone of the present church, St. Joseph's, was laid on the same site, September 1, 1867, Rev. Robert W. Brady, president of Holy Cross College, officiating. The church was dedicated January 2, 1870, Right Rev. John J. Williams, present Archbishop of Boston, officiating. The old church was taken down and moved to Rochdale during 1869, and was dedicated as St. Aloysius' Church. November 21st of the same year, Right Rev. John J. Williams officiating There was no resident pastor of the parish until August 1, 1880. The two churches were attended by the Jesuit Fathers from Holy Cross College, Worcester, in the following order: January, 1854, Rev. Peter Kroes; August, 1856, Rev. J. C. Moore, S. J.; August, 1857, Rev. P. M. Jolehi, S. J.; January, 1858, Rev. Eugene Veterneli; October, 1859, Rev. A. F. Ciampi, S. J.; August, 1861, Rev. J. B. Gafney, S. J.; January, 1864, Rev. J. B. O'Hagan, S. J.; August, 1864, Rev. Charles Kelly, S. J.; August, 1867, Rev. P. V. McDermott, S. J.; June, 1869, Rev. J. B. O'Hagan, S. J.; September, 1870, Rev. A. J. Ciampi, S. J.; January, 1871, Rev. Albert Peters, S. J.; August, 1872, Rev. W. F. Hamilton, S. J.; August, 1873, Rev. P. J. Blenkinsop, S. J. These clergymen were generally educated in Europe, as they were Jesuit Fathers and professors at the college. Some of them were men of eminent scholarship.

Rev. D. F. McGrath became the priest of the parish August 1, 1880. He was born in Milford, Mass., August 15, 1848; graduated from Holy Cross College in 1870, and from Grand Seminary, in Montreal, in 1873. When he came to the parish it was incumbered with a debt of six thousand five hundred dollars, which was increased to fourteen thousand five hundred dollars in remodeling and repairing the church, building a fine parsonage and by accompanying expenses. This was the amount of indebtedness January 1, 1884. By February 1, 1888, this debt was entirely paid, and all the parish property, including eighteen acres of land, is held free of indebtedness.

According to a census taken in January, 1888, by Father McGrath and his assistant, Father Kenney, there were in town three hundred and twelve Roman Catholic families, with a total of one thousand five hundred and thirty-six persons attached to St. Joseph's and St. Aloysius' Parishes.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH.—In the year 1873 the Rev. B. F. Cooley, rector of Christ Church, Rochdale, commenced service in the Methodist Church in Cherry Valley, on Sunday afternoons. These services were continued for several years by him and his successor, Rev. S. R. Bailey. The first service and also later services on week-days were held in the house of Mr. Cheney Barton, in which the Rev. H. Blackaller had held similar services more than thirty-five years before. The church was afterward made a mission of St. Matthew's Church, Worcester, which relation it still holds, although it has been self-supporting since 1886.

Rev. E. Osgood took charge, probably in the autumn of 1878, and continued until early in the year 1881. The Rev. Julius Waterberry was in charge from 1881 to 1882. He was a beautiful singer, a man of culture, of wide information, and pleasing and refined manners. He died in Boston, on Good Friday, 1882, and his memory is cherished with affection by the members of his charge. It was while he was connected with the church that "Shamrock Hall" began to be used as the place of worship.

He was succeeded by Rev. H. Hague, the present incumbent, who assumed charge on the first Sunday of August, 1882.

The church was built in 1884, and consecrated February 14, 1885, by Bishop W. R. Huntington, D.D., of Grace Church, New York. Since that time a pipe-organ has been placed in the church. The church contains five memorial windows, one of them in memory of Rev. Julius H. Waterberry.

The mission was first named "The House of Prayer," but in 1884 it was changed to "St. Thomas' Church."

CHAPTER XCI.

LEICESTER—(*Continued.*)

SCHOOLS.

First Town Action—Schoolmasters—School-houses—Town Fined—District System—Amount Raised for Schools—Districts Abolished—High School—Leicester Academy—Founding—Buildings—Teachers—Funds—Military—Reorganization—Centennial Anniversary.

ALTHOUGH in the original legislative title of the town provision was made for school-houses, no action appears to have been taken upon the subject till the last day of the year 1731. It was then voted "to choose a committee of three to provide a schoolmaster; and that the said committee agree with a man to keep school for three months, and no longer; and that the school be kept in three parts of the town, so as may be most for the conveniency of the inhabitants' children going to school." The sum of $8.75 was appropriated to meet the expense. He was to teach the children to "reed and wright." His own education, such as it was, must have been acquired without much help from teachers, as he probably came to town where there were no schools, when less than ten years of age. This provision was for the whole of Leicester and Spencer. The next year there was no school, and the town was called to account before the Quarter Sessions. The sum of $17.50 was appropriated the next winter, and after a delay of nearly a year, the same teacher was employed, and taught three months at $3.75 per month in the house of Mr. Jonathan Sargent, opposite the spot where the Catholic Church now stands. The next winter Mr. Lynde taught in three different places, one month in each place. "If the town employed him any more, they was to come to new tarms."

In 1736 the town "voted to build a school-house sixteen feet in width, twenty feet in length and six and a half feet between joynts; and that it be set in the north side of the meeting-house, about ten rods, in the most convenientest place." It is described by one who remembered it as "an old shell of a building."

The next school-house was built as early as 1672, where Sargent's brick factory now stands. Another school-house in the centre was built in 1791.

In 1736 the town was again presented before the Quarter Sessions for failing to provide a school, and fined £4 12*s*. The next year John Lynde taught school one month and Joshua Nichols ten days. The school-house was probably built in 1738. Its cost was $4,784. Mr. Samuel Coolidge taught the school in 1739 six months, at $1.32 per week. In 1742 the school was taught by John Gibbons through the year, in the four quarters of the town, "so as to have the remote ends of the town have some benefit of the same." In 1742 it was taught in six places by Mr. Adam Bullard. The amount expended for schools the next twenty years was on an average $133.33 per year. In 1765 the town voted to raise £120 to build five school-houses in the East, Southeast, Northwest, and Northeast Districts.

The school-houses were all completed in 1767. The amount assessed in each district was finally appropriated to its own school-house. This was the beginning of the "district system" in town, which continued until April, 1869, when it was annulled in accordance with the statute of the State.

"Schooling mistresses" were first employed in 1766. In 1774 the number of districts was increased to nine, and on April 15, 1776, the nine districts were officially defined, and the different families assigned to their respective districts, and thus recorded. Notwithstanding the heavy burdens of the Revolutionary War, when a proposition was made in town-meeting to suspend the schools, it was promptly voted down.

A "town" or high school was organized in 1856, of which Mr. C. S. Knight was the first teacher. For several years it was migratory, being held one term each year at the Centre Village, Clappville and Cherry Valley. It was permanently located at the Centre in 1859. In 1867 an arrangement was made by which it was combined with the Academy, and this union has been continued to the present time, with the exception of four years, during which the Academy was temporarily suspended. All the advantages of that institution are now open to the children of the town who are qualified to enter upon a high school course.

The annual amount raised by the town for schools at the close of the last century was $300. In 1850 it was $1,200. The appropriation for 1888 was $7,500.

LEICESTER ACADEMY.—Leicester Academy had its origin in the intelligent forethought and unselfish enterprise of its founders, Col. Ebenezer Crafts, of Sturbridge, and Col. Jacob Davis, of Charlton. They were public-spirited, patriotic men. They clearly saw that Christian education was essential to the success and perpetuity of those free institutions which had been won at such a cost. There was no academy in Central or Western Massachusetts, and the provision for general education was exceedingly meagre. Col. Crafts was a liberally educated man, graduated from Yale College in 1759. He was an ardent patriot, and marched to Cambridge at the first call to arms, with a company of cavalry which he had already organized. He also commanded a company of one hundred men under Gen. Lincoln, for the suppression of the Shays' Rebellion. After the close of the war he appears first to have conceived the idea of establishing in Worcester County a school for classical and English education. He interested in the undertaking Col. Davis, who had also been a soldier in the Revolution, and was a man of wealth and broad public spirit.

While they were considering the matter circumstances directed their attention to Leicester as a desirable location for such an institution. Upon the departure of the Jews, the store of Mr. Lopez, with

the land, was advertised for sale at auction as "a large, commodious double mansion, and a noted place for trade." There was one acre of land. It was, as nearly as can be ascertained, upon the original lot No. 1. It had been successively owned by John Stebbins, Rev. Joseph Roberts, Rev. Benjamin Conklin; the western half by Benjamin Fosgate, who built on it a small store about the year 1770; by Joseph Allen and Henry Bass. In 1777 Mr. Lopez added to the western half-acre a half-acre purchased of Mr. Conklin, and built upon it "the splendid mansion" now offered for sale.

Col. Crafts, watchful for opportunities to carry out his purpose, was at the sale. While there he conferred with his associates and decided to make the purchase, and the place was "bid off" to them for £515. It was deeded May 7, 1783, to Col. Crafts, Col. Davis and Asa Sprague, of Spencer, who soon afterward transferred his interest to Col. Crafts. Col. Crafts then addressed a petition to the Legislature for an act of incorporation, stating that a "large and commodious building, with about one acre of land," had been secured "with intent and design to promote the public benefit in the education of youth, as said buildings are exceedingly well calculated for an academy." He asked for an act similar to that relating to Andover, "whereby the same may be made respectable; whereby the advantages of education of youth may be promoted; whereby advantages may arise not only to the individuals, but to the public in general, and prove a blessing to our land of liberty."

The petition appropriately bears date of July 4, 1783. The petition was presented to the Legislature by Col. Seth Washburn, February 7, 1784. Final action was deferred until the sum of £1000 should be raised for the academy in addition to the real estate. There were then only one hundred and fifty families in town, and a population of about a thousand. They were impoverished by the war, but they came to the rescue in a spirit of noble generosity; and within seven weeks more than the required amount was raised, as stated in the *Spy*, "by the town of Leicester, and a few gentlemen of that and this place." The town appropriated £500; citizens of Leicester contributed £367; and the amount was raised by Judge Gill, of Princeton, and others to £1355. The act of incorporation was passed March 23, 1784. It was signed by John Hancock, Governor, and Samuel Adams, President of the Senate. The property was deeded to the trustees in May, 1784.

In May the trustees made provision for subscriptions through the selectmen of the several towns of the county for the institution. It "is devoutly hoped," they say, "that it will not be suffered to wither and decay, or, for want of nourishment, to be removed to some more fertile soil." Clergymen were also appealed to, and Rev. Joseph Buckingham, in his Thanksgiving Sermon that year, made an appeal for aid. Isaiah Thomas interested himself at once in the movement, and in November the *Spy* stated that "there would soon be opened at Leicester an Academy, for the purpose of promoting the sciences, &c.," and "the people of this large county" were "urged to exert themselves to second the endeavors of those gentlemen who have laid this generous and laudable plan of another channel for public education."

Dr. John Pierce, who came as assistant preceptor in 1793, describes this "mansion" as "an oblong, barrack-looking building." The rooms were about seven and a half feet in height. The southwest "parlor" was the school-room of the principal preceptor, and the southeast that of the English preceptor. The central front room was used as a dining and rhetorical hall, while the three rooms in the rear were used by the stewards. The southwest chamber was occupied by the two preceptors, who sometimes took a visiting friend as a third occupant of their bed. The other chambers were for students, who were at times crowded six and even eight in a room. There was on the roof a small cupola, with a bell, the gift of Mr. Thomas Stickney.

The meeting-house stood west of the academy. In the rear were the grave-yard and the training-field.

The first meeting of the trustees was held April 7, 1784. They moved in a body to the meeting-house, where public services were held. The Rev. Mr. Conklin preached a sermon from Proverbs 11: 25, and the Rev. Thaddeus Maccarty offered prayer. The trustees then partook of an "elegant repast," in "Commons Hall." Hon. Moses Gill, of Princeton, was elected president, Rev. Benjamin Conklin vice-president, Rev. Joseph Pope (of Spencer) secretary, Joseph Allen, Esq., treasurer, and Colonel Crafts "steward and butler." Committees were chosen to select teachers, and prepare to open the school "with all convenient speed."

Benjamin Stone, a native of Shrewsbury, a graduate of Harvard in 1776, was engaged as principal preceptor, at a salary of sixty pounds a year, afterwards raised to eighty-five pounds. He left in 1787, and was afterward preceptor of Westford Academy. He died in Shrewsbury in 1832, at the age of seventy-six. He was a well-qualified and faithful teacher, and always retained a deep interest in the academy. The school opened with three pupils,—Samuel C. Crafts, son of the founder; Ephraim Allen, of Sturbridge; and Samuel Swan, of Leicester, then six years of age. They were all graduated afterward at Harvard College. Mr. Crafts removed to Vermont, was a member of the first Constitutional Convention of that State, chief justice of the County Court, Representative and Senator to Congress and Governor of the State.

Mr. Allen became an eminent physician in Salem, N. Y., and Mr. Swan was established as a lawyer in Hubbardston. He was a valuable friend of the in-

stitution, and a contributor to its funds. Eli Whitney, of Westboro', inventor of the cotton-gin, entered the school soon after. Such was the quality of the first pupils in Leicester Academy.

The number rose to twenty before the close of the term. In the autumn term Thomas Payson was engaged as English preceptor, and the number of pupils was between seventy and eighty.

At the time of the next annual meeting of the trustees, July 4, 1785, "the youth of that seminary entertained a large and respectable audience with specimens of their literary improvements." Dramatic entertainments continued for many years to be given by the school, sometimes occupying the morning, afternoon and evening. They were held in the meeting-house, which was crowded to its fullest capacity, the people coming from all the surrounding towns. On one of these occasions a Congregational minister of the county played, behind the scenes, the bass viol accompaniment to the "Scolding Wife." "Colloquy," "Poem," "Dialogue," "Greek Oration," "Farce," "Greek Dialogue," "Comedy," the entire (Addison's) "Tragedy of Cato," "Latin Dialogue," "Description of a Mighty Good Man" and "Description of a Mighty Good Woman" are among the parts which appear on the programmes of these entertainments.

The exhibitions, from time to time, were subjects of action by the trustees, in the way of provision and limitation. In 1796 provision was made for examination by the trustees. In 1840 the custom was introduced of inviting some former member of the institution to deliver an address in connection with the anniversary exercises. A statement of Dr. Pierce illustrates the style and dignity of the instructors. "According to the custom of the times, I then wore a cocked, or three-cornered hat. My hair was queued with a ribbon half-way down my back. I had silver knee-buckles at my knees; my plated shoe-buckles covered more than half my insteps."

The range of studies was very varied. Students were fitted for college, while in the English department the lowest common branches were taught. Dr. James Jackson, English preceptor in 1796, says, "I believe all my pupils had learned the alphabet before I saw them. I taught spelling, reading, writing, English grammar and arithmetic, and perhaps, to a few of the pupils, some of the higher branches." The charge for tuition was one shilling per week for the classics, and nine pence for English branches.

The institution soon found itself embarrassed in its finances. The currency was depreciated. The Shays' Rebellion "threatened the country with civil war. The income of the funds was so reduced that it was necessary to dispense with the services of the principal preceptor. The "large and elegant house" soon proved inadequate and uncomfortable, and came to be looked upon, in the words of an early teacher, as "the old, rickety, inconvenient Jewish house," of which the seats were "old and crowded," and which was heated by an "old-fashioned box-stove," so that "teachers and students" were "infested and inflated with steam and smoke." Measures were taken as early as 1786 to rebuild, but there were no means, and the institution was forty pounds in debt. It was a gloomy period in the history of the infant academy. In the general depression the school had become greatly reduced in numbers. In this emergency the town again showed its intelligent appreciation of the value of the institution, and, notwithstanding the embarrassed condition of its own resources, appropriated fifty pounds toward the salary of the preceptor, who received, in addition, the amount of tuitions.

The trustees had already appealed to the churches for funds; they now turned to another source. It was at a time before moralists and Christian men had come to understand the true character and demoralizing tendency of the lottery system. The trustees obtained permission of the Legislature, and issued a lottery "for the repairing Leicester Academy and making additional buildings thereto."

The public were urged to purchase tickets on the ground that "the Academy at Leicester is established for promoting piety and virtue, and for the education of youths, etc." Rev. Mr. Conklin was one of a committee to ask the General Court for an extension of time and an increase of the amount from £600 to £1200; $1419.22 was thus raised for the academy. In 1792 the Legislature made a grant of a town in Maine to the academy, which, in a few years, added $9,200 to the funds of the institution. With the adoption of the Federal Constitution confidence and prosperity returned to the country, and the academy felt the reaction. In 1804 the funds had increased to $16,703.68.

After long delay and various changes of plan, the new building was begun in 1805. A half-acre of land east of the original lot had the year before been purchased of Mr. Dall, of Boston, for seven hundred dollars. Still further addition of land was made by gift and later by purchase of Dr. Austin Flint. The architect of the new building was Rand White, of Leicester, who received as remuneration $9.84.

The corner-stone was laid on the 14th of May with much ceremony. A procession, consisting of "Artificers," the corner-stone drawn by seventeen horses, a band of music, the president of the board, the building committee, and trustees, magistrates, selectmen of Leicester, citizens and students of the academy moved through the streets to the place, the stone was laid by the master-builder and the object of the structure was stated by the president, who offered prayer.

The procession then passed into the meeting-house, where there were further exercises. The building was ready for occupancy in January, 1806. It was of three stories, with a cupola. It was dedicated on the 4th of July, 1806. Again a procession was formed on the Common, consisting of the band, students, preceptors and trustees, and moved from the old to the

new building, where the structure was received by the board, and the president, Dr. Sumner, delivered an address. At the church, whither the procession passed, prayer was offered by Dr. Sumner, and Dr. Aaron Bancroft delivered an address on the "Importance of Education." On both of the occasions described, Dr. Sumner, with great white wig and triangular cocked hat, was a conspicuous figure. The cost of the building was $9,054.36. It was built by the "job" in a very unsatisfactory manner. The foundations were not sufficiently firm and "settled," causing the building to be "racked and injured." It was hastily and unskillfully covered and finished, so that "the winds and storms of heaven" had free access. The subsequent expense and labor of repairs were fruitless, and after twenty-six years it gave place to the present structure.

Apparatus for the illustration of the sciences had already been purchased, consisting of globes, a telescope, microscope, electric machine, thermometer and surveying instruments.

It was at first understood that the principal was responsible for the management of the school, but it is evident that the two departments soon became quite distinct. Dr. James Jackson, who was English preceptor in 1796 and 1797, says, "The schools were conducted quite independently of each other," and that he believed that the principal "had no right to control 'him.' Certainly, he never did." In 1821, however, the trustees, to prevent all misunderstanding, declared the principal preceptor the authoritative head of both departments. The English teacher presided over his own school-room, with power to punish. One of the penalties was the imposition of fines; this, however, was, by vote of the trustees in 1834, prohibited, and at the same time expulsion was made subject to the approval of a committee of the trustees. For many years corporal punishment was resorted to in cases of discipline, and there are still traditions of severe inflictions and even of struggles in the school-room, and of guilty boys, in thoughtful mood and with sad apprehensions, accompanying the principal from the academy to the gloomy seclusion of his own barn.

The funds of the academy after the erection of the second school building in 1806 amounted to $8,992.21. In 1814 Captain Thomas Newhall left a legacy of $1,000, and $1,000 additional for the tuition of pupils in town residing over a mile from the academy. Small sums were afterward subscribed at different times, and the State gave land in Paxton, which had been held by an alien, and had "escheated" to the Commonwealth, which was sold for $400.

In 1823 "sundry individuals in the town of Leicester, procured by subscription a philosophical apparatus, and presented it to the academy, cost over $500." That year the academy received its first considerable legacy. Captain Israel Waters, of Charlton, "was," in the language of Governor Washburn, "the architect of his own fortune." He was born in Sutton. A poor boy, he pressed his way to wealth by his own industry, enterprise and determination. His business was the manufacture of leather, in the northerly part of Charlton. He made the academy his residuary legatee, and established the Waters Fund, "for the purpose of supporting an instructor, or instructors, of the Congregational Calvinistic order" "in the town of Leicester forever." The will provided, in case of the removal of the school from town, that the trustees in town should take the fund and use the interest for maintaining a public school, called the Waters School or Academy. If the time should come when there would be no such trustees, the selectmen were to fulfill the trust. The amount received from this estate was something over $8,000.

In 1831 the academy received $4,686.36 and also the avails of certain lands in Maine and Vermont from the estate of Hon. Isaiah Thomas, the distinguished Revolutionary patriot, original publisher of the Worcester *Spy*, and founder of the American Antiquarian Society; and the same year $250 by the will of Hon. Nathaniel Maccarty, of Worcester. In 1832 the value of the funds was $21,970.67. The building of the new academy in 1834, with the other expenses, reduced the amount, so that in 1844 it was only $13,611.72. The next year Hon. Daniel Waldo, of Worcester, for seventeen years a valuable member of the board of trustees, left the academy the sum of $6,000, to constitute the Waldo Fund, the interest of which was to be used for the "payment for able instruction in the various branches of knowledge, etc.'

It is, however, to James Smith, Esq., of Philadelphia, that the institution is most largely indebted for its endowment. He was born in Rutland, January 20, 1788, came to Leicester in 1810 a pale-faced, poor boy, all his worldly goods tied in a pocket handkerchief. First a clerk in the store of Colonel Thomas Denny, whose daughter Maria he married in 1815, he became his partner in the manufacture of card clothing. The foundations of his wealth were laid in the period of the last war with England. In 1826 he removed to Philadelphia, where he continued the same business. Some years ago, addressing the students of the academy, he said: "I early in life formed this determination, that I would be useful." That resolve was the key-note of his life.

He helped many who were in straits. He took especial pleasure in aiding young students, especially those who were fitting themselves for Christian work. He gave during his life, and in his will, liberal donations to various literary institutions. In 1852 he gave to the academy $10,000, on condition that $5000 additional should be raised. The condition was complied with, Honorable Stephen Salisbury and Joseph A. Denny, Esq., contributing $1000 each, Thomas Denny, Esq., of New York, J. Wiley Edmands, of Newton, Ichabod Washburn, of Worcester, and John A. Smith subscribing $500 each, and other individ-

ual sums varying from $100 to $5 each. In 1877 he placed in the hands of the trustees $15,000, to be added to the amount already given, thus making the Smith Fund $25,000. This fund became available in 1879, after his death.

Benjamin Stone was principal of the academy from June, 1784, to October, 1787; Amos Crosby from October, 1787, to July, 1788. He was a native of Brookfield and graduated at Harvard in 1786; afterward a lawyer in Brookfield. He is described as "a man of great quickness and ready wit and with convivial tastes and habits" which developed into dissipation. Samuel Sumner, son of Dr. Sumner, of Shrewsbury, was principal from October, 1788, to July, 1790, a graduate of Dartmouth in 1786, afterward a clergyman. David Smith from July, 1790, to May, 1792; a native of Ipswich, graduated from Harvard 1790; afterward a clergyman. Ebenezer Adams, after teaching one year in the English department, was principal from May, 1792, to July, 1806; born in Ipswich in 1765, graduated from Dartmouth in 1791. He is represented as one of the ablest, most beloved and most successful of the early principals of the Academy. He passed with the institution through its gloomy period of depression, into the dawn of its returning prosperity, and did much to shape its future character. From July, 1806, to October, 1807, Rev. Zephaniah Swift Moore discharged the duties of principal, while at the same time pastor of the church. Simeon Colton was principal from October, 1807, to February, 1809. Luther Willson from February, 1809, to August, 1812; born in New Braintree; graduated from Williams in 1807. Josiah Clark from March, 1812, to August, 1818; born in Northampton 1785; graduated from Williams in 1809; afterward pastor of the church in Rutland and many years a trustee. Bradford Sumner, one term, 1818 and 1819; graduated from Brown in 1808. John Richardson, from February, 1819, to August, 1833; born in Woburn, graduated from Harvard in 1813. He is remembered as a thorough disciplinarian, a good scholar and instructor. Luther Wright, from August, 1833, to August, 1839; born in East Hampton and graduated from Yale in 1822. He was a man of great vigor, a good scholar and effective teacher. Under his administration the school greatly increased in numbers. He was afterward principal of the Williston Academy, Easthampton.

In 1832 the second academy building was sold for four hundred dollars. The new building was erected on the site of the old. Mr. Elias Carter was the architect. It is of brick, three stories in height. It was one hundred and two feet in length, the centre forty-two feet by forty, and the wings thirty feet square. The east wing has in part been occupied by the principals and their families, and the west as a boarding-house. The upper rooms were for the associate preceptor and students. The building was completed and finished in the winter of 1833, and on the 25th of December was dedicated.

Addresses were made by Rev. George Allen on behalf of the trustees, and Mr. Luther Wright, the principal preceptor. The subject of Mr. Wright's address was "Education." It was published, together with a "Brief Sketch of the History of Leicester Academy," prepared under the direction of the building committee. The cost of the edifice was ten thousand dollars. Mr. Wright was principal for six years, with Mr. Joseph L. Partridge as assistant, and also Miss Elizabeth Holmes during the last four years. She was the first female teacher of the academy and held the position twelve years. During the period of Mr. Wright's administration the school greatly increased in numbers.

Joseph L. Partridge followed as principal from August, 1839, to November, 1845. In his time the number of pupils reached one hundred and seventy-five, which is believed to be the largest in its history. He was born in Hatfield in 1804 and graduated from Williams in 1828. He has been on the board of trustees for fourteen years, and, residing in Brooklyn, N. Y., is still, at the age of eighty-four, a regular attendant upon its meetings and an active and valuable member.

Josiah Clark, Jr., born in Leicester in 1814 and graduated from Yale in 1823, was principal from January, 1846, to January, 1849, when he became principal of Williston Seminary. The academy at this time held high rank as a fitting-school. "I am sure," says Hon. W. W. Rice of Mr. Clark, in his centennial address, "that he might have been the great master, but Leicester let him go." "He was an accomplished scholar, courteous in manner, but decided in principle, with a clear head, a large heart and a beautiful spirit."

The English department was also conducted with marked ability for ten years, from 1834, by Luther Haven. Burritt A. Smith was principal from July, 1849, to August, 1852.

From August, 1852, to June, 1860, Alvan Hyde Washburn was principal. He was a man of high character, excellent scholarship and refined taste. He afterward became an Episcopal clergyman. He was killed in the fearful railroad accident at Ashtabula, Ohio, December 29, 1876, not a vestige remaining to mark his identity.

After the large increase of funds in 1852, extensive alterations and improvements were made in the building, at a cost of about forty-two hundred dollars. The main building above the school-rooms was converted into a large and attractive audience-room, and named Smith Hall.

In this hall are hung portraits of benefactors and trustees of the institution. The re-dedication took place October 26, 1853. Hon. Thomas Kinnicutt spoke for the trustees, and Mr. Washburn, the principal, delivered an address upon "Old and New Methods," which was published.

The town in 1856 organized a high school under

the requirements of the State law, and other schools of the same nature were multiplied in the vicinity. As the number of pupils in the academy became reduced, the school was closed at the end of the summer term of 1860, and remained suspended till January, 1862, when it was re-opened, with ten pupils, under William B. Phillips, a graduate of Brown University in 1856. In April the term opened with forty pupils, and H. G. Merriam was engaged as teacher in the English department.

Mr. Phillips left at the end of the year, and John Avery had charge of the school one term. He was born in Conway, and graduated from Amherst in 1861. He was an eminent linguist, Oriental scholar and author, and afterward was professor in Iowa College and Bowdoin College.

Henry G. Merriam, after teaching in the English department a year, was made principal in May, 1863, and resigned June, 1865. He was graduated from Brown University in 1857. In 1862 the boys of the school were organized into a military company, and afterward into a battalion. Mr. Merriam, a thorough disciplinarian and teacher, conducted the school with ability and energy, and under his administration the numbers increased to about one hundred, and all the rooms for students were crowded. It was in the time of the war, and the military training met a popular need. Company, battalion and skirmish drill became important features in the daily exercise of the pupils and prominent attractions in the public examinations. The effect of this training appeared in the erect bearing and grace of the "Leicester Cadets." They were received with favor when they appeared in Worcester on parade and drill. The government, on recommendation of the academy, readily gave commissions to a number of young men, and they went immediately into active service. In 1863 a proposition to make the school a State military academy was taken into consideration; and on the 2d day of August a State Commission visited the school, and expressed much gratification with the proficiency of the military training. The Hon. Edward Everett was chairman of the commission, and addressed the pupils in his peculiarly felicitous and eloquent manner.

George W. Waite, of the class of 1861 at Amherst, was principal from August, 1865, to April, 1867, and Wm. C. Peckham, class of 1867, Amherst, from June, 1867, to June, 1868. Darius P. Sackett, a graduate of Yale 1866, was principal preceptor from August, 1868, to March, 1871. His administration raised the school to a high rank in discipline, scholarship and general character, not far surpassed in the previous history of the academy. He is now principal of the Sackett School, in Oakland, Cal. Charles A. Wetmore succeeded him, in March, 1871. He was born in Norwich, N. Y., November 8, 1843, and graduated from Hamilton College in 1869. He was an enthusiastic and inspiring teacher, entirely devoted to his work, although a great sufferer from asthma the last year of his life. In the summer of 1874 he went to Jefferson, N. H., for his health, where he died suddenly July 6th. James O. Averill, of the class of 1870, at Amherst, was principal one year, from August, 1874, and D. Newton Putney, three years, from August, 1875.

In 1867 the meeting-house of the First Church was purchased and removed to its present position, in the rear of the academy. The upper part was converted into rooms for students and the lower into a gymnasium.

In the summer of 1878 the school was again suspended, in order that the funds might accumulate sufficiently to warrant extensive repairs and better provisions for its work. These improvements were made at a cost of six thousand one hundred dollars. The school-rooms were finished in ash; the laboratory was reconstructed and fitted for practical use for students in chemistry and zöology; and a new, convenient and attractive hall was finished in the east wing for cabinets and the department of physics. It is named "Murdock Hall," in honor of Mr. Joseph Murdock, at whose expense the work was done, and who has furnished it with a telescope, sets of globes, charts and other facilities and adornments. He has also refinished the gymnasium.

In 1887 Dr. Pliny Earle presented to the academy his valuable cabinet of shells and minerals, collected in connection with his extensive travels in various parts of the earth. It contains probably over twelve thousand specimens, many of them rare and beautiful. He also provided an appropriate case, and endowed the cabinet with a fund of one thousand dollars.

In 1888 Mr. J. Bradford Sargent, of Leicester, fitted a room in the tower of the gymnasium as a weather station, and furnished it at large expense with a set of meteorological instruments, which for delicacy and beauty are supposed not to be equaled.

In the fall of 1882 the academy was reopened with Mr. Caleb A. Page, a native of Burlington, Me., a graduate of Bowdoin College, in 1870, as principal. He still retains the position. The school is organized in three departments: The classical and scientific four years' courses, and the three years' business course. The number of pupils has been about eighty. Since the reorganization many members have been prepared for different colleges, and for normal and technical schools; while others have gone from the business department into eligible mechanical and mercantile situations.

The centennial anniversary of the academy was celebrated September 4, 1884. A large number of the former members of the institution assembled in the morning at the academy building—among them Edmund J. Mills, of Sutton, a pupil in 1803, and then in the ninety-fifth year of his age. An address of welcome was given by Rev. A. H. Coolidge, the

president of the board of trustees. An historical address was given by Hon. W. W. Rice, and a poem by Rev. Thomas Hill, D.D. The company, to the number of seven hundred, then took dinner in a Yale tent on the Common. Rev. A. Huntington Clapp, D.D., presided in a very felicitous manner. Among the addresses were those of Lieutenant-Governor Oliver Ames, A. L. Partridge, Esq., Dr. Thomas Hill, Prof. F. A. March, Judge Asa French, John E. Russell, Esq., Colonel Homer B. Sprague, Rev. M. B. Angier, Rev. A. C. Dennison, Rev. J. L. Jenkins, Judge C. C. Esty, Mr. Wm. B. Earle and Rev. Samuel May. Dr. Pliny Earle read a short original poem, as did also Captain J. Waldo Denny and Rev. A. C. Dennison. The occasion was one of rare interest and pleasure. In the evening there was a delightful reunion in the academy. An association of the Alumni of Leicester Academy was organized, of which Hon. Oliver Ames, now Governor of Massachusetts, was president. The association has since then held an annual reunion at the Leicester Hotel, in June.

The academy has numbered among its trustees such men as Hon. Thomas Gill, Lieutenant-Governor of Massachusetts; Colonel Rufus Putnam, one of the founders of the North West Territory; Hon. Levi Lincoln, Attorney-General, United States; Rev. Thaddeus Maccarty, pastor of the old South Church, Worcester; Hon. Dwight Foster, United States Senator; Rev. Aaron Bancroft, D.D., pastor of the Second Congregational Church, Worcester; Hon. Nathaniel Paine, Hon. Aaron Tufts, Hon. Daniel Waldo, Samuel M. Burnside, Esq., Hon. Levi Lincoln, Governor of Massachusetts; Hon. Abijah Bigelow, Hon. Stephen Salisbury, Hon. Samuel Mixter, Ichabod Washburn, Rev. Seth Sweetser, D.D., Hon. George F. Hoar, United States Senator; Hon. A. D. Foster, Rev. Horatio Bardwell, Judge Henry Chapin, Rev. Samuel May, and many other prominent men of Leicester, together with former teachers and pupils of the academy elsewhere mentioned. Many of the teachers of the academy afterward became distinguished in other positions. Among these are Rev. John Pierce, D.D., for fifty-two years pastor of the church in Brookline; Theodore Dehon, D.D., Bishop of South Carolina; Dr. James Jackson, for many years at the head of the medical profession in Boston; Dr. John Dixwell and Dr. George Shattuck, also eminent physicians in Boston; Hon. Timothy Fuller, father of Margaret Fuller, Representative in Congress; Rev. John N. Putnam, the learned Professor of Greek in Dartmouth College; Prof. Francis A. March, of Lafayette College, Pennsylvania; William M. Poole, the eminent librarian, author of "Poole's Index" and "Index of Periodicals"; Hon. W. W. Rice, for ten years member of the national House of Representatives.

Only a few of the many pupils of the academy who have become distinguished can be mentioned: Hon. Samuel C. Crafts, Representative and Senator in Congress and Governor of Vermont; Eli Whitney, inventor of the cotton-gin; Hon. William L. Marcy, Secretary of State, United States; Hon. Wm. Upham, United States Senator from Vermont; Rev. Gardiner Spring, D.D., New York; Hon. John Davis, United States Senator and Governor of Massachusetts; Hon. Ebenezer Lane, Chief Justice of Ohio; Colonel Thomas Aspinwall, United States consul at London; Hon. David Henshaw, Secretary of the Navy; Rev. George Allen; Hon. Charles Allen, Representative in Congress and judge; Dr. Levi Hedge, professor in Harvard College; Hon. Emery Washburn, Governor of Massachusetts; Rev. Thomas Hill, D.D., president of Harvard University from 1862–68; Hon. Pliny Merrick and Hon. Benjamin F. Thomas, judges of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts; Rev. A. H. Clapp D.D., Judge Asa D. French, Hon. Oliver Ames, Governor of Massachusetts.

CHAPTER XCII.

LEICESTER—(*Continued.*)

BUSINESS.

Card Business—Woolen Manufacture—Boot and Shoe Business—Tanning and Currying Business—Leicester National and Savings Banks—Miscellaneous Industries.

CARD BUSINESS.—Leicester for many years continued to be a purely agricultural community, the people dependent for a living upon the products of their farms. In the latter part of the last century the industry was introduced which became the distinctive business of the town, and for a long time the principal source of its prosperity and wealth.

In this enterprise Mr. Edmond Snow was the pioneer. He began the manufacture of hand-cards in 1885.

Pliny Earle commenced the same business in 1786. In 1789 we find him receiving an order for card clothing from Almy & Brown, of Providence, R. I., and with it a reference to the fact that he had already covered carding machines in Worcester.

Soon after this Samuel Slater came to this country, and the next year, under the auspices of Almy & Brown, began the manufacture of cotton goods by machinery moved by water-power; and Mr. Earle supplied him with the cards by which the cotton was prepared, which was first spun in this way in the United States. Hitherto, cards had been made in "plain" form, but the filleting for Mr. Slater was set diagonally or "twilled." The sheets were of calf-skin. The holes were pricked by hand, with two needles fastened into a handle. The teeth were cut and bent by machinery and set by hand. The statement that one hundred thousand holes were thus pricked probably falls below the fact. About the year 1797 Mr. Earle

invented a machine for pricking "twilled" cards, for which, in 1803, he secured a patent. It was based upon a principle previously unrecognized in American card machinery, and was not only involved in all subsequent pricking-machines, but is continued in Mr. Whittemore's machine for pricking and setting—that wonderful mechanism the credit for inventing which is so largely due to Eleazer Smith, and of which John Randolph, speaking on the extension of its patent, said, "Yes, I would renew it to all eternity, for it is the only machine which has a soul." In 1791 Mr. Earle associated with himself his brothers Jonah and Silas, in the firm of Pliny Earle & Brothers. They were probably for some years the largest manufacturers of card-clothing in the country. From their factory at Mulberry Grove, hand-cards were taken by horse-teams even to Charleston, S. C. They manufactured machines for carding both cotton and wool, and also had wool-carding mills in several towns in Worcester County and Rhode Island, for the convenience of the farmers. Pliny Earle died in 1832, and the business was conducted in his name till 1849 by his son, William B. Earle, who had had charge of it from the year 1819. He devoted much of his skill to the improvement of the card-setting machine, and as an expert in that machinery is said to have had no superior. In 1837 he received of the Massachusetts Charitable Society in Boston, a silver medal for one of his machines.

Silas Earle withdrew from the firm and carried on the business independently, at the Marshall house, on Marshall Street, from about 1806 till the time of his death, in 1842. His machines were bought by Timothy K. Earle, who then commenced the business, but soon removed to Worcester.

Daniel Denny in 1792 made hand-cards on Denny Hill.

Woodcock & Knight.—Winthrop Earle began the machine-card business in 1812, in a building in the rear of Col. Thomas Denny's factory, which stood east of the Leicester Hotel. He died in 1807, and John Woodcock continued the business in connection with the widow until her marriage to Alpheus Smith, 1808, when Mr. Smith assumed her share. Mr. Woodcock invented the machine for splitting leather to a uniform thickness.

In 1811 the factory was moved west of the hotel, and the next year was enlarged by Mr. Woodcock. In 1812 James Smith joined the company, which took the name of Woodcock & Smith. Mr. Woodcock retired in 1813, and the next year John A. and Rufus Smith took his place, forming the firm of James & John A. Smith & Co. Rufus Smith died in 1818. In 1825, October 18th, John Woodcock, Hiram Knight and Emory Drewry became partners. In 1827 and 1828 they built the Brick Factory. Mr. Drewry left the firm in 1829, and continued to manufacture cards on Pleasant Street, a mile from the village. In 1836 they added to their business the manufacture of card-clothing in Philadelphia, with George W. Morse as a partner, and continued it for about ten years, as the firm of James Smith & Co., while carrying on business in Leicester as Smith, Woodcock & Knight. They removed to the Central Factory, north of the Church, in 1846. In 1848 T. E. Woodcock and Dexter Knight, sons of the senior members, were admitted to the firm, which took the title of Woodcock, Knight & Co.

In 1867 the fathers disposed of their interests to their sons (T. E. Woodcock, Dexter, George M. and James J. Knight). They dissolved in 1881 and sold the building and machinery to the Card-Clothing Association. The factory was much enlarged and improved in 1866.

Capt. Isaac Southgate and Col. Henry Sargent, both of them enterprising and public-spirited citizens of Leicester, began the manufacture of machine-cards in 1810, as the firm of Southgate & Sargent, in Colonel Thos. Denny's house. Col. Sargent withdrew in 1812 and was in the same business till his death in 1829, his brother (Col. Jos. D.) being with him from 1814 to 1819. Capt. Southgate, in 1826, associated with himself Joshua Lamb, Dwight Bisco, Joseph A. Denny and John Stone, as the firm of Isaac Southgate & Co., manufacturing machine-cards in the building west of the hotel. Mr. Stone died in 1827, Mr. Lamb retired in 1831 and Capt. Southgate in 1843, when the name was changed to Bisco & Denny. In 1828 they built the Central Factory and in 1845 the present factory of Bisco & Denny. In 1857 Charles A. Denny and George Bisco joined the firm. Jos. A. Denny died in 1875 and Deacon Bisco in 1882, when John W. Bisco joined the firm. In 1857 a branch establishment was opened at Manchester, N. H.

Colonel Joseph D. Sargent first made hand-cards at his home, on the road from Cherry Valley to Auburn, beyond Denny Hill. After separating from his brother in 1819, he continued to manufacture hand-cards at the Brick Factory till his death, in 1849, but sold the other part of the business to Lamb & White, in 1836. Silas Jones, Nathan Ainsworth and William Boggs were at different times his partners.

Josiah Q. Lamb and Alonzo White manufactured machine-cards in Sargent's brick factory from 1836 to 1846, when Mr. Lamb retired and Mr. White continued the business at the same place until his death, in 1850. Christopher C. Denny became associated with Mr. White in 1846, in the firm of White & Denny. In 1868 Mr. Denny disposed of his interest to H. Arthur White, and the firm of White & Son continued business till 1888, when, H. A. White having purchased the interest of the father, the concern was consolidated with the "Decker & Bonitz Card Clothing Company," incorporated under the laws of Massachusetts, which also carries on an extensive business in Philadelphia. Mr. White assumed the management of the Leicester branch. This corporation purchased the Central Factory, which they enlarged and

Lucius Mordecai

renovated, and added new buildings for the accommodation of their new power-plant, and the grinding of cards under patents owned by the corporation, and for additional facilities for their increasing business.

The firm of *J. & J. Murdock* had its origin in 1840, in that of Southgate & Murdock, composed of Samuel Southgate, Jr., and Joshua Murdock, Jr. Mr. Southgate retired in 1844, and Mr. Murdock continued the business alone until 1848, when his brother Joseph joined him, and the firm-name of J. & J. Murdock was adopted, which is still used. In 1858, John N. Murdock came into the firm. In March, 1883, Joshua died, and, in the following June, Julius O. Murdock was admitted, forming the present company. For the first eight years the business was small. When the present firm was organized the company had only thirteen machines.

In 1857 they bought the business of Baylies Upham, thus adding twenty machines to their plant that year. Previous to 1864 the motive-power was horses in a circular tread-mill. In that year steam was substituted for the primitive horse-power. At the present time they have one hundred and thirty-seven machines, capable of producing more than one hundred thousand feet of cards yearly, and their machine card business is the largest in town. The business has from the first been carried on at the same site. J. & J. Murdock's factory was enlarged in 1856 by the addition of sixty-six feet, and, in 1866, it was further enlarged by what is now the main building, thirty-five by one hundred and fifty feet. In 1868 a new branch of the business was added, and machinery put in for currying and finishing the leather for cards, eighteen thousand sides yearly being finished and used for this purpose, in addition to a considerable quantity of cloth.

In the early part of the year 1888 a dynamo was put in and the works lighted by electricity.

After leaving the firm of James & John A. Smith & Co. in 1830, John A. Smith began the manufacture of card-clothing on the site of the present Wire Mill. In 1844 he was succeeded by the firm of Southgate & Smith, consisting of Samuel Southgate, Jr., and John S. Smith. In 1859 Horace Waite, who had been making hand-cards on the first floor of Waite's factory while Southgate & Smith were using the upper floor, succeeded Mr. Southgate, and the firm became Smith & Waite. Mr. Smith retired in 1867, and the firm of E. C. & L. M. Waite & Co. was organized. Mr. Horace Waite died in 1871, Lucius M. retired in 1874, and the business has since been continued by Edward C. Waite.

Josephus Woodcock, Benjamin Conklin and Austin Conklin, as the firm of *Conklin, Woodcock & Co.*, began the machine-card business on Pleasant Street in 1828; dissolved in 1830, when Mr. Woodcock, with his brother Lucius, formed the firm of J. & L. Woodcock. Danforth Rice was with them from 1831 to 1836, and William P. White from 1848 till his death, in 1881. Charles H. then took the interest of his father, Josephus Woodcock; Henry Bisco joined the company, and the business was continued in the name of L. Woodcock & Co. until 1888, when it was given up, and the machinery sold to the Card Clothing Association. Mr. Lucius Woodcock died in 1887.

Baylies Upham manufactured machine-cards from 1825 till 1857, when he sold to J. & J. Murdoch. From 1825 till 1833 Samuel Hurd was in company with him, and from 1849 to 1855 Irving Sprague.

After leaving Mr. Upham, Mr. Hurd united with James Trask in the manufacture of machine and hand-cards, on the Trask place, on Mount Pleasant. Mr. Trask died in 1848, and Mr. Hurd removed to the rear of White & Denny's factory. In 1862 he sold to L. S. Watson, but continued to make cards till 1866 on commission. William F. Holman manufactured hand-cards from 1867 to 1873.

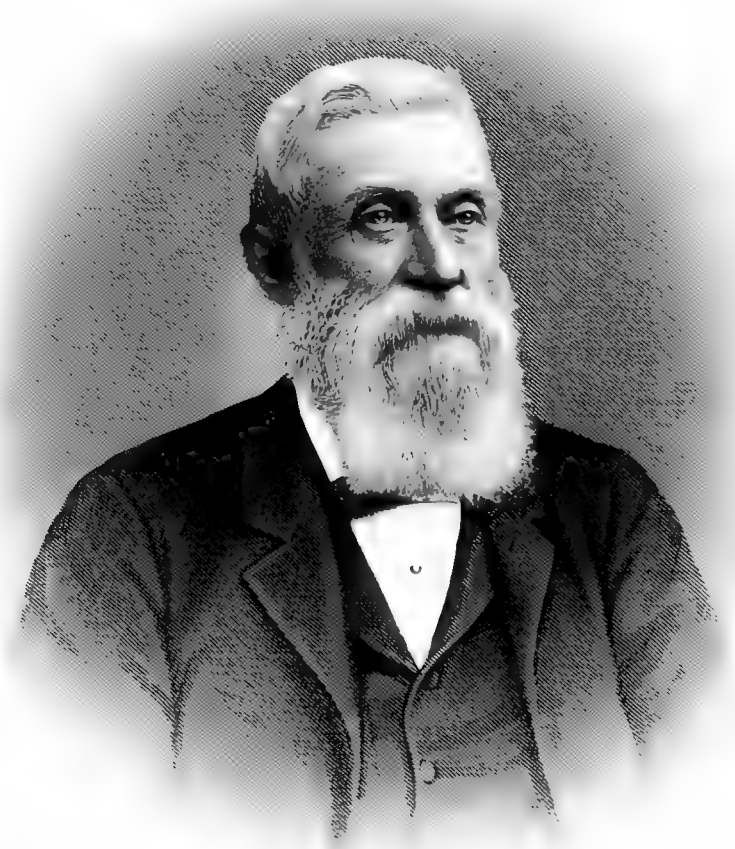
Claramon Hunt made cards on a foundation of wood from 1868 to 1874 in White & Denny's factory, and then sold to L. S. Watson & Co.

In 1842 *John H. & William Whittemore* began the manufacture of card-clothing in the building west of the Friends' burying-ground, which William Earle was at the same time using for making card-machines. In 1845 they received their brother James. John H. was killed on the Western Railroad in 1851, and the firm assumed the name of W. & J. Whittemore. James died in 1882. William F., his son, joined the company in 1874. After making cards about a year at Mannville, the Whittemores removed to the Centre Village, and occupied, for a few years, the building on Market Street in which is now Wheeler's meat-market. They then built their factory, which was much enlarged in 1883.

Cheney Hatch, first on Pleasant Street, then on Main Street, made cards from 1823 to 1836, when he sold to Alden Bisco, who soon sold to Henry A. Denny, who, in 1849, took into partnership his sons —Joseph Waldo and William S.,—as the firm of Henry A. Denny & Sons. In 1854 they sold to White & Denny.

Henry A. Denny commenced making hand-cards in 1823, with Emory Drury, as the firm of Drury & Denny, on Pleasant Street, about a mile south of Main Street, where Samuel D. Watson had before carried on the same business two or three years. They dissolved, and he continued alone, on the corner of Main and Mechanic Streets. Afterward he was associated with Reuben Merriam, until 1836, when he purchased the factory hitherto used by Mr. Hatch.

Col. Thomas Denny, with William Earle, made hand-cards on Denny Hill. In 1802 he began the manufacture of cards, hand and machine, on the corner of Main and Market Streets, which he conducted on an extensive scale till his death, in 1814. He had in the same building the post-office and a store.



E. G. Coulton

er of Cherry Valley as a manufacturing village. When he came to Leicester there were, as nearly as can be ascertained, only ten houses in what is now the village. Most of the present residences were built in his lifetime, and it was by him that the three brick factories were erected. He was a native of Yorkshire, England. He had worked in the factories as a child, but was afterward a shepherd on the moors, where he earned money with which to come to America. He came to this country in 1819, landing at Philadelphia, where he worked for a short time, and then started on foot for Rochdale, where was James Anderton, whom he had known in England. He found himself without money before the journey was completed, and always remembered with special gratitude the kindness of a family in Connecticut who entertained him over the Sabbath. He worked in Rochdale for a time, and came to Cherry Valley, and built what is now Olney's Mill in 1821, and was running it as late as 1824. The cloth was woven by hand in a building before used as a tannery, where the post-office now stands.

There was a saw-mill here at an early date owned by Benjamin Studley. About the year 1765 the privilege, with an acre of land, was bought by the "Forge Partners," who erected a building for some kind of iron-works. They, however, sold the property, which was called the "Forge Acre," to Matthew Watson, who had there a saw-mill till about the year 1821, when Thomas Bottomly built on it a woolen-factory of brick. Such is the early history of this site, with a few variations, as given by Governor Washburn and also by Joseph A. Denny, Esq., except that Washburn makes 1820 the date of building the mill, while Mr. Bottomly's son Wright places it 1821.

There have been various transfers of the property since that time. It passed from Thomas Bottomly to the Bottomly Manufacturing Company June 1, 1827, from them back to Thomas Bottomly November 10, 1846, from him to Samuel Bottomly March 10, 1849, from him to George Hodges July 6th of the same year, and December 21st one-half of Mr. Hodges' interest to Benjamin A. Farnum. June 20, 1855, Samuel L. Hodges came into possession of his father's interest, and October 9, 1857, that of Mr. Farnum, making him at this date the sole owner of the property. The factory was partially destroyed by fire September 7, 1864; up to Mr. Hodges' time broadcloths of superior grade were woven here. He introduced the manufacture of flannels. By his energy and public spirit Mr. Hodges did much to build up Cherry Valley.

In 1866, October 9th, the property was conveyed in trust to George H. Gilbert, Jr., George Hodges and Henry C. Weston, and by them to B. A. Farnum, June 7, 1867, Mr. and Mrs. Hodges giving them a quit-claim deed the same day. Frank C. Fiske came into possession January 1, 1870. The mill was nearly destroyed by fire June 3, 1874. Albert T. B. Ames purchased it August 1, 1874, and at the same time made a declaration of trust as to one-half of the property, held for George W. Olney, who with him formed the company of George W. Olney & Co. They rebuilt and opened the mill in the autumn of 1874, and continued to run it till February, 1876. George W. Olney came into entire possession March 22, 1876, and reopened the mill June 14, 1876, since which time he has continued the manufacture of flannels. Two considerable additions have since been made to the main building—one in 1881, and the other in 1885. A storehouse and other buildings and several tenement-houses have also been erected, and the general aspect of that part of the village much improved. The factory contains seven sets of cards, forty-six looms and four thousand two hundred and forty spindles. Mr. Olney is largely interested, also, in manufacturing in Lisbon, Maine.

In 1821 James Anderton began the manufacture of broadcloths and cassimeres in the south part of the town, in a small wooden mill, built about this time, by Thomas Scott, on the site of the present Lower Rochdale Factory. The Leicester Manufacturing Company was soon incorporated, and continued the same business, being afterward united with the Saxon Manufacturing Company, in Framingham, as the Saxon and Leicester Company. Mr. Joshua Clapp bought the property in 1829 and continued the same line of manufactures till 1840. For two or three years little was done in the mill. It then came into the hands of John Marland, of Andover, who sold it in 1845 to Barnes & Mansur, who added the manufacture of flannels. The building was burned in 1846. The same year Mr. Reuben S. Denny bought out Mr. Mansur's interest, and, with Mr. Barnes, built a brick factory on the same site, which was completed in 1847. Mr. Denny in 1850 bought out Mr. Barnes. This factory was burned in 1851, and rebuilt in 1852. Meantime, about the year 1844, a wooden building had been erected on the site of the present Upper Factory, where the manufacture of carpets was carried on for a year with indifferent success. This building Mr. Denny bought while erecting his new factory, and manufactured white flannels. It was burned in 1854, and the present brick building took its place.

In 1856 Ebenezer Dale, representing the firm of Johnson, Sewall & Co., of Boston, came into possession of both factories and a large property, real and personal, connected with them. In the two mills are thirteen sets of machinery. Since 1859, first as the Clappville Mills, then as the Rochdale Mills, they have manufactured flannels and ladies' dress goods, averaging for the last twenty years from one to one and a half million yards. New and improved machinery has within a few years taken the place of the old. E. G. Carlton has for thirty years been the agent and manager, and the reputation of the products of the Rochdale Mills is exceeded by few, if any, manufacturing establishments in the country.

In 1838 Amos S. Earle and Billings Mann, as the

firm of Earle & Mann, began the manufacture of satinets in the building near the corner of Mannville and Earle Streets, at Mannville, in which Earle & Bros. had made card-machines and Amos S. Earle had afterward made hand-cards. Mr. Mann removed from town in 1844. Nathan Daniels became Mr. Earle's partner, and the firm of Earle & Daniels built forty feet of the present mill. Mr. Daniels died and the estate being solvent, it was bought by a syndicate of creditors.

Meantime Mr. Mann had been engaged in the same business in Holden with Albert Marshall. In 1853 Mann & Marshall purchased the property, enlarged the mill and continued the manufacture of satinets twenty-two years. They were heavy losers in the Boston fire in 1875, and were obliged soon after to suspend business. George and Billings Mann were associated with them for about one year. In 1879 George and Billings Mann and John P. Stephen, their brother-in-law, began business. They have enlarged and improved the plant, built cottages for the operatives and conducted a prosperous business.

Cherry Valley Woolen-Mills.—In 1836 Thos. Bottomly laid the foundations of the factory now run by the Cherry Valley Woolen-Mills on the privilege early occupied by Nathan Sargent as a grist-mill. In 1837 he began there the manufacture of broad-cloths. He sold to Effingham L. Capron in 1845.

In 1859 the mill was owned by E. D. Thayer and used by Mowry Lapham and James A. Smith, under the firm-name of Lapham & Smith, until 1862, when Mr. Smith sold to Mr. Lapham and removed to Rhode Island.

In 1863 the building was destroyed by fire, and the privilege remained vacant till 1865, when George N. and James A. Smith bought it and built a six-set mill for the manufacture of fancy cassimeres. In 1868 George N. Smith sold his share to James A. In 1876 the factory was nearly destroyed by the "Flood." Mr. Smith rebuilt in 1878 and leased to Eli Collier and A. E. Smith. Collier & Smith dissolved in 1879, and A. E. Smith continued the business until 1887, when the mill was leased to the present "Cherry Valley Woolen-Mills" Company. The property was sold to F. T. Blackmer, Esq., of Worcester, in 1881, and is now owned by his heirs. This mill now manufactures ladies' dress and skirt goods.

Kettle Brook, which furnishes the water-power for all the factories in Mannville, Lakeside, Cherry Valley, Valley Falls and Jamesville, and which has repeatedly, in time of freshets, been the source of serious apprehension through the valley, was originally only a little stream winding in picturesque beauty through meadows and forests, and leaping down the rocks through narrow defiles. Says one who lived by it "When I was a little girl, Kettle Brook was a small stream of water, that I have waded across many times."

Collier's Mill.—About the year 1835 L. G. Dickinson built the embankment north of Main Street, and the dam south of the road, where Collier's mill stands. To this place Mr. Dickinson moved his saw-mill, which formerly was located where A. W. Darling & Co.'s mill now is. This mill of Mr. Dickinson was used as a saw-mill until 1844, when it was converted into a satinet factory. The business was carried on by Jonathan Earle. In the same building was the cabinet shop of Silas A. Morse. It was burned to the ground March 24, 1848, but afterwards rebuilt by Mr. Dickinson, of lumber from an old church in Charlton. It was leased to Baker & Bellows October 1, 1848. October 1, 1853, it was leased to Eli Collier. It was burned January 5, 1866, but rebuilt the next summer from the lumber of the Lower Tophet machine-shop and was leased to Collier. April 8, 1881, it was sold to Collier & Butler. September 1, 1888, Butler sold out to Collier. It has been a satinet-mill since it was first changed from a saw mill.

Chapel Mill.—In the year 1836 or '37 John Waite bought land of Samuel Waite, built a dam and canal and erected a mill where the Chapel Mill now stands, on Chapel Street, a few rods north of Main Street. Here he made churns. It was afterwards a shuttle-shop. It was used later, about 1844, by H. G. Henshaw for drawing wire. It was here that Richard Sugden, whose extensive wire business is one of the important factors in the wealth of Spencer, first drew wire in this country; both he and Mr. Myrick worked for Mr. Henshaw. In 1849 Myrick and Sugden bought the machinery of Mr. Henshaw and formed a partnership under the name of Henshaw, Myrick & Sugden, of Spencer. The partnership was dissolved in 1854.

The Chapel Mill property was afterward owned by N. R. Parkherst, and was sold by him to L. G. Dickinson, October, 1854. It has been occupied by John Q. Adams, who used it for a shoddy-mill, and by Bottomly & Fay, who made satinets there.

James Fay was in business there when it was burned, March 7, 1865. The property was bought by Samuel Chism, of Newton, and he rebuilt from the lumber of the old Baptist Church in Greenville, thus giving to the mill the name of Chapel Mill. It was leased to H. G. Kitredge, who made satinets there for two years, then to George A. Kimball and I. R. Barbour, who occupied it until sold to William N. Pierce, April 18, 1871. It was then leased to James A. Smith & Co., who made satinets there until March 6, 1879. May 5, 1879, it was leased to Collier & Butler for three years and nine months, when A. E. Smith bought the property and used it as a satinet-mill until May 1, 1887. George N. Smith then leased it and made satinets until June 15, 1887, when it was burned. Collier & Butler bought the property, rebuilt the mill and leased it to George N. Smith, who now occupies it.

There are in 1889 ten woolen-mills in the town of Leicester, and nine firms engaged in the manufacture

of woolen cloth. The average annual value of the products of these mills is about $1,286,000.

A. W. Darling & Co.—In 1827 Thomas Bottomly built a dam upon Kettle Brook, on Chapel Street, about half a mile from the corner of Main Street. The pond formed thereby was considered a reservoir for the privileges below until 1847, when the present Bottomly Mill was erected by Thomas Bottomly. Previous to this, about 1833 or 1834, L. G. Dickenson erected a saw-mill on the same privilege as the present mill. In 1845, Mr. Bottomly opened a brick-yard on this spot, and made the brick of which, in 1847, he began the present Bottomly Mill. About the same year he caused the Waite meadow to be overflowed; this was the beginning of the Waite reservoir; the property afterwards came into the hands of Booth Bottomly.

In 1874 E. D. Thayer bought the property of the trustees of the Bottomly estate, and has owned it ever since.

Booth Bottomly began to manufacture here in 1855 or 1856, and continued until his death in 1868. Other firms who have occupied the mill are R. L. Hawes & Co., George Kimball & Co., for a short time; E. D. Thayer, for twenty years, Bramley Bottomly being for some years associated with him. After 1876 or 1877 the Hopeville Company used the mill for a few years, then E. D. Thayer, Jr., from 1884 to 1886, when the firm of A. W. Darling & Co. assumed the business. It is a four-set satinet-mill.

The Greenville Woolen-Factory was first built in 1871 by A. W. & J. D. Clark. It was of wood, fifty feet square, and three stories high, with a brick picker-house adjoining. The buildings were rented to Joseph Peel, of Spencer, who began the manufacture of woolen goods in the winter of 1872, and continued until January, 1877; since that time the business has been carried on by J. D. Clark. The mill was enlarged in 1880.

The Lakeside Manufacturing Co.—In 1847, D. Waldo Kent put up a saw-mill at Lakeside. In 1853 he built his planing-mill and box-factory. In this building, in 1857, he set up the first circular saw-mill introduced into this part of the State. In 1866 he began the manufacture of shoddy, and, in 1880, of satinets. The present factory was erected in 1883. Since April, 1885, it has been running night and day. The surroundings of the factory have been much improved, and around it has sprung up a neat little village. The business of the Lakeside Manufacturing Company is carried on by P. G. & Daniel Kent. The factory was first lighted by electricity in July, 1887. In 1885 they bought the Jamesville Mills, in Worcester, and, with the two mills, they are said to be the largest manufacturers of satinets in the country.

The Leicester Wire Company had its origin in 1871. At this time Mr. Cyrus D. Howard, an experienced workman, set up machines and began the drawing of wire for cards in the building which had been used by successive firms as a card manufactory, and later as a box shop. Thomas Shaw was afterward associated with him for a short time as the firm of Cyrus D. Howard & Co. David Bemis went into company with Howard in 1876, as the firm of Howard & Bemis. In 1880 J. Bradford Sargent joined the firm, which became Howard, Bemis & Co. Mr. Howard retired in 1884, and the Leicester Wire Company was organized. Harry E. Sargent came into the firm in 1885, and Mr. Bemis retired. Of this firm H. E. Sargent is president, and J. B. Sargent treasurer. The new buildings were erected in 1881, and engine-house and boiler in 1883. The machinery is principally employed in drawing card, reed and stone wire.

The Lakeside Woolen Mills put in a dynamo and lighted their factory by electricity in July, 1887. Since that time dynamos have been placed in the card factories of J. & J. Murdock, and Decker, Bonitz & Co. On December 19, 1887, an electric plant was established at the Leicester Wire Company's works, by which the other card factories are lighted, also the Leicester Hotel, the stores in the centre, and several private houses.

Charles W. Warren began the making of shoe-counters in the house on the southwest corner of Main and Rawson Streets about the year 1852, then moved to the house on the lot between the bank and the post-office about the year 1854, there manufacturing insoles. The buildings were burnt in 1862. In 1867 he built his house and factory on Pleasant Street. The factory has been several times enlarged, and is devoted to the manufacture of shoe-heels, employing about forty persons.

Boots and Shoes.—The only shoe manufactory in town is that of Horace & Warren Smith, on Mt. Pleasant, begun in 1865. Among those who at different times have carried on the boot and shoe business are Amasa Watson, Delphus Washburn, Baldwin Watson, Cheney Hatch, Wm. F. Holman.

About the year 1849 several gentlemen formed a company for the manufacture of boots, having in mind the increase of business in town. The work was at first carried on in the house on Market Street in which is Wheeler's meat market, where there was horse-power. After a few years it was removed to Main Street, where now stands the house of E. D. Waite. On the 25th of September, 1860, the building was burnt. The company had met with heavy losses in consequence of the failures of that period, and after the fire the business was abandoned.

Leather.—The tanning and currying of leather appears to have been a prominent industry in former times. Elijah Warren had a tannery on the main road, half a mile from the Spencer line, at a very early date. He was succeeded by his son, Joseph. Henry E. Warren afterward owned it, and had also a tan-house north of Main Street, near the Spencer line. It was burned in 1848. John Lynde, the early settler,

also had a tannery in the north part of the town. Jonathan Warren had a tannery on Pine Street, two miles from the village, and was succeeded by his sons Jonathan and Elijah. It was burned in 1825. Lieut. Jonas Stone built a tannery at the foot of Strawberry Hill in 1790, where work was continued by different persons for thirty or forty years,—among them Thaddeus Upham, and E. H. & George Bowen. Mr. Studley had a tannery in Cherry Valley, where the post-office now stands. Amasa Warren and Horace and Baldwin Watson were tanners in the west part of the town.

Leander Warren, when a young man, began the currying business near the house of his father, Joseph Warren. In 1845 he bought the place south of the Centre School-house, where he carried on the business till his death, in 1862, when he was succeeded by John N. Grout. Since Mr. Grout's time there has been no currying done in town, except in connection with Murdock's Card Manufactory.

A. Hankey & Co., Manufacturers of Machine Knives.—In 1798 Caleb Wall bought land of the Green family and built above the present works of A. Hankey & Co. a blacksmith shop, where he made scythes, carrying on a large business. In 1830 Thomas Wall and Nathan Harkness built on the present site of the "Lower Shop," and carried on the business three or four years, and were followed by Cadsey, Brown & Draper.

In 1848 Hankey, Stiles & Co. purchased the property and remodeled it for the manufacture of machine-knives. The firm was Anthony Hankey, Francis Stiles and H. C. Bishop. About 1851 Mr. Hankey went into the dredging business in Boston, where he had invented a dredging-machine. The business in Greenville was carried on by Stiles & Co. (F. Stiles and F. W. Taylor) until a few years later, when Mr. Hankey returned and managed the business under the firm-name of Stiles & Co. This partnership was dissolved July 14, 1866, and in October of the same year Stiles sold his entire interest to A. Hankey & Co. J. E. Jones was admitted as a partner, but he only remained a short time. The firm was A. Hankey and George A. Corser. In February, 1877, Hankey bought out Corser, and continued the business alone until March, 1881, when J. X. Rogers was admitted to the partnership under the old firm-name of A. Hankey & Co., which continues to this date.

In 1881 a system of improvements was inaugurated. The old buildings were torn down and new and larger ones erected; new water-ways and new machinery were added, and it is to-day the largest and most complete shop in the world for the exclusive manufacture of machine-knives. The products of this shop go to all parts of the world, in many instances direct to Cuba, South America, Spain, Germany and China. In 1887 a branch was started in Philadelphia. It is an interesting fact that the first knives that were used on a planing-machine in this country were forged by hand by Mr. Hankey in Boston, and also that the first dies for cutting out paper collars were made at this shop.

Leicester National Bank.—"Leicester Bank" was chartered as a State bank March 4, 1826, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, which in 1853 was increased to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, and in 1854 to two hundred thousand dollars. John Clapp was made president of the bank April 26, 1826; N. P. Denny, October 4, 1830; Joshua Clapp, October 3, 1836; Waldo Flint, October 2, 1837; Joseph A. Denny, October 1, 1838; Cheney Hatch, October 2, 1843; Charles A. Denny, December 16, 1878. John A. Smith was appointed cashier May 26, 1826; H. G. Henshaw, October 21, 1826; D. E. Merriam, December 15, 1845; George H. Sprague, May 20, 1885. The institution was made a national bank March 21, 1865.

The first bank building was in connection with the old town-house, built in 1826 by the town and the bank. In 1853 the bank was removed to the brick building east of Leicester Hotel. In 1871 the present bank was completed and the business removed to it.

Leicester Savings Bank.—The Leicester Savings Bank was incorporated April 17, 1869. Cheney Hatch was elected president May 5, 1869, and Lory S. Watson, May 21, 1879. D. E. Merriam was the first treasurer, appointed May 14, 1869, and was succeeded by the present incumbent, George H. Sprague, May 24, 1885. The present amount of deposits is three hundred and ninety-one thousand two hundred and eighty dollars.

Miscellaneous Industries.—There have been several hatters. John Whittemore bound books where the Whittemore Card Factory now stands. Hori Brown had a printing-office on the west corner of Main and Mechanic Streets, where he not only did job-work, but printed books; among these was "Scott's Lessons," printed in 1815.

At the foot of the hill, from 1823 to 1853, was the grocery of Evi Chilson, especially prized by students of the academy for the rare quality of its entertainment for the inner man. It is remembered by them after many other things are forgotten.

It would be impossible to mention all the different kinds of business carried on at different times in town, or to give the history of the many stores.

CHAPTER XCIII.

LEICESTER—(*Continued.*)

THE CIVIL WAR.

Sixth Massachusetts Regiment—War Meetings—Twenty-fifth Regiment—Fifteenth, Twenty-first, Thirty-fourth, Forty-second—Action of the Town—Other Soldiers—Expenditures—Casualties—Close of the War.

NEWS of the attack on Fort Sumter reached Leicester on Saturday, April 13, 1861, and occasioned the most intense excitement. Then first the people comprehended the fact that the war had begun. Young men at once declared their intention to respond to the first call for soldiers, and men too old for service avowed their readiness to make any sacrifice required for the preservation of the Union. From that day to the close of the war the town of Leicester loyally and liberally accepted all the demands of the government upon it for money and for men. The call of President Lincoln for 75,000 volunteers met here the same prompt answer which it received throughout the loyal North.

Leicester had a special interest in the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment, the first to march from the State and to receive the baptism of blood. Its commander, Col. Edward F. Jones, was a native of Leicester, as was also Joseph Waldo Denny, lieutenant in the Worcester Light Infantry. They had been pupils together in Leicester Academy. There were other Leicester men in the regiment.

There were sixteen Leicester men in the Third Battalion of Rifles, which left Worcester on the 20th of April. Their names were: Henry H. Bowman, Bramley A. Bottomly, Michael Collins, John P. Crimmins, Jacob H. Gibson, George W. Hatch, John Kirk, Joseph Laverty, Martin Leonard, Randall H. Mann, John McDonald, John Moriarty, J. Dawson Robinson, Emerson Stone, Jesse S. Scott and William B. White. Church Howe and Myron J. Newton enlisted in the Sixth Regiment.

The battalion was stationed at Fort McHenry, and returned on the 2d day of August, and was received with great joy. Several of these men reenlisted, and their records are given in connection with the regiments which they joined. The evening before the departure of the Third Battalion for the seat of war, news of the attack on the Sixth Regiment had been received, and had deepened the agitation. That day the national flag, before seldom seen except on government buildings, and sometimes on the Fourth of July, was thrown to the breeze on the flag-staff on the Common. The war was the all-absorbing subject of thought, conversation, discourse and prayer on the following day, which was the Sabbath.

On Monday evening, April 22d, was held the first of those memorable war meetings, which made the town-hall a historic building, and in which the fervent patriotism of the people of Leicester found earnest and eloquent expression, as in the days of the Revolution it had done in the old "First Meeting-House." On the 26th forty or fifty of the young men of the town commenced military drill in the town-hall, under the instruction of John M. Studley, of Worcester. A town-meeting was held the 4th of May, and $500 was raised and appropriated, and a committee was authorized to borrow $5000 if necessary. A bounty of $10 a month, in addition to government pay, was offered to volunteers, and uniforms, guns and equipments were to be furnished if necessary. The women were equally patriotic and efficient. Their first meeting for work was in the town-hall, May 13th, where, in response to notices from the pulpit the day before, they assembled, to the number of about sixty, and with four or five sewing-machines and many busy hands, made garments for the Third Battalion of Rifles. On the 15th, at 6½ o'clock on a pleasant May day, a beautiful flag was raised over the Centre School-house, with music by the band and addresses by the School Committee—Dr. Pliny Earle, Dr. John Murdock and Rev. A. H. Coolidge. Flags were also flying in different parts of the town. Says one, writing at the time, "The war feeling seems to absorb every other thought, and the subject of religion seems secondary to patriotism, which now occupies the mind not only of the private individual, but the pulpit and the press."

There had not been for a generation such a revulsion of feeling as was occasioned in town by the exaggerated tidings of the disaster of Bull Run. Men turned pale, and abandoning all hope of easy victory, nerved themselves for the long struggle, which was not to be ended until many of our own citizens had laid down their lives for their country.

In the early autumn of 1861 the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts Regiment was formed, with a larger number of men from Leicester than any other three years' regiment. In it were many representatives of the families in town, and it was followed in all its eventful and honorable career with the special solicitude and interest of the people.

The national fast, appointed by President Lincoln for September 26th, on account of the perilous and gloomy condition of the country, was a memorable occasion in Leicester. Services were held in the First Church. The attendance was large, and the congregation deeply affected. The recruits for the Twenty-fifth Regiment were to leave for camp that day, and this fact added to the impressiveness of the occasion.

In this regiment were Corp. Augustus Adams, in ten engagements, taken prisoner at Drury's Bluff, died at Florence, S. C.; Charles M. Ball, arm broken at Cold Harbor, killed at Petersburg; Corporal James Brady, Edwin Y. Brown, William Carson, David B. Collier, in six engagements; Isaac Creed, in eight engage-

ments, three wounds at Cold Harbor; Otis Cutting, wounded at Drury's Bluff; William Eddy, wounded at Petersburg; William Fernley, taken prisoner at Drury's Bluff, died at Andersonville; Owen Finnegan, in several engagements, wounded at Arrowfield Church; Horace L. Fisk; James S. Foster, died at Newbern; Levander M. Gould, died at Newbern; James Gehegan, wounded at Arrowfield Church, in ten engagements; John Galooly, died at Charlotte, N. C.; David Gotha, in seven engagements; George W. Gould, killed at Cold Harbor; Edward R. Graton, wounded at Roanoke Island and died of the wounds. He was saved from instant death by his prayer-book, the ball stopping at the verse,

> Thou, gracious Lord, art my defence,
> On thee my hopes rely.

Braman Grout, in two battles; George L. Grout, in two battles; Thomas Grooves, died at Newbern; William Henshaw, Patrick W. Hannagan, wounded at Cold Harbor; Albert S. Hurd, killed at Cold Harbor, in most of the battles of the regiment; George E. Kent, wounded at Roanoke Island, died at Newbern; Hugh Kenney, in three engagements, wounded at Arrowfield Church; Peter Kenney, wounded at Arrowfield Church and at Cold Harbor; William H. Kenney, killed at Cold Harbor; Sergeant John Kirk, in most of the battles of the regiment, taken prisoner at Drury's Bluff; Eugene D. Lacount, wounded and taken prisoner at Drury's Bluff; Michael Leonard, wounded at Drury's Bluff; John McMannis, wounded at Drury's Bluff; Corporal Randall Mann, killed at the battle of Roanoke Island; John McLaughlin, in ten battles, wounded at Cold Harbor; Lyman Moulton, killed at Cold Harbor; Ezra Reed, Albert Stockdale, wounded at Arrowfield Church and at Petersburg; First Sergeant Emerson Stone, lost an arm at Drury's Bluff, passed as captain of United States Colored Troops just as the war came to an end; Sergeant H. A. White, wounded in the foot at Drury's Bluff, in the battles of his regiment till his discharge in the summer of 1864.

The Twenty-fifth Regiment formed a part of the Burnside Expedition in North Carolina, and remained in that State till 1864, when it was united with the Army of the James, serving in Virginia before Richmond and Petersburg. After suffering severely and becoming reduced to a mere skeleton, it returned to North Carolina, and being recruited, participated in the closing scenes of the war under General Sherman. It will be noticed that the casualties of Leicester men in this regiment were especially numerous at Cold Harbor. Of the charge, in which the Twenty-fifth Regiment bore the brunt, Gen. Horace Porter writes in the *Century*, of June, 1888: "Perhaps the most striking case of desperate and deliberate courage which the history of modern warfare has furnished was witnessed at Cold Harbor. The men had been repeatedly repulsed in assaulting earthworks, had each time lost heavily, and had become impressed with the conviction that such attacks meant certain death. One evening after a dangerous assault had been ordered for daylight the next morning, I noticed in passing along the line that many of the men had taken off their coats and seemed engaged in mending rents in the back. Upon closer examination I found that they were calmly writing their names and home addresses on slips of paper and pinning these slips upon the backs of their coats, so that their dead bodies might be recognized upon the field and their fate made known to their friends at home. Never was there a more gallant assault than that made by those men the next day, though their act of the night before bore painful proof that they had entered upon their work without a hope of surviving. Such courage is more than heroic, it is sublime." Of this charge Gen. P. D. Bowles, who had command of the Confederate line, wrote, "The regiment that made this gallant charge was the Twenty-fifth Massachusetts. This we learned from the twenty-odd officers and men who fell down among the dead and wounded at the first fire. Not since the charge of the six hundred at Balaklava has a more heroic act been performed."

During the summer the Fifteenth and Twenty-first Massachusetts Regiments were enlisted. In the Fifteenth were from Leicester, W. H. Bergen, Simeon E. Ball, who died in the service at Poolesville, Md.; Henry Carpenter, in all the engagements from Ball's Bluff, in which the Fifteenth suffered so severely, to Gettysburg, in both of which battles he was severely wounded; H. R. Dawson transferred to the Twentieth; Chas. W. Clifford; the three Davis brothers, Freeman wounded at Ball's Bluff, reinlisted in the Fifty-seventh Regiment and killed in the battle of the Wilderness; William M. who returned from Libby prison and died; Alfred W., who died from wounds at the battle of Antietam; Charles A. Gleason, who was taken prisoner at Antietam and again in the Wilderness, and who was in Libby prison, Andersonville and Milan, where he died; Charles H. Gough, killed at Ball's Bluff, the first Leicester soldier who lost his life in the service; Maj. Church Howe, first in the Sixth Regiment and then in the Fifteenth, in thirteen battles; lieutenant quartermaster in the Fifteenth Regiment, provost marshal at Harper's Ferry, and senior aide-de-camp to Major-General Sedgwick; Peter McGee; Sergeant John A. Richardson transferred to the Twentieth Regiment; Samuel Slater; Corporal Charles W. Wood in eighteen engagements, taken prisoner at Gettysburg and again at Petersburg, confined at Andersonville, Milan, Savannah, Albany and Thomasville. These men were, with few exceptions, sharers in the hardships, the battles and the sufferings of this historic regiment.

In the Twenty-first Regiment were James Bell, who, in the battle of Chantilly, becoming separated from his regiment and finding himself surrounded by the enemy, continued to fight single-handed and was shot. Horatio N. Barrows in five battles, wounded at An-

tietam; Edgar C. Felton, also in the Thirty-sixth and Fifty-sixth; Thomas Hurst, killed at Newbern; John Hopkins, transferred to the Thirty-sixth and to the Fifty-sixth; James Lackey, also in the Thirty-sixth and Fifty-sixth, died of wounds received in the Wilderness; Barney McNulty, also in the Thirty-sixth and Fifty-sixth; Wm. McGrath, transferred to United States Cavalry; Jesse S. Scott, musician, also in the Fifty-seventh; Frank H. Southwick, wounded at Antietam; Wm. W. Scott, afterward asst. quartermaster at Chattanooga; Edgar Salisbury, wagoner.

John Graham was in the Signal Corps and also the First Frontier Cavalry. Jerome Bottomly, artificer and Andrew Crossley were in Co. C, Battalion United States Engineers' Troops, enlisting in the autumn of 1861, and serving three years. The company was recruited by Captain (afterwards Major-General) James B. McPherson, its first commander. They were engaged in all the varied duties of military engineers, laying out roads, fortifications and defences of various kinds, and especially in building pontoon bridges, often in the face of the enemy. They assisted in building one across the Chickahominy and another over the James, each two thousand feet in length. They often acted as infantry. The names of seventeen battles of the Rebellion are inscribed on their colors.

In the summer of 1862 the Thirty-fourth Regiment was organized. Leicester contributed to it the following men: Edwin N. Adams, transferred to the Twenty-fourth Regiment; Henry H. Bowman, first in Third Battalion Rifles, in seven engagements; Alexander Benway, John A. Barr, Joseph R. Brooks, Frederick S. Blodgett; Corporal Henry Converse in nine engagements; Timothy P. Griffin, principal musician; Edwin Holden in sixteen engagements, wounded at Fisher's Hill; Edwin Hoyle, wounded and a prisoner six months at Andersonville; Lincoln L. Johnson died at Harrisonburg, Va.; Sergeant Alfred James in eight engagements, wounded at Fisher's Hill; Franklin B. King, Lieut. Ira E. Lackey, Matthew Malloy, Corporal Rufus H. Newton, in sixteen battles, wounded at Winchester, and severely at Petersburg; Frank Pollard, Michael Rice, in fifteen engagements, wounded at Petersburg; Corporal James Rawdon, died of wounds; Lieutenant Walter W. Scott in ten engagements; John Shean, Henry Southwick, Corporal Henry E. Williams, wounded in the battle of Piedmont, a minie-ball passing through the left arm, through the body, and lodging in the right arm, captured and taken to Libby prison. John Sherman, James Sherman, Owen Smith, also as Leicester soldiers, Joseph P. Morse, from Worcester, and Norris Morse, of Spencer. The regiment left Worcester August 15, 1862. It served principally in the Shenandoah Valley, under Generals Sigel, Hunter and Sheridan, until March, 1865, when it formed a part of the Army of the James until the surrender of Richmond. Some of these men were with Sheriden at the time of his famous "ride." They participated in the various forced marches, raids, skirmishes and battles of that heroic commander, as well as in the later battles of the war.

The duties of the town officers during this and succeeding years were very arduous and perplexing. No pains were spared to fill each new order for men. In July, 1862, the town was called upon for forty-five men as its quota of the three hundred thousand called for by the President. In anticipation of the order a meeting of the citizens was held in the Town Hall on the evening of the 14th day of July. It was a rainy night, but the attendance was large, and stirring addresses were made by the clergymen and several other citizens of the town. It was voted expedient to pay liberal bounties, and the selectmen were requested to open a recruiting office and call a legal meeting forthwith. The next day a guarantee subscription of $1,000 for bounties was secured. On the 22d a company of thirty-two Spencer volunteers passed through town, escorted by the Spencer and Leicester fire companies and the Leicester Cornet Band. They halted a few minutes before the cottage of the venerable Dr. Nelson, who briefly addressed them. The town-meeting was held on the 26th of the same month, and it was unanimously voted to pay a bounty of $100 to all volunteers who had already enlisted or who should enlist under this call; that an additional bounty of $50 be paid to all who should remain in the service longer than one year; and an extra bounty of $25 to any who should enlist before the next Monday, at 9 o'clock, P.M. The meeting was adjourned to the evening, when patriotic addresses were made by several gentlemen. On the 28th a mass-meeting was held, but the process of filling the quota was difficult and slow. It was not completed when another call was issued for three hundred thousand men, to serve nine months. The town was ordered to furnish sixty men. On the evening of the 18th of August another war-meeting was held in the Town Hall. It was large, and proved to be the most stirring and eventful of those remarkable assemblies. John D. Cogswell, chairman of the Board of Selectmen, presided. Addresses were made by various prominent citizens. The chairman, in a few earnest words, urged all who could to enlist at once, and then placed his own name at the head of the list. Sixteen came forward at once, in the words of the Worcester *Spy*, "amidst the cheers and enthusiasm of the large number of ladies and gentlemen, who remained to a late hour." Among the number was the Rev. William F. Lacount, pastor of the Methodist Church in Cherry Valley. The quota was filled in a few days by volunteers. "Among them," as was truthfully stated in the *Spy*. "were the present and former chairmen of the Board of Selectmen, and many of the enterprising young men from the best families of the village. The industrious mechanic left a prosperous business, the minister his people, the collegiate his college class, and the husband and father the comforts and pleasures of

home to unite in putting down speedily this wicked and savage rebellion." Before August 30th fifty had volunteered, all but four of whom became members of a company recruited from Spencer, North Brookfield and Leicester, of which John D. Cogswell was captain, and T. M. Duncan, of North Brookfield, and Lyman A. Powers, of Spencer, lieutenants. On September 18 the company thus formed came together in the Town Hall, where the Leicester ladies served a collation, long remembered by these men in the subsequent days of army rations. Addresses were made by citizens and officers of the company, which was conveyed to its camp on the Agricultural Grounds in Worcester, preceded by the band, and escorted by the Union Fire Company. It was finally assigned, as Company F, to the Forty-second Massachusetts Regiment. They sailed on the 4th of December under sealed orders. After a long, stormy and perilous voyage, they reached New Orleans the 29th of December, where they served under General Banks. They were in no battles, but were engaged in arduous guard and picket duty.

They were mustered out of service August 20, 1863. A public reception had been arranged for them on their return, and tables were set in the Town Hall, but they were so much worn by their hardships in the malarial regions of New Orleans and so many were ill that the purpose was abandoned.

In this regiment were thirty-eight men from Leicester,—Albert M. Adams (who afterward enlisted in the Second Iowa Cavalry; was captured in Tennessee by Hood's army December 17, 1864, while on a charge; taken on foot to Meridian, five hundred and ninety miles, through mud, and over frozen ground, the last half of the way barefoot; thence in stock cars to Andersonville, thence to Macon, Ga., thence to Albany, Ga., thence on foot to Thomasville, Ga., thence by rail to Baleluin, Fla., thence on foot to Jacksonville, "arriving under the Star Spangled Banner April 29, 1865"), George Adams, Sergeant Bramley A. Bottomly, Corporal Charles B. Brown, Henry Bisco, Moses Bagley, Captain John D. Cogswell, Albert W. Cargell, Corporal James H. Croome, Clark K. Denny, Lewis W. Gates, George D. Hatch, Edward W. Hubbard, Henry E. Holbrook, William H. Haven, Charles S. Knight, John Craft, Rev. William F. Lacount (pastor of Cherry Valley M. E. Church, who acted a part of the time as chaplain and the rest as hospital nurse), Franklin M. Lamb (musician), Charles M. Marsh, Horatio P. Marshall, Peter McArdle, George Morgan, Albert S. Marsh, George Mann, Thomas Nolan, Martin Procter, Thomas H. Robinson, George M. Roberts (afterward lieutenant in the Sixtieth Regiment), William C. Sprague, Charles Sanderson, William J. Sprague, Corporal George L. Stone, Thomas S. Snow, Orderly Sergeant Joseph A. Titus, (afterward lieutenant in the Sixtieth Regiment), Charles H. Warren, Corporal Charles H. Woodcock, Eli Wrigglesworth (also in the Twenty-ninth Regiment), Albert M. Goulding, Warren E. Howard and John F. Kibler (first in the Fifty-first Regiment), enlisted in the Forty-second Regiment, in its second term of service for one hundred days.

July 13, 1863, fifty-two men were drafted from Leicester. Some of them paid the commutation fee of three hundred dollars or furnished substitutes, while others were, for various reasons, exempted, so that it is believed that none of them entered the service. This was a time of unusual excitement. The riots in New York and threatening demonstrations in other places encouraged resistance and awakened apprehensions. Whatever of disloyal feeling existed in town then found expression in protests and the encouragement of discontent. Information was received of threats to gain possession of the enrollment list, or burn the office where it was kept. The office was consequently guarded several nights by armed men, and the town, to some extent, patrolled. The danger may have been exaggerated, but the facts illustrate the feverish condition of the public mind at this time.

In November, 1863, the Rev. Mr. Coolidge received leave of absence from his church, and spent about two months with the Army of the Potomac, in the service of the Christian Commission. In all the years of the war the women vied with the men in loyal service. Every call for help met a prompt response, and there were many meetings for sewing and the preparation of hospital supplies, while the children made "comfort bags," furnished with sewing materials, for the convenience of the soldiers. In all this work, Mrs. Billings Swan, whose great regret was that she had not sons who were able to go to the war, was a conspicuous leader.

Mrs. Nelson, wife of the senior pastor of the First Congregational Church, although seventy-five years of age, labored unremittingly, and encouraged others to do the same. She knit one hundred pairs of stockings for the soldiers, and enclosed a note in the hundredth pair to the soldier who should receive it, to which she received an answer.

On the 21st and 22d of February, 1865, a fair was held in the Town Hall. Governor Emory Washburn was president, and made an opening address. The amount realized was $2636.07, which was equally divided between the Sanitary and Christian Commissions and the Freedmen's Aid Society.

In the Massachusetts Fifty-seventh Regiment were James Ackley, wounded at Spotsylvania, first serving in the navy, under Admiral Farragut on the Mississippi River, at the capture of New Orleans; William H. Anthony, shot at the North Anna, and killed by a charge of grape while being carried from the field; Freeman Davis, first in Fifteenth (wounded at Bull's Bluff), killed in the Wilderness; Oliver Gosler, died of wounds near Petersburg; Phineas L. Holbrook, wounded at North Anna; Edward A. Hawes, Emerson B. Lacount, musician; Patrick H. Mann-

ville, enlisted at fifteen years of age, killed at the battle of North Anna; Henry C. Maloney, died in the service; Joseph B. Winch, Sergeant Horace S. Pike, wounded at Petersburg; Jesse S. Scott, principal musician; Charles W. Gleason.

Hiram Streeter was also a member of this regiment. When friends endeavored to dissuade him from leaving his wife and young children, he said: "I have decided that it is my duty to defend my country, if I die in so doing." He enlisted, and after participating in the battles of the Wilderness and North Anna, was killed by a minie ball, before Petersburg, June 17, 1864.

In the Sixtieth Massachusetts Regiment, one hundred days' men, stationed at Indianapolis, were Corporal Alonzo W. Bond, Francis A. Bond, Aaron T. Cutler, Lewis R. Dowse, William Graham, John T. Gough, Lieutenant George R. Roberts, Lieutenant Joseph A. Titus, Henry L. Watson and Alphonso Woodcock.

In the Second Regiment was Edwards D. Farr, wounded in the foot at Cedar Mountain, twenty-four hours on the battle-field; came from it on crutches made with a pen-knife; died of the wound in the Massachusetts General Hospital, where he had suffered amputation. In the Tenth were Silas Bercume, wounded at Fair Oaks, re-enlisted in the First Connecticut Cavalry, taken prisoner at Ashland, in Libby Prison, Andersonville, Savannah and Milan; James E. Bacon, William Conway, who died in the service. In the Eleventh was George McDonald, missing after battle in the Wilderness.

In the Twelfth were the brothers Charles B. Frisbee (in fifteen battles, wounded at Antietam) and Albert Frisbee (in all the engagements of the regiment till taken prisoner at Gettysburg, in prison at Belle Isle, Libby and Andersonville, where he died. Their brother, William, was in an Ohio regiment, and was wounded in Georgia. Lovell P. Winch was in the Thirteenth; John Denny, in the Nineteenth; Henry R. Dawson, in the Twentieth. John Lord was in the Twenty-second, killed at the battle of Chickahominy. Lieutenant John Minor was in the Twenty-eighth; also Jesse Pollard, who was wounded in the second battle of Bull Run, and also at Secessionville, S. C. Eli Wrigglesworth was in the Twenty-ninth. In the Thirtieth were Sergt. Aaron Bowman (in all the battles of the regiment till his death at Baton Rouge, La.), Henry S. Thayer (who died at New Orleans), and James H. Whitney (who died in Mississippi). Captain Thomas Burt was in the Thirty-first; also in a Connecticut regiment; assistant provost marshal at New Orleans. Alexander H. Fairbanks and George E. Sibley were in the Sixty-first, and James H. Knight in the Sixty-second.

George Armitage was in the First Cavalry; Henry J. Biggs in the Second Cavalry, also John Trim, Lewis Gosler, Dennis S. Quinn. In the Third Cavalry, John Crogan, Eugene Eschman; in the Fourth Cavalry, David Dawson, bugler; Thomas Doyle, first in the Fifty-first Infantry, died of wounds at Magnolia, Florida; in the First Frontier Cavalry, Rodney W. Greenleaf.

In the Second Heavy Artillery, James Flannigan, Andrew Stowe, who died at Andersonville, and Charles L. Cummings, also in the Fifty-first Infantry; in the Third Heavy Artillery, John Crogan.

Edward May, paymaster in the naval service. Joseph Doran was also in the naval service.

In addition to those named are the following men who enlisted in the quotas of other places—in what regiments is not known: Dexter Austin, John Brooks, Andrew Clark, John Darling, Charles Fay, Michael Fritz, Patrick Henry, E. Hastings, James Morgan, John L. O'Brien, Owen Rice and Hugh Hopkins.

In addition to those who enlisted from town were men who were purchased as recruits from other places. Some of these are known to have done good service; of others little is known. In the Second Heavy Artillery were William Henry Harrison, James Lowell, Edward McKay, John McDonald, Walter Stone. In the Second Massachusetts Regiment were Richard Lynch, John Maller and Edward Shandley. In the Veteran Reserve Corps, Oliver Santum and Corporal Edward Kendall. In addition to these were Patrick Dowd, of the Fifty-sixth; Alexander H. Fairbanks, of the Sixty-first; Samuel Slater, of the Fifteenth and Twentieth; James Scott, of the Fifty-eighth; James Smith, of the Twenty-seventh; Rodney W. Greenlief, of the First Battalion, Frontier Cavalry, William H. McGregor, also of First Battalion, Frontier Cavalry, and Corporal George H. Lancaster, of the Third Heavy Artillery.

The following is a list of the names of recruits purchased by the town whose designation and history are unknown: Wm. Adams, Lewis L. M. Arnold, Jas. Barnes, Antoine Bownett, Jesse Croslin, Mark Colman, James Delany, Michael Demsey, John Doyle, Eliakim H. Eaton, Jas. Edmanson, Joshua H. Eldridge, Jno. F. Farrell, Henry Hastings, John F. Kenniston (unassigned recruit), James Leary, John L. Labene, William H. Leighton, Cornelius Leary, David G. Lambert, John Lee, Albert L. Loud, John Lindsey, Geo. S. Little, Wm. J. Lord, Patrick Lynch, Edw. L. Limminson, Stephen Lynch, John Lindsey, John Mullen, James Miller, Shubal Mayo, John Mooset, Sawney Nelson, William Ottevall, Owen Rice, Wm. Reese, Owen Smith, Henry Stewart, Samuel Stewart, Samuel Taylor, Edward Vaughn, George Varnum, Charles Vose, Edward Cottey, George Donnelly, Thomas Graves, Martin McBride, Oscar B. Phelps.

Eleven of the recruits are recorded as deserters. Their names are omitted from the roll of honor. With all the pains taken to make the list of soldiers complete, there are doubtless inevitable omissions.

The highest rank to which a soldier attained in the service is given in the lists. Some enlisted for other towns. The number of battles in which a soldier

was engaged is in some cases given; in others it is unknown.

As nearly as can be ascertained, the town furnished three hundred and twenty men for the war, of whom two hundred and forty-eight were in three years' regiments. Six were commissioned officers. Dr. John N. Murdock and T. E. Woodcock furnished substitutes. The military expenses of the town were $42,653.28, of which $12,383 were, however, for State aid. A league of enrolled men was organized in the summer of 1864, which raised $4,400 for the purchase of recruits, and $2,960 were raised by citizens not liable to a draft.

Considerable sums were also raised for the Sanitary and Christian Commissions. Throughout the entire war the women were untiring in their interest and labors for the relief of the suffering soldiers.

The names of Leicester men are on the rolls of twenty-eight Massachusetts regiments, and others enlisted in other States and in the regular army. At least thirty-three died in the service; eleven were in Rebel prisons, of whom seven died. The sons of Leicester were in over a hundred battles.

The premature announcement of General Lee's surrender occasioned such a thrill of joy as had not been experienced since the close of the Revolutionary War. The bells were rung, cannons were fired, and responses were heard from surrounding towns. News of the actual surrender arrived on the morning of the 10th of April, and was followed by the firing of cannon and the ringing of bells, and in the evening by the playing of the band and a general illumination. The terrible revulsion came on the 15th, with the tidings of the assassination of President Lincoln. The feeling here, as elsewhere, was intense; every other interest was forgotten, business was suspended, the bells were tolled during the afternoon, and ministers laid aside their preparation for the next day, unable on that memorable Sabbath to speak upon any other theme than that which alone interested the people. On the day of the funeral the bells were tolled and services, attended by people from all parts of town, were held in the First Church. "It was a large, sad audience."

During the morning service, on the 14th of May, a message was brought to the church containing the news of Jefferson Davis' capture, and the welcome fact was announced from the pulpit.

CHAPTER XCIV.

LEICESTER—(*Continued.*)

MISCELLANEOUS.

Individuals and Residences—Physicians—Lawyers—Items of Interest—Burying-Grounds—Post-Offices—Fire Department—Taverns—Libraries—Cherry Valley Flood—Histories—Celebrations.

INDIVIDUALS AND RESIDENCES.—In a sketch so brief as this there can be special mention of only a few of the many persons who are worthy of such notice. To some of these reference has been made in other connections.

The Earle families generally resided in the northeast part of the town, where they erected substantial homes, some of which are still an ornament to that neighborhood. They were so numerous that in 1812, when Rev. Dr. Nelson visited the Northeast School on examination day, he found that of the forty pupils present, twenty-one were grandchildren of "Uncle Robert" and "Aunt Sarah" Earle. Ralph Earle, the ancestor of the Leicester Earles, came to town in 1717 from Freetown, Mass. He became a large landowner and the head of a family, members of which, in their different generations, have had more than a local reputation. Among these, Ralph, his great-grandson, takes special rank as an artist. He made full-length portraits of Dr. Dwight, of Yale College, and others in Connecticut, and portraits of "many of the nobility and some of the royal family" of England. For a time he was under the instruction of Benjamin West in London, and he was made a member of the Royal Academy in that city. He painted the battle of Lexington and other battle-scenes of the early period of the Revolution, which were engraved. He has the distinction of being the first historical painter of America. A landscape view of Worcester, taken from Denny Hill, is now in the possession of Deacon C. C. Denny. His brother, James Earle, was also a painter of "considerable eminence." He was married in London, but died in Charleston, S. C., on a visit to America. Thomas Earle, grandson of the Ralph who came to Leicester, was a mechanic of remarkable skill. His home was on Bald Hill, in Cherry Valley, opposite Olney's factory. He planted rows of sycamores in front of his house on the day of the battle of Lexington, three of which are still standing. A musket of superior quality and beautiful finish, which he made for Col. William Henshaw, is preserved in good condition. Gen. Washington so much admired it that he ordered one like it for himself. Mr. Earle made the gun with great care, and when it was completed he loaded and primed it, placed it under water to the muzzle over night, and in the morning discharged it at the first pull of the trigger. He afterward shouldered it and carried it on foot to General Washington in New York.

Thomas Earle, the son of Pliny, born in Leicester and educated at the academy, was, in 1840, candidate of the Liberty party for Vice-President, with James G. Birney. He was an able editor and an influential writer in opposition to slavery. His home was in Philadelphia. He is described as "a man of powerful intellect," "enlarged views," "of warm and generous impulses," "a philanthropist whom oppression could not swerve; a politician whom politics could not corrupt; 'and a Christian whom sect could not circumscribe.'" Notices of other members of this family will be found in the history of Worcester.

The Henshaw place, northeast of Henshaw Pond, at first called Judge's Pond, was owned, and the house first built, by Judge John Menzies, who came from Roxbury in 1720. He was from Scotland, a member of the Faculty of Advocates in Edinburgh, and was appointed judge of the Court of Admiralty of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire. He was the first representative of the town to the General Court.

The place was afterward owned by Judge Thomas Steele, who has already been mentioned. After the Revolutionary War it came into the Henshaw family, where it has remained. Captain David Henshaw purchased it in 1782. Still later it was the home of Hon. David Henshaw. He was appointed collector of the port of Boston, by President Andrew Jackson, in 1829, and served with great credit to himself and advantage to the department. He was appointed Secretary of the Navy by President John Tyler, served for a short time, but his appointment was not confirmed by the Senate, which was of the opposite political party.

The mansion-house on Mount Pleasant was built in 1772 by Joseph Henshaw, who also gave to the hill its name.[1] He was a graduate of Harvard, in 1748. His connection with early Revolutionary events has already been referred to. He was a man of wealth, and loaned to the government, in its time of need, at least a hundred thousand dollars. At this house he took the mail from the courier, before the establishment of a post-office here. In 1795 the place came into the hands of James Swan, who fitted up the house and grounds in a style of magnificence far surpassing anything in this region. His wealth was supposed to be immense. After a few years reverses came upon him, he retired to France, and in 1830 reappears upon the opening of the Debtor's Prison, in Paris, as one who was set free, after occupying the same room thirty-two years and one day.

Daniel Denny, from whom descended all of that name in town, came from Combs, Suffolk County, England, to Boston in 1715, and removed to Leicester in 1717. The prominent position of the members of this family, in connection with town and national affairs, has already been indicated.

[1] Not Lewis Allen, as Washburn states.

Deborah, the daughter of Daniel Denny, was the wife of Rev. Thomas Prince, D.D., of the Old South Church, Boston. Colonel Samuel Denny lived on Moose Hill; he was lieutenant-colonel of the minutemen and colonel of the First Worcester County Regiment, a member of the General Court, and of the convention to ratify the National Constitution.

St. John Honeywood, son of Dr. John Honeywood, graduated with high honors at Yale in 1782, was a lawyer in Salem, N. Y., and one of the electors for John Adams. He died at the age of thirty-four. Says Washburn: "He gave early evidence of having been endowed by nature with the eye of a painter and the sensibility of a poet." A posthumous volume of his poems was published in 1801.

Colonel Henry Sargent was one of the wealthy and prominent men of the town honored with civil and military office. Two of his sons were graduated from Harvard College, and were physicians in Worcester. Dr. Henry Sargent died in 1857. Dr. Jos. Sargent died in 1888, after a long practice in the profession, in which he held high rank. The Sargent family has been one of standing in the town, and other members are elsewhere noticed.

The Green family came from Malden, and were at one time the most numerous in town. Members of this family have been already noticed in connection with the early history of the town. The Southgate family were from England, and have also been prominently identified with the town's history.

The large residence east of the Common was built by Joshua Clapp, the enterprising and generous Clappville manufacturer. Mr. Denny, in his "Reminiscences," says of him that he was "a decided and active temperance man in the early days of the reform." In 1836 he bought the hotel in the Centre village, and converted it into a temperance house. Mrs. Ellen E. Flint afterward owned the Clapp place for many years. She was a woman of strong character, benevolent and public-spirited. She built the massive walls which have given to the place the name of "Stonewall Farm." The place, some time after her death, came into the hands of Dr. Horace P. Wakefield, who resided there several years. It was then purchased by Hon. Samuel Winslow, mayor of Worcester, remodeled and much enlarged, and is now his summer residence.

Phineas Bruce was elected to Congress in 1803, but never took his seat.

Hon. William Upham was educated at the academy; was district judge in Vermont and United States Senator.

Hon. Nathan Allen was a member of the House of Representatives; also Hon. John E. Russell, elected in 1886.

Three persons at least, in Leicester, have lived to a remarkable age. Elihu Emerson was born in Westfield, Mass., July 21, 1771. He resided for many years with his daughter, Mrs. Dr. Edward Flint,

where he died October 31, 1873, at the age of one hundred and two years, three months and ten days.

Ebenezer Dunbar was born March 29, 1777, in Leicester, where he always resided. He died November 4, 1877, and was thus one hundred years, seven months and six days old.

Mrs. Lydia Watson, the widow of Mr. Robert Watson, is still living in her one hundred and third year. She was born in Spencer, January 5, 1777.

PHYSICIANS.—The first physician in Leicester was Dr. Thomas Green, already noticed as the first pastor of the Baptist Church in Greenville.

Dr. Pliny Lawton taught school in 1748 and 1749 and was then called "Doctor." He died, in 1761, of small-pox, which he contracted while in the courageous discharge of his duty, and was buried in his own field.

Dr. John Honeywood was in practice here in 1753. He was an Englishman and his interest in the early Revolutionary movements, and his death while serving in the American army, have been already noticed. He was a well-educated and skillful physician.

Dr. Solomon Parsons taught school in 1751. He was a son of Rev. David Parsons, born April 18, 1726, and died March 20, 1807. His wife died the same year as Dr. Lawton, of small-pox, and he was under the necessity of burying her alone, by night. He is supposed to have been surgeon in the army in 1761.

Dr. Isaac Green, son of Dr. Thomas Green, was born in 1741 and died in 1812. He was surgeon in Col. Samuel Denny's regiment in 1777, and was at Saratoga at the taking of Burgoyne.

Dr. Edward Rawson was born in Mendon in 1754 and died in 1786.

Dr. Absalom Russell practiced here a few years and was a surgeon in the Revolutionary army.

Dr. Robert Craige, Dr. Jeremiah Larned and Dr. Thomas Hersey were in practice in town during the last half of the last century, and also Dr. Thaddeus Brown.

The most eminent physician of the town, after Dr. Thomas Green, was Dr. Austin Flint. He was born in Shrewsbury, January, 1760; came to Leicester in 1783, and died August 29, 1850. He is characterized by Governor Washburn as "an intelligent, well-informed man, of strong will and indomitable courage;" of "affable manners" and with a "rich fund of anecdote and good sense." He entered the army at the age of seventeen and his record in the Revolution and "Shays' Rebellion" has already been given. He was for twenty successive years moderator of town-meeting, for fifteen years town clerk, for sixteen years trustee of the academy, for about thirty years a magistrate and for five years a Representative in the Legislature. He not only practiced throughout the town, but also in other towns. He kept a record of the births at which he rendered professional aid. The number is 1750. His wife (Elizabeth) was the daughter of Col. Wm. Henshaw.

Dr. Edward Flint, his son, elsewhere noticed, began practice here in 1811.

Dr. Ames Walbridge came to Greenville about the year 1830, and died there July 30, 1867, at the age of seventy-five.

Dr. Jacob Holmes was a physician in Leicester from 1834 to 1847. Rev. Isaac Worcester, M.D., who married the daughter of Colonel Henry Sargent, was for a short time in practice here, as were also Dr. C. D. Whitcomb and Dr. James P. C. Cummings and Dr. E. A. Daggett, who was followed by Dr. John P. Scribner. Dr. George O. Warner came to Leicester in 1866 and remained until his death, November 12, 1885, at the age of forty-six. He gained a very extensive practice throughout the entire town and region. He was for a short time an army surgeon. He was kind and sympathetic and his death was universally lamented.

The present physicians in the village are Dr. Fred. H. Gifford, graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1874. Dr. Charles H. Warner graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1870, and commenced practice in Leicester in 1885; and Dr. Charles G. Stearns, graduated from Amherst College in 1874 and from the Harvard Medical School in 1881. He commenced practice here in the winter of 1885. Dr. Leonard W. Atkinson graduated from Boston University Medical School in 1884, began practice in Cherry Valley in 1885.

LAWYERS.—Christopher J. Lawton came to Leicester, 1735; practiced until 1751.

Hon. Nathaniel Paine Denny graduated at Harvard, 1797; settled in Leicester in 1800; practiced for twenty years; and represented the town in the Legislature ten years.

Bradford Sumner, graduated at Brown University, 1808; came to Leicester, 1813; practiced until 1820.

David Brigham, graduated at Harvard, 1810; came to Leicester in 1817; practiced a little more than two years.

Daniel Knight, graduated at Brown University, 1813; came to Leicester, 1821.

Emory Washburn, graduated at Williams College in 1817; practiced in Leicester from 1821–28.

Waldo Flint, graduated at Harvard in 1814 and came to Leicester in 1828. He was afterward for many years president of the Eagle Bank, Boston.

Silas Jones succeeded Mr. Flint, but only practiced for a short time.

Henry Oliver Smith, a native of Leicester, graduated at Amherst, 1863, and since 1866 has practiced in Leicester.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.—A few items of interest from Washburn's history and other sources are added here. The first public conveyance for passengers was the line of "stage-wagons" between Boston and Hartford, opened October 20, 1783, by Levy Pease, of Somers, Conn., and Reuben Sikes, of Hartford. Before this the mails were carried on horseback.

There are persons now living who remember to have seen sixteen stage-coaches at one time around the tavern on Leicester Hill. In the last century two huge horse-blocks near the meeting-house and the public stocks were conspicuous objects on the Common. The last "pillory" was built in 1763, for thirteen shillings, by Benjamin Tucker. George Washington, on his journey to Boston in 1789, passed through Leicester October 22d, and met a delegation of gentlemen from Worcester on the line between the two towns. Lafayettte, on the 3d of September, 1824, passed through the south part of the town "attended by a troop of horse and an escort of military officers, citizens, etc."

Colonel Thomas Denny introduced the first piano to the town about the year 1809. The second belonged to the daughter of Captain John Southgate a few years later. The first carpet in town was woven by Mrs. David Bryant early in the present century.

In the first quarter of the present century there was in the Centre Village a literary association composed of the younger women, which met from house to house, and is represented to have had a brilliant success. Some of the productions of its members found a place in the *Worcester Spy*, among the "Blossoms of Parnassus." "History," says Washburn, "can only record the fact that it once existed, flourished many years and disappeared." It has had, however, many successors.

BURYING-GROUNDS.—The first burying-ground in town was the church-yard back of the early meeting-house, which was surrounded by a brush fence. It dates back to 1714. The Greenville Cemetery was opened about the year 1736; the Elliott Burying-yard, in the north part of the town, in 1756. The burying-ground of the Friends at Mannville was in existence as early as 1739. The Rawson Brook Cemetery dates back to 1755, and the Cherry Valley Cemetery was opened in 1816, and the Pine Grove in 1842. In these several burying-places have been laid about 2800 bodies. The number of deaths in town since 1800, recorded on the town books and elsewhere, is 3469. In the first decade there are 98, in the second, 150; in the third, 193; in the fourth, 265; in the fifth, 324; in the sixth, 431; in the seventh, 474; in the eighth, 552; from 1880 to 1883, 451. These facts are from the record of C. C. Denny, Esq., who has made a careful investigation and study of the subject.

POST-OFFICES.—A post-office was established in Leicester about 1798, and Ebenezer Adams, Esq., was the first commissioned postmaster. He was succeeded by Col. Thomas Denny, Col. Henry Sargent, John Sargent (appointed April, 1829), Henry D. Hatch, L. D. Thurston, the present incumbent appointed.

The post-office in Rochdale was established in 1824, and Rev. Joseph Muenscher was the first postmaster.

The post-office in Cherry Valley was established in 1859, with Henry Tainter, postmaster.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.—The date of procuring the little engine upon which the town depended many years for extinguishing fires is not known. A fire-engine, called "Union No 2," was purchased in 1841, partly by the town and partly by individual subscriptions. It came to town April 20th. A steam fire-engine was bought in 1869, and in 1886 it was replaced by the present steam-engine. In 1885 a steamer was obtained for Cherry Valley, and chemical extinguishers for Rochdale and Greenville.

TAVERNS.—The first tavern was on the corner of Main and Paxton Streets. It was occupied by Nathaniel Richardson in 1721, John Tyler 1746, John Tyler, Jr., 1755, Seth Washburn 1756, then by John Tyler, by Benjamin Tucker 1761, Edward Bond 1767. It was then burnt and rebuilt, occupied by Elijah Lathrop 1776, Peter Taft 1778, Reuben Swan 1781, William Denny 1801, Aaron Morse 1810.

The second tavern was opposite the Catholic Church, built by Jonathan Sargent as early as 1727. He was succeeded by his son Phineas, and he in 1776 by Nathan Waite.

James Smith had a tavern in the last house in Leicester, on the road to Spencer, in 1740. He was followed by Samuel Lynde in 1755; the house was destroyed by the hurricane in 1759.

Phineas Newhall built in 1776 a tavern on the Iatnuck Road, where the last house in Leicester stands, which was open for many years.

The first tavern on the site of Leicester Hotel, opposite the Common, was built in 1776, by Nathan Waite. Jacob Reed Rivera, the Jew, bought it for his store in 1777. Here a hotel has been kept by successive landlords to the present time. Among these was John Hobert, who had charge of it from 1799 to 1817, and gave to it a wide-spread reputation as an excellent hostelry. In later years, notwithstanding the growth of the temperance sentiment in town, this hotel continued to defy the public will. It at length became so intolerable a nuisance that it was purchased by a company of citizens and closed. In 1882 it was burnt. In 1885 this company built the present Leicester Hotel, which has since been kept by L. G. Joslin, and has become a favorite resort for "summer boarders." During the Revolution Abner Dunbar had a tavern on Mount Pleasant (Benjamin Earle place), and George Bruce about the beginning of this century kept public-house on Mount Pleasant, in the residence before occupied by Major James Swan.

Samuel Green had a tavern in Greenville. The Rochdale Hotel was built by Samuel Stone about 1810, and was first kept by Hezekiah Stone.

LIBRARIES.—In 1793 provision was made for a "Social Library," the "Proprietors" first meeting December 10th. The fire-engine company established a library in 1812. A "Second Social Library" was commenced in 1829. These several libraries had fallen into disuse, but in 1858, by the efforts of the writer, they were united, and removed to one of the rooms of the Town House, and again opened for cir-

culation. This library, containing about eight hundred and fifty volumes, was, in 1861, offered to the town, and at the town-meeting held March 4, 1861, was unanimously accepted. The library has gradually increased, and in February, 1888, the number of volumes was six thousand two hundred and twenty-eight. There are branch libraries at Rochdale, Greenville and Cherry Valley, and the books are largely used in all parts of the town. The library has received donations of books from many individuals. Among these should be especially mentioned Waldo Flint, Esq., who gave to it nearly three hundred and fifty volumes. Over five hundred volumes from his own library came to it after his death. The library is also indebted to the interest and liberality of Abraham Firth, Esq. Mrs. E. H. Flint, Governor Washburn and many others have been its generous friends. But the library is most of all indebted to Rev. Samuel May for his long-continued devotion and services. He has taken upon himself as a free-will service the arrangement and care of books, the preparation and publishing of catalogues, and the general supervision of the library. The management of the library is committed to a Board of Directors consisting of five members, one of whom is annually chosen to serve five years. On the 13th and 14th days of January, 1873, the library was placed in the new "Memorial Hall," an attractive room in the Town House. It has already nearly outgrown these accommodations, and waits the time when wealthy and generous friends shall make provision for a library building. D. E. Merriam, who died in 1888, left toward this object $5,000.

Cherry Valley Flood.—On March 29th, 1876, the dam of Lynde Brook Reservoir, the water supply of Worcester, gave signs of weakness. The water surface of the lake is 1870 acres and there were in it at the time 663,330,000 gallons of water. There had been heavy rains. Four days before one of the series of dams on the Kettle Brook, into which Lynde Brook empties, gave way, occasioning great damage to roads and bridges and flooding a part of Cherry Valley. The water of Lynde Reservoir was at the time running over the flash-boards, twenty-seven inches higher than the dam. A leakage at the lower waste-gate house showed signs of increase, and this was the signal of danger.

Strenuous efforts were made through this and the next day to save the dam, or at least hold it in place till the waters could gradually escape. Loads of earth and stone and large trees were thrown in above the dam. Meanwhile the alarm was given to families along the stream. Dwelling-houses were deserted, mill property was removed to the hill-sides and crowds of people stood upon the banks awaiting the result. The dam stood through the day and night and through the next day, and it was hoped that the calamity might be averted. All through the night and the next day the anxious watch continued. At about ten minutes before six, in the afternoon of Thursday, March 30th, a little stream of water broke out above the lower gate-house. The alarm was given; the dam was cleared of men and teams. The stream enlarged each second, earth and stones were thrown up, the bank of the dam caved in, the stone wall stood for a minute and then gave way, and the reservoir poured its contents into the channel below. The scene is described by many who witnessed it as grand beyond description. The water came rushing and roaring down the course of the brook, tearing out a gorge a hundred feet in width and carrying the solid masonry far down the stream. Those who were in Cherry Valley could hear the grating of the rocks ground together by the force of the waters. As it passed down the ravine its appearance was grandly beautiful. The water, nearly fifty feet in height, came surging, seething, rolling on, lashed into foam, a white feathery vapor rising above it. When it reached the street it tore away the bridge and roadway and then spread out over the meadow, converting the lower parts of the village into a sea, and then at Smith's dam was forced through the narrow passage. It passed through the centre of Mr. Olney's house, leaving the walls standing. The barn and carriage-house were separated and then floated out gracefully on the water, only to be wrecked when they reached the rocks below. Several tenement houses were destroyed. The flood tore away most of Smith's factory, annihilated Bottomly's mill and carried away the rear of the several factories along the stream and the dams; it wrenched away the boiler of Ashworth & Jones' mill and deposited it half a mile below, and swept away the engine and boiler of Smith's mill so that they were never found. At the corner of the Jamesville Road and Main Street it struck the bank, and became a whirlpool as it turned southerly to Jamesville, where it was divided. A part of the flood followed the stream, inflicting damage upon the dam and factory. The other part followed the Boston & Albany Railroad for nearly two miles, gullying out the track and destroying the double arch bridge. The scene after the flood was one of wild desolation, the fields and meadows being covered with boulders and the *débris*. The spot was visited by thousands of people during the next few days, some of them coming from a distance. The estimated number on one day was thirty thousand.

Histories.—Leicester is unusually rich in annalists and historians. First among these is Governor Emory Washburn, to whose "Topographical and Historical Sketches of the Town of Leicester," published June, 1826, in the *Worcester Magazine and Historical Journal*, his "Brief Sketch of the History of Leicester Academy," published in 1855, his several addresses on anniversary occasions, and his "History of Leicester," published in 1860, the town is indebted for the collection and preservation of the facts of its early history. In the preparation of his history he was

Edward Flint

more largely than is generally known indebted to Jos. A. Denny, Esq., who gathered much of this information, and whose "Reminiscences of Leicester," published about fourteen years ago in the *Worcester Spy*, whose history of the schools, published in the School Report of 1849, whose various compilations from the Town Records, whose identification of locations, and whose personal journal, covering a period of eighteen years, including that of the Civil War, entitle him to the distinction of the annalist of Leicester. Miss Harriet E. Henshaw in 1776 published "Reminiscences of Colonel William Henshaw," which are rich in interesting and curious information relating to the Revolutionary period. Not only local, but other historians are indebted to her rich stores of ancient manuscripts, including the Orderly Books of Colonel William Henshaw, Adjutant-General of the Provincial Army, containing the official records of the Revolutionary army during the first year of the war, letters of the Committee of Correspondence, and other documents of inestimable historical value. Draper's "History of Spencer" and Whitney's "History of Worcester County" are also sources from which light is also thrown upon the early history of the town. The academy has also had its historians. A brief but valuable sketch was published in 1829 in connection with Principal Preceptor Luther Wright's address. Rev. S. May, in the "Proceedings of the Worcester Society of Antiquity," 1882, has a paper on the academy. Governor Washburn's history, and the address of Hon. W. W. Rice at the centennial anniversary of the institution, are both of them the result of much careful research. The historical sermon of Rev. B. F. Cooley, at the fiftieth anniversary of Christ Church, Rochdale, and "The Religious History of the First Congregational Church in Leicester," by Rev. A. H. Coolidge, have also been published. To these sources of information is to be added the historical sermon of Rev. Hiram Estes, D.D., at the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Baptist Church in Greenville. The manuscript journal of Ruth Henshaw, reaching back into the last century, gives an insight into the life of the early times, and serves to verify some of the facts and dates of history. The letters of Grace Denny, of England, published in the "Genealogy of the Denny Family," prepared by C. C. Denny, Esq., are of special interest, referring as they do to the situation of the place soon after its settlement.

CELEBRATIONS.—In addition to celebrations in town which have been noticed in other connections, are others of an interesting character. The four towns, Leicester, Spencer, Paxton and Auburn, which wholly or in part were embraced in the original township, united in celebration on the 4th of July, 1849, in the grove, on Grove Street. Hon. Samuel Draper, of Spencer, presided. More than two thousand persons were present. The citizens of Spencer, preceded by the fire company, were escorted into the village, under the direction of Henry A. Denny as chief marshal, by the Leicester Fire Company, with the Northbridge Band. Four Revolutionary soldiers were honored guests. The address was by Hon. Emory Washburn, and is a valuable contribution to the Revolutionary history of the towns. Rev. Dr. Nelson was chaplain. Among the after-dinner addresses was that of Hon. Joseph Sprague, ex-mayor of Brooklyn, N. Y.

The 4th of July, 1871, was chosen as the date of celebrating the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the town by the several towns of the original township. The exercises were in a large tent on the Common. Rev. S. May, in behalf of the Committee of Arrangements, introduced the exercises of the morning, which consisted of music by the Worcester Band, singing, prayer by the chaplain, Rev. A. H. Coolidge, and a learned and eloquent historical address by Governor Emory Washburn. About eight hundred sons and daughters of Leicester sat down at the tables, Capt. J. D. Cogswell as marshal having charge of the arrangements. Jos. A. Denny, Esq., as president of the day, introduced the after-dinner exercises, Dr. J. N. Murdock acting as toast-master. Addresses were made by Hon. Waldo Flint, Abraham Firth, Esq., Hon. Edward Earle, Gen. E. T. Jones, Hon. N. Sargent and others.

In 1876 the towns again united and celebrated the centennial of the Declaration of Independence. The morning exercises were in the town hall, and Rev. S. May was president of the day. John E. Russell, Esq., delivered an eloquent address. The singing was under the direction of Mr. Thomas S. Livermore, and the music by the Leicester Cornet Band. The company then moved in procession, under Capt. J. D. Cogswell as marshal, to Sargent's Grove, where after-dinner addresses were made by the several clergymen, teachers of the academy and others.

The principal addresses on all these occasions have been published, and are invaluable sources of important and interesting local and general history.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

DR. EDWARD FLINT.[1]

Dr. Edward Flint belonged to a family of physicians. His grandfather, Dr. Edward Flint, of Shrewsbury, was the physician of that town during a long life. His father, Dr. Austin Flint, born in Shrewsbury, established himself in Leicester in 1783, at the close of the War of the Revolution, in which he had been an army surgeon, lived here a long and honored life, professionally eminent, and died at over ninety years of age. His elder brother was Dr. Joseph H.

[1]By Rev. Samuel May.

Flint, of Northampton and Springfield, whose son Austin became distinguished in New York, both in practice and as a medical author; and who left a son, also named Austin, as successor to his labors and honors. Dr. John Flint, of Boston, was a cousin, and studied medicine with him. And his only son, John Sydenham Flint, was a physician for some forty years in Roxbury, held in the highest esteem there, and died in April, 1887.

Dr. Edward Flint, second son of Dr. Austin and Elizabeth (Henshaw) Flint, of Leicester, was born November 7, 1789. He studied medicine with his father, and established himself in its practice in Leicester in 1811. Six years later he was married to Harriet, eldest daughter of Elihu Emerson, Esq., of Norwich, Vt. Soon after marriage he built the house in the centre of the town which he occupied during life, and where his widow now resides in her ninety-first year. Dr. Flint died May 30, 1880, being, like his father, a few months over ninety years of age. Three children was born to them—Charlotte Emerson, Sally, and John Sydenham. The daughters were very excellent and attractive young women, but they both died in early womanhood. Their loss severely tried Dr. Flint's faith and firmness; but no murmur escaped him. Seven years after his own death, his only son died, as already stated, and the mother is now left childless, but is ministered to, in her age and many infirmities, with unsurpassed devotedness.

Dr. Flint succeeded to his father's large practice, which extended beyond the town limits. He gave his life, in the strictest sense, to his profession, and to those who needed his services, making no discrimination among those who were able and those who were not able to pay him for that service. It was a life uneventful, but steadily laborious, and attended with frequent exposures. A physician has peculiar opportunity to render charitable service, and Dr. Flint had his full share of such experience; and as he had a great repugnance to pressing the collection of debts due him, it followed that an unusual amount of such indebtedness was never paid. A recent writer in a *Health Journal* says: "It is safe to say that but few physicians in general practice manage to collect more than one-half of their bills," and enlarges upon the wrong thus done. Cases of destitution will always occur, and our physicians may be safely trusted not to forget them; but it should cease to be thought allowable for others to use a doctor's time and services without compensation. Attempts, on various grounds, were made to introduce other physicians to the town, but the general respect and confidence of Leicester people were never withdrawn from Dr. Flint. Washburn, in his "History of Leicester," says of him: "The rank and position which Dr. Flint sustains in the community have been the natural result of the many years of honorable and successful pursuit of the profession of his choice."

He was a life-long friend of temperance. When his house was built—which was before the day of temperance societies—he induced the workmen to give up the customary strong drink, and he furnished them hot coffee in its place, which Mrs. Flint daily made for them. He never permitted wine or strong drinks to be placed on his table, nor offered to visitors, and never used them himself. He told the present writer that he had an early lesson on the subject, in seeing his father always pass the mug or glass untasted, as it went the rounds among the neighbors collected at some public place. His horses and his dogs were more than his servants: they were his friends and he was theirs. He had a quaint humor, with a somewhat rough manner, in both respects resembling his father. When a boy he one day brought from the post-office to his father a small packet; his father, on opening it, said, "Here, Ned, take off your jacket," which being done, the father rolled up the boy's sleeve, and with no further notice made an incision in his arm and inserted some vaccine matter, and thus, as he always claimed, he became, with little previous notice, the first subject of vaccination in the town of Leicester.

DEA. JOSHUA MURDOCK.[1]

The older readers of this history will be glad to recognize in the accompanying engraving the likeness of Dea. Joshua Murdock. He was the son of William and Achsah Murdock, and was born in Westminster, Mass., October 28, 1780. He served a regular apprenticeship as cabinet-maker to Artemas Woodward, of Medfield, Mass. He was united in marriage with Clarissa Hartshorn, of Medfield, June 3, 1806, and soon removed to West Boylston, and, with his brother Artemas, began the business of cabinet-making. In 1811 he came to Leicester and purchased the place still owned by the family. His cabinet-shop was east of the house. Here he carried on the business for many years, employing a number of hands. He was in every sense a master-workman. The products of his skill were at once thorough and elegant, and many highly valued and beautiful specimens are still retained in various families in the vicinity.

In 1833, and again in 1834, the town expressed its appreciation of him by electing him to the House of Representatives in the Legislature of the State. He was for many years treasurer of the First Parish, first elected when the affairs of the parish were managed by the town, through the selectmen. He was also trustee of the invested funds of the church and parish to the time of his death. He was made deacon of the church January 7, 1817, and retained the office through life. He was the first superintendent of the Sunday-school, and held that office, as nearly as can be ascertained, more than twenty-five years.

In April, 1812, he with his wife united with the First Congregational Church—the first persons to make

[1] By A. H. Coolidge.

Joshua Murdock

Jos. A. Denny

a public profession of faith after the settlement of Dr. Nelson, the month before. He possessed a singularly even and benign spirit, sweetened by genuine piety. He was always very modest and retiring, yet he cheerfully accepted the cares and responsibilities of his office in the church, and was always heard with interest and pleasure in the several meetings of the church. The writer remembers him with the deepest respect and tenderness as one of the truest, most helpful and sympathetic of his friends in the first years of his ministry.

He died suddenly, in his shop, December 30, 1859. A memorial sermon was preached by the junior pastor, January 8, 1860, from Prov. 20: 6—"Most men will proclaim every one his own goodness; but a faithful man who can find?"

JOSEPH A. DENNY, ESQ.[1]

Joseph Addison Denny was the grandson of Daniel Denny, who settled in Leicester in the spring of 1717. He was one of the twelve children of Joseph Denny. His mother, Phœbe Denny, was the daughter of Col. William Henshaw.

He was born May 13, 1804, and passed his early childhood in the house on Main Street now owned by the family of the late John Loring. His mother died when he was eleven years old. About two years later he left home and was a clerk in the store of H. G. Henshaw, Esq., in New Worcester, for two or three years. He then returned home, and attended school at Leicester Academy for several terms. About the year 1823 he was engaged as a clerk in the store of James & John A. Smith, in a building west of the Leicester Hotel. There he remained until 1826, when he commenced the manufacture of card-clothing, which he continued until 1857.

He was a diligent and intelligent student, and productions of his pen at this period, which are still preserved, indicate unusual thoughtfulness as well as literary taste. He early formed the determination of making his life a success in the truest sense. He even gave up the games and other amusements in which many of the young were absorbed, that he might secure his evenings for useful reading. When he reached the age of twenty-one years he wrote a series of resolutions for "future guidance." These resolutions are indicative of his early purpose, as well as of his later character. Among them are the resolutions to abstain from the use of "ardent spirits," gambling and profane language. The platform of business principles which he then adopted is worthy of the consideration of the young, and is given in his own words: "Resolved, That if frugality and application to business will ensure me a competency of wealth, I will never be poor. That, while I have my health, I will never spend faster than I earn, and on the contrary, while I have a sufficiency, I will never deny myself the conveniences of life for the purpose of hoarding up treasure. That, while I am prospered in business, I will never refuse charity, where I think it my duty to extend it. And should I ever accumulate property, may I have the satisfaction of reflecting that it was not obtained by oppressing the poor, unfair dealing or any other dishonorable means, and may a bountiful Providence prosper my undertakings."

In the year 1826 he entered the firm of Isaac Southgate & Co., which, as has already been stated, developed into that of Bisco & Denny. It was in the beginning a small enterprise. The pricking and tooth-forming machines were moved by hand, and the cards sent out to be set by women and children. The business increased gradually, and prospered so that by careful attention to its details he secured a competence.

He was also largely interested in the establishment of the Leicester Boot Company. He was a prominent director and valued adviser in the State Mutual Life Assurance, and the Merchants' and Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Companies in Worcester, from the date of their organization to the time of his death. He was a director and for a time the president of the Leicester Bank. He was assistant assessor in the Internal Revenue Department during and after the war. He served the town as selectman and School Committee, and from March, 1850, to the time of his death, in 1875, was town clerk. He was, in 1857, elected to the House of Representatives in the Legislature of the State. His services for the academy, to whose interest he was earnestly devoted, were invaluable. He was a trustee from August 20, 1834, and treasurer from May 11, 1853, till his death, in 1875. He gave to this institution his personal services, and contributed liberally to its funds; and it was through his influence that most of its present endowment was secured. With many of the former pupils of this institution the thought of Leicester Academy and Joseph A. Denny are inseparable. His portrait has a place with the founders and benefactors of the academy in Smith Hall. Mr. Denny was a man of literary tastes, and spent much time in reading, thus familiarizing himself with history and the best literature.

He at different times traveled in various parts of the country, and had a comprehensive appreciation alike of its resources and its need. He took special pains to familiarize himself with statute law. He wrote legal documents, and had charge of pecuniary trusts, and settled estates. He wrote many wills, and often, by wise suggestion, impressed upon men in the disposal of their property the importance of making liberal provision for their wives, a consideration which is too often found overlooked. Although never admitted to the bar, he was still a legal adviser, consulted by people of his own and neighboring towns. This service was to a large extent gra-

[1] By Rev. A. H. Coolidge.

tuitous. He was pre-eminently the friend and helper of widows and orphans, and of the poor. Men and women of all classes and different nationalities resorted to him for counsel and help. They came to him with their quarrels, their business perplexities, their financial troubles, their plans and enterprises and their sorrows; and found in him an attentive listener, a sound adviser, a generous helper and a sympathizing friend. He was, perhaps, more than any other person, familiar with the locations and history of Leicester and the lives of its former inhabitants; and to him, more largely than is generally known, Gov. Emory Washburn was indebted for the materials of his excellent history of the town. His manuscript notes, his "Reminiscences of Leicester," published in the *Worcester Spy*, and his journal which is a record of passing events, are of great historical value. He may be truthfully termed the annalist of Leicester.

In 1874 he made a tour of Europe, which was a source of great profit and enjoyment to so intelligent and appreciative an observer. He was especially interested in visiting the home of his ancestors and his relatives in England.

He united with the First Congregational Church in July, 1827, and through life was one of its devoted and helpful members and a constant attendant upon all its services. He was, for many years and at the time of his death, a teacher in the Sunday-school. He was interested in the great missionary enterprises, both home and foreign, and contributed liberally to them. He set apart at the beginning of each year a certain portion of his income for benevolent objects, and regarded one-tenth of a successful business man's profits as too little to be thus employed. He was interested in young men who were struggling for an education, and gave liberal aid to those who were preparing for the ministry. He had a large circle of friends, and was widely known. He married, April 30, 1829, Mary Davis, the daughter of Major Joel Davis, of Rutland, Mass., who survives him. They had two children,—Mary Elizabeth, the wife of Deacon Lyman D. Thurston, and Hon. Charles Addison Denny. He built the house in which he so long resided in 1837. He had all the qualities which made home and social life delightful. He was fond of children, and his conversation was instructive and entertaining. He died February 25, 1875, of pneumonia, after a few days' illness. It was said of him at his funeral, which was largely attended in the First Congregational Church: "He understood better than most men the truth that while men die, institutions and influences live, and was largely endowed with that rare, unselfish wisdom which qualifies one to build the foundations of the public welfare deep and enduring. The effects of this purpose, which, to a large extent, dictated the policy of his life, will be more fully understood and acknowledged in the future than they can be now, and his name will go down to posterity as one of the benefactors of the town."

He kept from January 1, 1857, to September, 1874, a personal journal, which is of great value as a record also of local and public events in one of the most eventful periods of our national history. A few days before his death he completed a transfer to this journal of the diary of his European travels, and formally concluded the series of entries with these significant words: "And here I will close this daily journal of my own private matters, which I have kept for almost eighteen years, intending it principally as a business memoranda. It has often been useful to me as a reference; but as I have fewer business transactions, and have just recorded the history of one of the most important transactions of my life—a voyage to Europe—I will here close my record, blessing God for his care and protection, not only during this voyage, but a long life, now reaching more than three-score years and ten."

DWIGHT BISCO.[1]

Dwight Bisco, who was for sixty years one of the leading citizens and business men of Leicester, was born in Spencer April 27, 1799, one of several sons of Jacob Bisco. Upon his father's farm he lived and worked until twenty-two years of age, when, with a silver dollar as his only money capital, he came to Leicester, and engaged in the employment of Cheney Hatch, one of the card-clothing manufacturers,—a business of which Leicester then had almost a monopoly. Bringing with him good character, intelligence, habits of industry and self-control, and not afraid of work, he steadily acquired skill in this intricate and difficult manufacture.

In 1826 he associated himself as partner with Isaac Southgate, Joshua Lamb, John Stone and Joseph A. Denny, another house in the same business. In 1843 Mr. Denny and he bought the interest of the other partners, and continued the business, under the name of Bisco & Denny, until Mr. Denny's death, in 1875. It was then passed on by Mr. Bisco into the hands of his sons and of Mr. Denny's only son, he continuing to occupy himself in the factory until February, 1882, when he entirely withdrew, being then in his eighty-third year.

In middle life he had invested the chief part of his savings in the Leicester Boot Company. It was unfortunate, and was brought to an end by the burning of the company's buildings and stock, September 25, 1860, inflicting on him a total loss of all he had paid in. With a quiet courage he applied himself again to business, as closely as in his youth, and was enabled to make good his loss, and to present to his eight children, at the Thanksgiving dinner-table, five hundred dollars each.

[1] By Rev. Samuel May.

Dwight Bisco

Hiram Knight

His marriage with Ruth Woodcock (daughter of John Woodcock, Sr., and sister of John, Josephus and Lucius, of the following generation), in 1826, founded a family life of great happiness and unity for more than fifty years. When they celebrated their golden wedding, January 8, 1876, "we saw them," said Rev. Mr. Coolidge, "standing together, a spectacle rarely witnessed, an unbroken family,"—parents, children and grandchildren,—a circle which death had then never entered. But in September of that year Mrs. Bisco died, with little warning; and Mr. Bisco suffered the severest loss which could possibly happen to him. He had become very deaf, and her loss was the more severe. Their children, who are all living, are Emily A., Charles D., George, John W., William, Henry, and Frederick A.; all married but William. Mr. Bisco died December 7, 1882.

He was repeatedly a selectman of the town; a director of the Leicester Bank eleven years; treasurer of the Pine Grove Cemetery Company forty years; treasurer of the Unitarian Congregational Society as long, and a deacon of that church. He was a member of the State Legislature in 1847 and '48. In a notice of him in the *Christian Register*, Mr. Abraham Firth wrote of "his marked faithfulness in all these relations, and in every sphere of life in which he moved. He was always found on the side of virtue, and of political and spiritual freedom. Brought up under the teaching of Calvinism, it never satisfied him."

One who was long in daily business association with him wrote, in the Worcester *Spy*, "he was known among his associates as an honest, upright man, of superior sense and judgment." His pastor, during his later years, wrote of him, "I have never known a truer man, nor one of greater strength of character." His first minister, at the funeral services, paid a warm tribute to his character and life. "No man in Leicester," said a fellow-citizen, "has a better record than Dwight Bisco." A memorial book of Mr. and Mrs. Bisco has been printed.

CAPTAIN HIRAM KNIGHT.[1]

Captain Hiram Knight was one of the successful business men of Leicester, who, beginning life without pecuniary advantages, have secured for themselves a handsome property. His father, Silas Knight, was a wheelwright, and in very moderate circumstances. He was a Revolutionary soldier and pensioner. He lived to the venerable age of eighty-five years and five months. His mother was seventy-six years and six months old at the time of her death. Her maiden name was Martha Goodnow.

Hiram Knight was born in Oakham, August 22, 1793. When about twenty-one years of age he came to Leicester for employment. He was married by Rev. John Nelson, D.D., April 28, 1818, to Olive Barnes. Her mother was Betsy, the daughter of William Green, who was born in Leicester in 1743, and was the son of William and Rebeckah Green. Their first home was on Main Street, in the house afterward occupied by the Leicester Boot Company. The next year he removed to the academy, of which he was steward from 1819 to 1822. In 1823 he purchased the old "Green Tavern," on the corner of Main and Paxton Streets. Here for about two years he resided, engaged during the time in the occupations of butchering, tavern-keeping and for a time was associated with Reuben Merriam in card-making and a store. In 1825 he became a member of the firm of James & John A. Smith & Co., who built and occupied the factory where the Wire Mill now stands; and also the brick factory above and the boarding-house. The history of this company, which was afterward the firm of Smith, Woodcock & Knight, and later of Woodcock, Knight & Co., is given elsewhere. Mr. and Mrs. Knight kept the boarding-houses for this firm till about the year 1832, when the family came back to the Green tavern. Mr. Knight was in the card business till 1867, when he transferred his interest to his sons. He, with John Woodcock and George Morse, was in partnership with James Smith & Co. at the formation of that house in Philadelphia in 1836, and retained his interest for a number of years.

The lower factory of his firm was to a considerable extent built under his supervision. He superintended the building of the Brick Factory and the boarding-house. He also had general charge of the building of the brick school-house on Pleasant Street. His own residence, on the site of the old tavern, and now occupied by his son Dexter, was erected in 1843.

Mr. Knight had agricultural tastes, and at one time had considerable land, which he cultivated and improved. He was an active member of the Worcester Agricultural Society.

He was one of the directors of the Leicester National Bank from 1850 to 1874. Between the years 1836 and 1844 he served the town in the various offices of moderator of town-meetings, selectman and assessor, etc. He was appointed justice of the peace by Governor Boutwell. He was one of the early members of the Second Congregational Society, Unitarian. In politics he was a Democrat, but reserved the right of independent thought and action. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention in 1853. In early life he was somewhat active in military affairs, and was captain of the local military company.

Captain Knight was engaged in the manufacture of card-clothing in the period of the rapid development of that industry, when inventive genius was perfecting the wonderful machine for card-setting, of which a gentleman once said, after admiringly watching its almost human movements: "Why! it

[1] By Rev. A. H. Coolidge.

thinks!" He had not been trained to the business, but was a natural mechanic, inventive and ingenious; and though not forward in asserting his claims, made many valuable improvements in the machinery for card-making. According to the testimony of his partner, Mr. John Woodcock, he made the first card clothing set by machinery in Leicester.

Captain Knight was a man of sound judgment, self-reliant, and of strict business integrity. He gave close attention to his business and was successful. He was wise and cautious in his investments, and became one of the wealthy men of the town. For his success he was largely indebted to his wife. She was a woman of domestic tastes, and devoted herself untiringly and efficiently to the varied duties of the household, acting her part with true womanly fidelity and fortitude in all the varied experiences of the family, in prosperity and in trial and sorrow. She was married at the age of seventeen years.

They had eleven children, seven of whom died young; the three older at the ages of nine, ten and twelve years respectively. Their daughter Susan died in 1856, at the age of twenty-five. She is remembered as an excellent scholar, retiring in manners, and loved by all her associates. Three sons survive—Dexter, James J. and George M.

Captain Knight died May 6, 1875, at the age of eighty-one years and eight months. His wife survived him about four years, and died April 19, 1879, at the age of seventy-eight years.

REV. SAMUEL MAY.

Rev. Samuel May, the first minister of the Second Congregational (Unitarian) Church and Society, and who continued such for twelve years, was born in Boston, April 11, 1810, oldest son of Samuel and Mary (Goddard) May. Four years a pupil of Deacon Samuel Greele, afterwards for three years at the Public Latin School of Boston, and one year at the Round Hill School, Northampton, he was graduated at Harvard College in 1829.

After spending nearly a year in study with his cousin, Rev. Samuel J. May, at Brooklyn, Ct., he entered the Cambridge Divinity School in the fall of 1830, and was graduated there in 1833. The society at Leicester was then young, having been incorporated in April, 1833, and holding its meetings in the old Town Hall. Mr. May spent six or seven weeks in their service that autumn, then left to fulfill some other engagements, and returned in March, 1834, to begin a second engagement. That spring he received and accepted the society's call to be their minister, and was ordained as such August 13th, the services being held in the society's new church, which had been dedicated the evening previous, when the late Rev. Dr. James Walker, then of Charlestown, preached the very impressive discourse, afterwards so widely circulated by the American Unitarian Association, entitled, "Faith, Regeneration, Atonement," showing these to be successive periods and steps of the religious life.

Mr. May's ministry was one of fair success. Relations of good will and friendship were formed, which continued far beyond the term of his ministerial connection, and to the close of life of his parishioners in nearly every instance. Entire harmony of feeling existed between them, except with regard to one question, viz.: that of slavery in the United States, and whether a Christian minister should or should not take part in the effort to bring that condition of slavery to an end. Mr. May regarding it his duty to take such part, and to seek to induce his hearers to do the same, several persons were so much dissatisfied as to withdraw themselves from the society. One or more others who remained being similarly dissatisfied, Mr. May decided to resign his office rather than be a cause of division, and the connection was closed in the summer of 1846.

Mr. May has continued to have his residence at Leicester to the present time. In 1835 he was married to Sarah Russell, third daughter of Nathaniel P. Russell, of Boston. Their children, all born in Leicester, and still living, are Adeline, Edward, Joseph Russell, and Elizabeth Goddard. The daughters reside with their parents. Edward is a pay director of the United States Navy, and Joseph R. is in commercial life in Boston. Edward married, in 1871, Mary Mignot Blodgett, of Boston. They have four children.

Soon after resigning his position at Leicester, Mr. May was minister of the First Ecclesiastical Society, Brooklyn, Ct., until June, 1847. Then he became the general agent of the Massachusetts Anti-slavery Society. He held this place, with the exception of about a year and a half of impaired health, for eighteen years, and until 1865, the time when, by amendment of the Constitution, slavery in the United States ceased to exist. He was also, for several years, corresponding secretary of the American Anti-slavery Society.

From 1841 to 1865 Mr. May refused to take any political action under the United States Constitution because of its recognition and support of slavery—refused, that is, to vote for officers who must take an oath to support the Constitution. When the Constitution was amended he resumed the exercise of the citizen's duties. At the outbreak of the War of the Rebellion, in 1861, he gave such aid as he could to the cause of the Union, and to its armies in the field, speaking and acting publicly.

He early took a decided stand against the use of intoxicating drinks; was a member of town, county and State societies formed to promote total abstinence from their use; and joined with others to establish the Leicester Hotel as a house in which no such drinks should be sold.

Mr. May served upon the town School Committee, at two different periods, for twenty-one years. He was

Pliny Earle.

chosen one of the directors of the town's public library at its establishment, in 1861, and still continues as such, having served nearly twenty-eight years. In 1874 he was elected a trustee of Leicester Academy. In 1875 he was a member of the State Legislature, representing, with Mr. Pliny Litchfield, of Southbridge, the district formed of the towns of Leicester, Spencer, Charlton, Southbridge and Auburn. As House chairman of the Committee on Federal Relations, he took an active part in the State's commemoration of the one hundredth anniversaries of the battles of Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill. At the town's celebration of the centennial of American Independence, July 4, 1876, Mr. May was chairman of the town's committee. He edited the pamphlet which records in full that day's doings in Leicester.

He is a member of the American Social Science Association, of the Worcester Society of Antiquity, and of the Bostonian Society. He was chosen secretary of the Class of 1829, Harvard College, at the time of graduating, and has held the office to the present time. He aided in the compilation of the large pamphlet which records the one hundredth anniversary of the foundation of Leicester Academy, and the proceedings of that occasion, September 4, 1884.

PLINY EARLE, A.M., M.D.[1]

Dr. Pliny Earle was the fourth son of Pliny Earle, the great-grandson of Ralph Earle, who came to Leicester in 1717. His mother was the daughter of William Buffum, of Smithfield, R. I. He was born December 31, 1809, and his childhood was passed in the home of his father at Mulberry Grove. He was a pupil in Leicester Academy, and afterwards in the Friends' School, in Providence, R. I., where he was a teacher in the winter of 1828–29, and also from 1831 to 1835, when he was made principal.

He pursued the study of medicine, first with Dr. Usher Parsons, of Providence, and afterwards at the University of Pennsylvania, from which he was graduated with the degree of M.D. in 1837. The next two years were spent in Europe; one in the medical school and the hospitals of Paris, and the other in a tour of professional and general observation, "in which he visited various institutions for the insane, from England to Turkey." The results of these observations were published in 1840, in a pamphlet entitled "A Visit to Thirteen Asylums for the Insane in Europe." He had an office in Philadelphia for a short time, but in the spring of 1840 became resident physician of the Friends' Asylum for the Insane, near Frankford, now a part of Philadelphia. In 1844 he was appointed medical superintendent of the Bloomingdale Asylum for the Insane, in New York City. In 1849 he made another tour in Europe, visiting thirty-four institutions for the insane in England, Belgium, France and the Germanic countries, and, upon his return, published his book upon "Institutions for the Insane in Prussia, Austria, and Germany." In 1853 he was elected a visiting physician of the New York City Lunatic Asylum, on Blackwell's Island.

In 1855 he returned to Leicester for rest and the confirmation of his health, and passed several years on the homestead of his grandfather, Robert Earle near Mulberry Grove (now called "Earle Ridge") During this time, however, he spent the winters of 1862–63 and 1863–64 in the care of the insane soldiers of the army and navy, at the Government Hospital for the Insane near Washington, D. C., of which his former pupil, Dr. Charles H. Nichols, was superintendent. He also wrote for the medical periodicals, and acted as an expert in the trials of several important cases involving the question of insanity before the legal tribunals of Massachusetts and the adjoining States.

It was in these years of comparative rest that he rendered the town essential service as a member of the School Committee. In this relation the writer, together with Dr. J. N. Murdock, was associated with him. In this period the public schools were subjected to a thorough reorganization, and new and more practical methods of instruction were introduced. In these services Dr. Earle exhibited the same executive force, the same mastery of details, the same practical wisdom, the same contempt of shams and ability to puncture them, and the same personal integrity and demand for strict uprightness and fidelity in those who were under his supervision, which characterized his administration of the institution in Northampton, of which he was afterward the head. In one respect he was in advance of the time. He came early to appreciate the importance of objective illustration, and the practical application of school instruction. He required pupils to use books only as instructors, and to know *things* and not mere *words*.

Without seeking the position, he was appointed superintendent of the State Lunatic Hospital at Northampton, Mass., July 2, 1864, and held the office twenty-one years and three months, resigning it October 1, 1885. He made that hospital in many respects a model institution for the insane; and its trustees, in the resolutions passed at the time of their acceptance of his resignation, expressed as follows not only their own conviction, but the general judgment with reference to the value of his administration: "In its management he has combined the highest professional skill and acquirement with rare executive ability. By his patient attention to details, by his wisdom and firmness, his absolute fidelity to duty and devotion to the interests of the hospital, he has rendered invaluable service to the institution, and to the community which it serves." They also express the hope that "he will continue to make his home in the institution,

[1] By Rev. A. H. Coolidge.

that they may continue to profit by his counsels; and they will provide that his rooms shall always be open and ready for his use." This offer Mr. Earle accepted, although his summers have been spent at Mulberry Grove.

The Northampton Hospital had been erected in opposition to a widely prevalent opinion that it was not, and never could be, needed,—an opinion which delayed its construction, made the obtaining of appropriations very difficult, and finally compelled the trustees to put it in operation in a very incomplete condition, internally. The Civil War had tended to restrict the price of board for public patients to a very low limit, and in 1864, when Dr. Earle took charge of it, it had never paid its current expenses. He immediately addressed himself to the task of making it not only a first-class curative institution, but a self-supporting one as well. He purchased supplies at wholesale and in open market. He reorganized and reduced to a very complete system all the departments —domestic, economical, financial and medical—with checks and counter-checks for the detection of loss, or of waste by carelessness, as well as for the exposure of unfaithfulness in the discharge of duty toward the patients, or in other respects. The so-called "moral treatment" of the patients was amplified, made more diversified, and extended over a greater portion of the year than in any other American hospital.

The pecuniary results of this system were the payment of current expenses in the second year, and, during the whole period of Dr. Earle's service, the purchase of land at a cost of over twenty-five thousand dollars; the payment for all ordinary repairs, and over one hundred and seventy-three thousand dollars for buildings and other improvements, and an increase in cash assets and provisions and supplies of over forty-three thousand dollars, all of which became, of course, the property of the State, without any assistance from the State. The results as productive of an improved curative institution, being less tangible, cannot well be illustrated, but, as reflected in current public opinion, they were equally successful.

The importance of occupation for the insane was early recognized by Dr. Earle, and it has nowhere in New England been practically applied to a greater extent than at Northampton. As early as 1870 it was estimated that not less than two-thirds of the manual labor necessary to the running of the hospital was performed by patients.

Believing that a large part of the excessive cost of such hospitals as that at Danvers adds nothing to the curative capability of the institutions, Dr. Earle condemned such expenditure as unwise political economy, ostentatious charity and gross injustice to the payer of taxes.

Dr. Earle has been instrumental in introducing important changes in the treatment of the insane. In 1845 he established a school for the patients in the men's department of the Bloomingdale Asylum, and this was continued for two years. As early as 1840, while in the Frankford Asylum, he gave illustrated lectures on physics to the inmates. "This was the first known attempt to address an audience of the insane in any discourse other than a sermon, and has led to that system of entertainments for the patients now considered indispensable in a first-class hospital." At Northampton he gave a great variety of lectures, upon miscellaneous subjects. One course of six lectures was upon diseases of the brain, which are accompanied with mental disorder. The average number of patients who attended them was two hundred and fifty-six. "This is the first time," he says in his annual report, "that an audience of insane persons ever listened to a discourse on their own malady." His observation of the effect on the audience was not unlike that of other preachers. If the listeners were slow to take the application to themselves, they were quite ready to appropriate it "to their neighbors." He also secured lectures and entertainments from other sources, and provided amusements in which the inmates participated.

Dr. Earle is the author of many papers upon insanity and other subjects, which have been published in the *Journal of Insanity*, the *American Journal of the Medical Sciences*, etc. Some of these have been issued in pamphlet form. He anticipated by many years the valuable treatise of Dr. B. Jay Jeffries, in a paper on "The Inability to Distinguish Colors." His twenty-two reports of the Northampton Hospital are classics in the literature of mental disease. By a combination of causes the public, so far as they knew or cared about the subject, had come to the belief that from seventy-five to ninety per cent. of the insane can be cured at the hospital. Dr. Earle became convinced of the erroneousness of this belief, and was the first hospital superintendent who combated it. His researches upon the subject extended over a series of years, were embodied in his annual reports, and at length in 1887 collected and published by the J. B. Lippincott Company, in a book entitled "The Curability of Insanity."

The doctor showed that one cause of the false opinion in regard to curability was the reporting of repeated recoveries of the same person, in paroxysmal insanity. One patient was reported cured six times in one year, another seven times, a third sixteen times in three years, and a fourth forty-six times in the course of her life, and she finally died a raving maniac in one of the hospitals. Judging from the results of the doctor's researches, not one-third of the persons admitted to the Massachusetts insane hospitals have been permanently cured.

Of his work on The Curability of Insanity a reviewer writes: "This book may mark an epoch in the literature of insanity, since it has changed the whole front of that literature, and set in motion investigating forces which will carry out its main doc-

Joshua Murdock

trine into many useful details, upon which the veteran author has not dwelt."

He wrote the article on insanity in the United States Census of 1860, and about ninety articles of reviews and bibligraphical notices of insane hospital reports and other publications on mental disorders, which appeared in the *American Journal of Medical Science* between the years 1841 and 1870.

In a third visit to Europe, in 1871, he visited forty-six institutions for the insane in Ireland, Austria, Italy and intervening countries. His several foreign tours gave him opportunity to form the acquaintance and enjoy the hospitality of many professional, philanthropic and literary people; he was well acquainted with Elizabeth Frye, knew the poet, Samuel Rogers, and, at their own homes and tables, met socially the Howitts and Charles Dickens. He also cherishes pleasant memories of American missionaries in the Levant fifty years ago; of Rev. Jonas King and other missionaries in Athens; Cephas Pasco, at Patrass; Simeon Calhoun and David Temple, of Smyrna; Wm. Goodell, Rev. Mr. Shauffler and Henry A. Homes, at Constantinople. He received kind attentions from all of them, and the home hospitality of several.

Dr. Earle was one of the original members and founders of the American Medical Association, the Association of Medical Superintendents of American Institutions for the Insane, the New York Academy of Medicine, and the New England Psychological Society, of which last-mentioned association he was the first president. He was also president, in the official year 1884–85, of the Association of Superintendents. Besides holding a membership of various medical societies, he is a member of the American Philosophical Society; fellow of the New York College of Physicians and Surgeons; corresponding member of the New York Medico-Legal Society and the Medical Society of Athens, Greece, and honorary member of the British Medico-Psychological Association. In 1853 he delivered an adjunct course of lectures on "Mental Diseases" at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York City, and in 1863 he was appointed Professor of Materia Medica and Psychologic Medicine in the Berkshire Medical Institute at Pittsfield, Mass. Insanity had never before been included among the required subjects of instruction in any full professorship at any one of the American medical schools. After the delivery of one course of lectures the doctor resigned his professorship, as he had been called to the superintendency of the Northampton Hospital.

In his specialty Dr. Earle is recognized as an authority. "He was one of the medical experts summoned to the trial of Charles J. Guiteau, for the murder of President Garfield. After an attendance of one week his health gave way, and he was obliged to leave; but he approved, and still approves, the verdict which held the prisoner responsible for the homicide."

In 1888 he published a large volume on the genealogy of the Earle family, a work of great labor, and a model of its class. From this book many of the dates and material facts of this biography are taken. Dr. Earle still holds his birthright membership in the Society of Friends.

Dr. Earle's generous and valuable gift to the academy in which he pursued his early studies has been elsewhere noticed. He has never wavered in his attachment to Leicester, and its people claim him as one of her honored sons. It is their hope that the day may yet be long deferred when it will be suitable to pronounce his eulogy, and give full expression to the general respect and regard in which he is held in his native town.

JOSHUA MURDOCK.[1]

Joshua Murdock, the principal founder of the extensive card-clothing establishment of J. & J. Murdock, was the son of Deacon Joshua Murdock. He was born in Leicester, October 3, 1815; educated in the town schools, in Leicester Academy and Amherst Academy. At the age of sixteen years he engaged himself to the firm of Smith, Woodcock & Knight, serving a regular apprenticeship of nearly five years, and remaining with them till 1838, when he entered the employ of James Smith & Co., of Philadelphia. In 1840 he returned to Leicester and commenced the card-clothing business with Samuel Southgate, Jr. As has already been stated, after the retirement of Mr. Southgate in 1844, Mr. Murdock continued in business alone till 1848, when his brother Joseph, who had been engaged in trade at the South, returned and associated himself with him under the firm-name of J. & J. Murdock. He lived to see the gradual growth of the enterprise from the small beginning and to witness and enjoy its great prosperity. Mr. Murdock was for several years a selectman of the town, also a director of the National Bank and a trustee of the Savings Bank. Under the district system he was for many years the prudential committee of the centre schools. He discharged the duties of this office with exceptional wisdom and efficiency, and to him the marked excellence and improvement of the village schools at that period are largely due. He united with the First Congregational Church in Philadelphia in 1840 and removed his relation to the First Church in Leicester in 1842. He was always interested in the welfare of the church and society, and was a liberal contributor for the support of its ordinances. He was wise and cautious in judgment, and was identified with all the public enterprises of the place. He was so extremely modest and retiring, he shrank so instinctively from all obtrusion upon the public, and from the expression of his views, and especially his feelings, that he was fully known only to the few who were placed in intimate relations with him. He was in-

[1] By Rev. A. H. Coolidge.

telligent, sound in judgment, a man of deep and kindly feelings and positive decision of character, but always reticent.

Mr. Murdock was first married in Philadelphia, by Rev. Albert Barnes, D.D., June 16, 1842, to Angelina Maull. He was married by Rev. John Nelson, D.D., to his second wife, Julia Trask, the daughter of Samuel Hurd, of Leicester, January 10, 1849. Their only child, Caroline, is the wife of Alexander De Witt, of Worcester.

EDWARD SARGENT.[1]

Jonathan Sargent, from whom the Sargents in town descend, came to Leicester as early as the year 1728 from Malden, Mass. Among his descendants have been many men of more than ordinary standing and influence. To some of these we have already referred.

Col. Joseph D. Sargent, the father of Edward Sargent, was one of the most enterprising and successful business men in the town, and one of its most public-spirited and highly honored citizens. His three sons —Jos. Bradford, George H. and Edward Sargent— have been associated in extensive business interests in Leicester and elsewhere.

Edward Sargent, the subject of this sketch, was born in Leicester, March 25, 1832. He was the son of Joseph D. and Mindwell (Jones) Sargent. He received his education in the Leicester schools and the Academy. He, with his brother Joseph B., as has been before stated, began the manufacture of hand-cards, at the "Brick Factory," on the 1st of May, 1854. On the first day of the year 1859 they received their brother, George H., into the firm, and at the same time organized the Sargent Hardware Commission House in New York City. Mr. Sargent was connected with this company through life. They built extensive works for the manufacture of hardware in New Haven, and have become the largest hardware concern in the country. While the company were manufacturing cards in Worcester, Mr. Sargent spent several winters there. Aside from this he passed his life in Leicester, and was one of its wealthy and valued citizens. He was a selectman of the town. He was interested in everything that related to the welfare of the place, and contributed liberally both money and personal supervision to all public improvements. He was at different times nominated as a candidate for the State Legislature, and, though not belonging to the winning party, he had the habit of running invariably beyond his ticket, in his own town, in which he was a general favorite. In the time of the Civil War he was an ardent patriot, and freely contributed to all its demands.

In 1864 Mr. Sargent completed the building of his elegant residence, opposite the attractive sheet of water on what was originally the "Town Meadow," where the beavers built their houses and dams, and through which ran "Rawson Brook," but which has long been called, after his name, "Sargent's Pond." This house is now the home of his son, J. B. Sargent. At the same time Mr. Sargent built his handsome stable for his horses. He was a good horseman, and, especially in the earlier years of his life, very fond of the horse and of driving. He regarded time as too valuable to be wasted in making distances on the road.

He was married, February 9, 1858, by Rev. A. H. Coolidge, to Adelaide Sophia, the daughter of Austin F. and Sophia (Hatch) Conklin. She was a woman of amiable and cheerful spirit and superior intelligence and worth. After twenty-five years of married life she died on the 11th day of February, 1881. They had three children,—Joseph Bradford, Winthrop (who died in childhood) and Harry E.

Mr. Sargent was much affected by the death of his wife, to whom he was devotedly attached, and survived her less than two years. He died January 3, 1883.

[1] By Rev. A. H. Coolidge.

BILLINGS MANN.[2]

The village of Mannville received its name from Mr. Billings Mann, to whom it is largely indebted. He, with Mr. Albert Marshall, carried on the manufacture of woolen cloth, in the first of the series of factories on Kettle Brook, on the corner of Earle and Mannville Streets. Around this mill there has gradually grown the little village that bears his name.

Mr. Marshall, a worthy and highly-esteemed citizen of the town, is still living, at an advanced age.

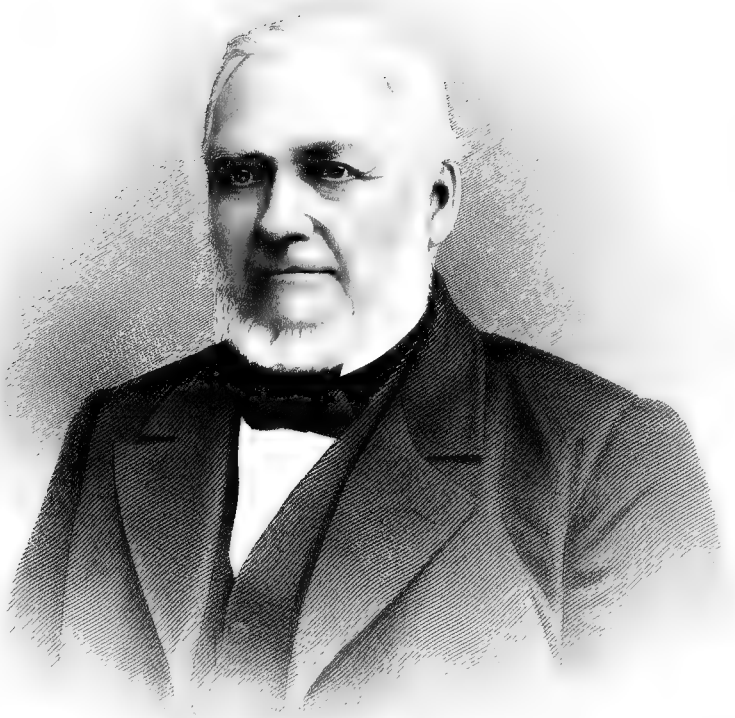
Mr. Mann was born in Worcester in 1797. He was the son of Joseph and Mehitable (Billings) Mann. His father was a clothier, and he worked with him dressing cloth. He thus became familiar with the details of his subsequent business. His education was that of the common school. On the 21st of July, 1822, he married Jemima, the daughter of Eliot and Jemima Wight, of Bellingham, Mass., by whom he had one daughter, who was married to Maj. Theron E. Hall. The same year, at the age of twenty-five, he began the manufacture of woolen cloth in Fitchburg. In 1828 he removed from Fitchburg to Worcester, and engaged in manufacturing with Mr. Gunn. In 1837 he was in the business in West Rutland. The next year, 1838, he first came to Leicester, and, as has been elsewhere stated, was associated with Mr. Amos Earle in the manufacture of satinets. In 1841 he associated himself with his brother-in law, Mr. Albert Marshall, in the same business, in Holden, as the firm of Mann & Marshall. Here he remained till 1853, when, with Mr. Marshall, he came to Leicester. They purchased the mill property and commenced the manufacture of satinets, as elsewhere stated.

Mr. Mann's home, to the time of his death, was on the corner of Earle and Mulberry Streets, the place which Ralph Earle had occupied in 1717.

[2] By Rev. A. H. Coolidge.

E. Sargent

Billings Mann



Alonzo White

His first wife died July 21, 1822, and on the 21st of July, 1828, he married Harriet L., the daughter of Josiah Daniel, of Dedham, by whom he had seven daughters and three sons, two of whom, George and Billings, are successors in the business. Mrs. Mann was a woman of rare excellence and beauty of character. She presided over her large household with queenly dignity and grace, and of her, with full truth, it could be said, "Her children rise up and call her blessed." She died February 20, 1878. Her illness was protracted and her sufferings intense, but she endured them with a truly Christian spirit of resignation and cheerfulness.

For twenty-two years Mann & Marshall carried on a prosperous business, but after the "Boston fire," in which they were heavy losers, they were forced to abandon the enterprise, which they did in 1878.

Mr. Mann was a business man of strict integrity, and the affairs of the company, in prosperity and adversity alike, were conducted on the highest principles of business honor. He was genial and kind, and his home at Mulberry Grove was one of generous hospitality. He died December 2, 1879, and his funeral at the First Congregational Church was largely attended. He was a member of the order of Knights Templar, and he was buried with Masonic honors.

ALONZO WHITE.[1]

Alonzo White was born in Almond, Allegany County, N. Y., May 6, 1808. His father was a native of Spencer, Mass., and had emigrated to New York three months before. This was then "The West." Almond had all the characteristics of a new country. There were no school-houses, no church buildings, and few of the conveniences and comforts of older settled communities. The girls of the family rode on horse-back thirty miles to purchase their gowns; and the parish of the Presbyterian minister extended from Rochester to the Pennsylvania line.

Mr. White was born, and lived when a boy, in a log-house. He worked upon the farm until he was twenty years of age. He then determined to seek his fortune elsewhere, and first went on foot to Danville, twenty miles distant, where he earned the money for his proposed journey by carting wood, spending his extra time in making brooms. In the fall of 1828 he came to Spencer, where his uncle resided, and worked on the farm. In February of the next year he came to Leicester, and commenced his apprenticeship as a card-maker with Reuben Merriam & Co. There was then no card-setting machine in the establishment, although the newly-invented machine was coming gradually into use. The holes and the teeth were made by machines and the teeth set by hand. The next year card-setting machines made by Mr. Merriam were introduced.

After remaining with Mr. Merriam a year, Mr. White was engaged at one hundred dollars per year by Colonel Joseph D. Sargent, who was then making cards on the Auburn Road, in Cherry Valley. The machines were moved by dog-power. Upon Mr. Sargent's removal to the Brick Factory, Mr. White came with him, and was in his employ seven years. In 1836 he, with his partners, bought out Colonel Sargent, and commenced business as the firm of Lamb & White. Colonel Sargent highly valued the services of Mr. White, and expressed his appreciation in a substantial manner. He expressed his confidence in him at this time by furnishing him the capital for the new enterprise. Mr. White's subsequent business career is given in the notice of the firm of White & Denny, and White & Son.

Mr. White has served the town in the offices of selectman, assessor, etc. He was the contractor for the new town-house. For a short time he was a director of the bank. He united with the First Congregational Church in September, 1831.

In 1834, April 10th, he married Elizabeth Lincoln, the daughter of Aden Davis, of Oakham, Mass., by whom he has had six children, four of whom, two sons and two daughters, are living. He has been to them a generous parent, and to the community and the church a free and generous helper.

He built his house on the corner of Main and Grove Streets, in 1848. Here he, with his wife, with whom he has been united for almost fifty-five years, still reside, in the enjoyment of the fruits of their industry and enterprise, and the society of their friends. He has the satisfaction of seeing his children and his grandchildren all settled in good homes of their own in Leicester.

SALEM LIVERMORE.[2]

John Livermore, ancestor of all the Livermores probably in the United States, embarked at Ipswich, Old England, for New England, in April, 1634, then twenty-eight years old, in the ship "Francis," John Cutting master. He was admitted freeman of the Massachusetts Colony May 6, 1635. On the list of freemen his name was written Leathermore, and in other old documents and records sometimes Lethermore and Lithermore. He was a potter by trade. He was many years selectman, and filled other offices of trust and honor in Watertown, where he first settled and last resided, he being, for about eleven years, from 1639 to 1650, a resident of New Haven, Conn., after which he returned to Watertown, Mass., where he died, April 14, 1684, aged seventy-eight, and his wife, Grace, died there in June, 1691. He was probably son of Peter and Marabella (Wysback) Livermore, of Little Thurloe, Suffolk County, England, about seven miles north-

[1] By Rev. A. H. Coolidge.

[2] By Caleb A. Wall.

west of Clare. On his removal from Watertown to Connecticut he was made a freeman of that colony, October 29, 1640, and he sold out his estate in New Haven May 7, 1650, and went back to Watertown. Four of his nine children—Samuel[2], Daniel[2] and two daughters—were baptized in New Haven, and his oldest child, Hannah[2], who married John Coolidge, Jr., was born in England in 1633, the others in America. His four h child, and oldest son, John[2] Livermore, Jr., born in 1640, settled on an estate of fifty-two acres, called the "Cowpen Farm," in Weston, near the border of Sudbury, which estate was given him by the father.

This John[2] Livermore, Jr., who was a lieutenant in the military, had in Weston, by his first wife, Hannah, who was mother of all his children, five sons and four daughters, born between 1668 and 1690, of whom the fifth child and third son was Daniel[3] Livermore, born in Weston June 8, 1677, ensign, an original proprietor and settler in Leicester before 1720, on lot No. 29, which included what has since been called Livermore Hill. This Daniel[3] Livermore died March 26, 1726, aged forty-nine, and by his wife, Mehitabel, afterwards wife of John Parmenter, of Sudbury, had five sons and three daughters, born between 1707 and 1726, as follows:

1. Daniel[4], Jr., born in Weston June 16, 1707, by wife, Mary, had in Weston three sons and three daughters, born between 1734 and 1748; 2. Jonas[4] born in Weston May 13, 1710, married, October, 1735, Elizabeth Rice, of Sudbury, and settled near the foot of Livermore Hill, in Leicester, on the east side of the road running north and south through his father's lot, No. 29, where Jonas[4] died in 1773, and his wife died in 1790—parents, in Leicester, of five sons and three daughters; 3. Mehitabel[4], born March 13, 1713, married, May 14, 1736, Eliakim Rice, an early settler in Worcester, son of Elisha Rice, who was brother of Jonas, Gershom, James, Ephraim, Thomas and Josiah Rice, original proprietors and settlers in Worcester (see Caleb A. Wall's "Reminiscences of Worcester," pages 40 to 43); 4. Sarah[4], born March 7, 1717; 5. Isaac[4], born May 11, 1720, resided on the west side of the road, opposite his brother Jonas, near the foot of Livermore Hill, where, by his wife, Dorothy, he had four sons and two daughters; 6. Hannah[4], born April 16, 1723; 7. Abraham[4], born November 9, 1724, died of scarlet fever September 4, 1742; 8. Nathan[4], born March 26, 1726, married, May 7, 1755, Lucy Bent, of Sudbury.

The above-named Ensign Daniel[3] Livermore's sister Hannah[3], born in Weston, September 27, 1670, married, February 22, 1689, the above named Ephraim Rice, then of Sudbury, who was an original proprietor of Worcester, where his children settled, near his brothers, on Sagatabscott Hill.

Jonas[4] and Elizabeth (Rice) Livermore had in Leicester these eight children:

1. Jonas[5], Jr., born February 28, 1736, carpenter and farmer, married November 10, 1761, Sarah, daughter of Hezekiah and Sarah (Green) Ward, and resided in the south part of Leicester, near Auburn, where Jonas' son, Salem Livermore, afterwards lived, and where Jonas[5] died, January 31, 1825, aged eighty-nine, and his wife, Sarah, died Sept. 10, 1832, aged ninety-four, parents of ten children; 2. Micah[5], born in 1738, settled in Oxford; 3. Mary[5], born 1743, married Thomas Scott and resided on the estate in Auburn, near Leicester, where his father, John Scott, had lived, and where Thomas' son, David Scott, Sr., afterwards lived; 4. David[5], born 1745, married, in 1770, for his first wife Anna Heywood, of Holden, and settled on the south part of lot No. 59, in Spencer, where they had seven children, and he died there December 13, 1818, and she died June 12, 1794, his second wife being her sister, Mrs. Mary Osborne, of Holden, who died January 5, 1842, aged eighty, by whom he had three children, one of them, Melinda, wife of the late Benjamin H. Brewer, of Worcester; 5. Elizabeth, twin, born 1745, married Samuel Tucker, Jr., of Leicester; 6. Elisha, born 1751; 7. Beulah, born 1753, married Levi Dunton; 8. Lydia, born 1755, married Asa, son of David Prouty, of Spencer, and had there Aaron, Asa, Jr., Persis, Jonas and Joel Prouty, born between 1776 and 1784, of whom Persis was wife of Eli Mussy, son of John Mussy, Jr., of Spencer.

Jonas[5] and Sarah (Ward) Livermore had in Leicester these nine children:

1. Hannah, born May 13, 1762, died August 24, 1767; 2. Jonas[6], born April 13, 1764, died unmarried, at Leicester, April 20, 1790; 3. Sally, born June 28, 1766, died unmarried, February 17, 1833; 4. Patty, born October 22, 1768, married in 1791 Captain Samuel Upham, Jr., of Leicester, and removed soon after 1800 to Randolph, Vt., where he died in 1848, aged eighty-seven, the oldest of their three children being the late Hon. Wm. Upham, Senator in Congress from Vermont, from 1843 till his decease, January 14, 1853, in Washington, aged sixty-one; 5. Salem, born September 26, 1770, married, first, Nancy Walker, who died March 2, 1838, and he married, second, Ruth Livermore, and resided on his father's estate in the south part of Leicester near Auburn, where he died April 20, 1858, father of nine children, all by his first wife; 6. Bathsheba, born July 23, 1772, married John Page, and settled in Cambridge, Vt.; 7. Louisa, born April 27, 1774, died December, 1800, married Abner Gale; 8. Daniel, born June 10, 1776, married May 29, 1801, Betsy, born in 1777, daughter of Thomas Parker, of Leicester, and resided on the estate of his grandfather, Jonas Livermore, Sr., near the foot of Livermore Hill, where Daniel Livermore died August 31, 1869, aged ninety-three, and his wife, Betsy, died November 2, 1846, parents of Jonas Livermore, of Camden, N. J., Rev. Daniel Parker Livermore, of Melrose, Mass., Diantha, wife of Daniel Henshaw, Mary, wife of

Salmon Chase

David McFarland, late of Worcester, and Eliza, residing with her brother, Rev. Daniel P., in Melrose; 9. Rebecca, born November 13, 1778, married Lebbeus Turner, from Bennington, Vt., and had in Leicester, Stillman, now deceased, Jerusha, now in Spencertown, N. Y., Caroline, wife of Dexter Converse, and Roxana, wife of Thomas Wall, all now deceased.

Salem[6] and Nancy (Walker) Livermore had in Leicester these nine children:

1. Mary, born August 25, 1795; died September 6, 1841; married Jonathan Warren, and had, in Leicester, Jonas L. Warren, formerly railroad station agent at Rochdale; now in Shirley.

2. Sarah, born August 31, 1797; died May 1, 1827; married, August 10, 1823, Samuel Bottomly (his first wife), and had a daughter, Sarah, who married a Schofield.

3. Nancy, born October 13, 1800; died December 27, 1875; married, first, Moses Rockwood, of Grafton, and had John, Angeline and David Rockwood; married, second, February, 1837, Stephen Adams, and had in Paxton, Maria, June and Aaron Adams.

4. Hannah, born May 21, 1804; died July 29, 1836; married, January 9, 1828, Samuel Bottomly, and had, in Cherry Valley, Cornelia, Sarah, Levinah and Nancy Bottomly.

5. Thomas, born September 7, 1805; died young.

6. Salem, Jr., born April 23, 1809; died in Rochdale Village March 4, 1865; married, November 26, 1833, Roxa Darling, their only child being their son, Thomas Salem Livermore, born July 22, 1836; married, September 26, 1871, Mary Symons, daughter of John H. and Sarah (Crossley) Symons, of Rochdale, and owns and occupies the homestead erected by his father in Rochdale Village, nearly opposite the railroad depot.

7. Seraph, twin of Salem, Jr., born April 23, 1809; married James Hollingsworth, and died April 4, 1832.

8. Tamason, born May 28, 1812; married Liberty Beers, and died February 8, 1840.

9. Moses, born March 11, 1815; died June 20, 1854; resided on his grandfather's old place, near Auburn.

Rev. Daniel P. Livermore, son of Daniel[5] and Betsy (Packer) Livermore, of Leicester, is a Universalist clergyman in Melrose, ordained in 1841. He married, May 6, 1845, Mary, daughter of Timothy and Zebiah Vose (Ashton) Rice, of Boston; since that time distinguished as an eloquent lecturer and speaker on temperance, women's rights and other reforms. Their two surviving children are: Mary Elizabeth and Henrietta W., the latter wife of John Oscar Norris, master of East Boston High School.

Dexter and Caroline (Livermore) Converse resided in Leicester, near Charlton, where they had a family of twelve children, among their sons being Edmund, Harrison and Lebbeus T. Converse, of Worcester.

Salem[7] Livermore, Jr., like his father and grandfather before him, was a carpenter, as well as a thrifty and industrious farmer and operator in real estate, in which kinds of business Salem, Jr., is well represented by his son, Thomas S. Livermore, who succeeded to and improves upon the five hundred acres of land in Leicester, Oxford and Auburn, including the homestead at Rochdale Village, on which he resides with his mother. Jonas[5] Livermore, Jr., was originally a Baptist, one of the pillars of the old Greenville Church; his son, Salem, Sr., was a Universalist, as well as the latter's brother Daniel, and Salem, Jr., was a member of the Episcopal Church at Rochdale.

Thomas S. Livermore has a specialty in the musical line, having officiated in a choir since he was fourteen years of age, and for the past few years he has been chorister and organist of the Unitarian Church at Leicester.

CHAPTER XCV.

CHARLTON.

BY HON. RUFUS B. DODGE.

THE town of Charlton is situated in the southwesterly part of the county, about thirteen miles from Worcester, and may with good reason be called one of the "hill towns." The surface is very uneven, and it has within its limits the highest land in the south part of the county. The Boston and Albany Railroad runs through the north part of the town, and the highest point on that road is a short distance east of Charlton Depot. The highest land in the town is the summit of the hill called Little Mugget, a short distance southeast of the depot. The large hill east of Charlton Centre, known as Mugget, and formerly called Mashey Mugget, affords a better view of the surrounding country, and has for that reason, perhaps, been considered by many higher land. There are several other hills in the town nearly as high as the ones mentioned, and a number of broad, deep valleys. About three-fourths of the present territory of the town was formerly a part of Oxford, and was set off from that town in 1755. The remainder was a part of a tract of land adjoining the town of Oxford on the north, said to contain ten thousand acres, of which no persons had obtained a grant, and that had not been included in any of the adjoining towns when incorporated and called the "Country Gore." About seven thousand acres of this tract was annexed to Charlton in 1757. The part taken from Oxford contained about twenty-three thousand five hundred acres. In 1788 about three hundred acres, and in 1807 about forty acres were taken from the southeast corner of the town and set to Oxford. In 1792 a small tract of land was taken from

the southwest corner of the town and set to Sturbridge; and in 1816 about three thousand acres were taken from the same part of the town to form a part of the town of Southbridge. On this latter tract was valuable water-power afforded by the Quinebaug River. No alterations have since been made in the town lines, although in 1831 an attempt was made to have a large tract from the east part set to Oxford. The project met with strong opposition from a large majority of the inhabitants of the town and was defeated. According to a survey made since the last tract was set off the town now contains a little over twenty-seven thousand acres, and is exceeded by few, if any, of the towns of the county in area of territory.

It has been said that the soil of the part taken from Oxford was considered as inferior in quality, and for that reason did not attract settlers, but the manner in which the land was held accounts sufficiently for its tardy settlement.

All the land formerly belonging to Oxford had been granted in 1683 to Daniel Cox and others. About twelve thousand acres on the east part of the grant was allotted to settlers and called the village; the remainder was reserved by the proprietors. In 1788 Daniel Cox and Robert Thompson, of London, Joseph Dudley, of Roxbury, William Stoughton, of Dorchester, John Blackwell, of Boston, and Thomas Freake, of Hannington, England, were the owners of all the grant lying west of what was called the village line. In that year a survey and division of the land was made. According to this survey, the tract contained thirty thousand acres. By the terms of the deed of partition, Joseph Dudley took six thousand acres on the south side of tract, extending from the village line on the east to Sturbridge on the west. John Blackwell took an equal quantity of land north of and adjoining Dudley's lot. William Stoughton took a like quantity of land north of Blackwell's. North of Stoughton's land Blackwell took a second lot of about seventeen hundred acres. North of Blackwell's second lot Daniel Cox took about twenty-six hundred acres. North of the lot taken by Cox, Thomas Freake took about seventeen hundred acres. Robert Thompson had the remaining lot, which contained six thousand acres, and lay between Freake's lot and the "Country Gore." When Dudley was incorporated, in 1731, the six thousand acre tract of Joseph Dudley was included in that town. All the other tracts, with the exception of a strip of each, one mile wide, bordering on the village line, were taken from Oxford to form the district of Charlton. Mary Wolcott, of Salem, became the owner of the Freake land, and in 1730 sold it to Edward Kitchen, of the same place, who caused the land to be divided into one hundred acre lots, and soon commenced disposing of his land to settlers. In October, 1733, Ebenezer McIntire, of Lynn, and Obadiah McIntire, of Salem, each purchased one of these lots, and they were probably the first settlers of the town. Daniel McIntire and Eleazer McIntire both purchased land of Kitchen soon afterwards. The two tracts of land that Blackwell had by the division were sold by his heirs, in 1720, to Captain Peter Papillion, of Boston. In 1727 they were divided into lots of suitable size to sell to settlers, and in 1738 were divided, by commissioners appointed for the purpose, among the heirs of Papillion. In 1735 Richard Dresser, of Thompson, bought one of the lots, and was probably the first person to settle in the south part of the town. The land purchased by Richard Dresser was part of the well-known Dresser Hill farm. His brother, John Dresser, soon afterward bought land lying west of Richard's. Isaiah Blood, Richard Blood and Nathaniel Blood, from Bellingham, at about the same time purchased land, on which they settled, lying south of Dresser Hill.

In 1750 probably thirty families were in the westerly part of Oxford, and two-thirds of that number had settled in the Gore. In that year a petition was presented to the General Court, signed by seventeen of the inhabitants of the westerly part of Oxford and by nine of the inhabitants of the Gore, requesting "to be erected into a separate township." The petitioners met with opposition and were defeated. The inhabitants of the easterly part of Oxford, as appears by a vote passed in town-meeting, were willing the westerly part should be set off by a line one mile farther west than the line insisted upon by the petitioners.

In 1754, William Alton and thirty-six other inhabitants of the west part of Oxford presented a petition to the Governor, Council and House of Representatives setting forth the difficulties under which they labored on account of the distance they lived from a place of public worship and by reason of being taxed for schools from which they received but little benefit, and from other causes stated in the petition. "They therefore prayed that his Excellency and the Honorable Court would be pleased to take their distressed circumstances under their wise consideration and erect them into a town or district, or otherwise relieve them as in their wisdom they should think best." A committee reported in favor of the petitioners and an act for making a district of that part of Oxford lying west of a line running parallel to and one mile west of the village line, and that part of the Gore lying north of the part of Oxford to be set off; but the act as finally passed included no part of the Gore in the district. The act passed January 10, 1755, and was as follows:

"Be it enacted by the Governor and Council and House of Representatives that the inhabitants with their lands on the westerly part of Oxford, beginning on the south side of Oxford, one mile west of the village line, so-called, thence running north parallel with said village line to Oxford north line, be and hereby is set off and erected into a separate district by the name of Charlton, and that said district be invested with all the privileges, powers and immuni-

ties that towns in this province do or may enjoy, that of sending a representative to the General Assembly only excepted, and that the inhabitants of said district shall have full power and right from time to time to join with said town of Oxford in the choice of a representative or representatives, who may be chosen either in the town or district in which choice they shall enjoy all the privileges which by law they would have been entitled to if this act had not been made."

By virtue of a warrant from Moses Marcy, of Sturbridge, issued by order of the General Court to John Dresser, a principal inhabitant of the district, "the freeholders and other inhabitants" were warned to meet at the house of Ebenezer McIntire on the 12th day of March, 1755, to choose such town officers as the law required, and to see if the district would let swine run at large. At this meeting Richard Dresser was chosen clerk; William Alton, treasurer; Richard Dresser, Lieutenant Obadiah McIntire, Jonathan Ballard, John Dresser and Ebenezer McIntire, selectmen; Samuel Streeter, tything-man; Isaiah Blood, constable; Ebenezer McIntire, clerk of the market; Ebenezer Lamb and Edward Chamberlain, fence-viewers; Nathaniel Blood, Nathaniel French and Nathaniel McIntire, surveyors of highways. Hog-reeves, deer-reeves and a brander of horses were also chosen, but no assessors. The name of the moderator was not recorded. On the 24th of May, as recorded, the selectmen of the town of Oxford and the selectmen of Charlton, with William Young, surveyor, and Captain Elisha Moore and John Nichols, chainmen, mutually agreed upon and sworn, run the dividing line between said Oxford and Charlton. On the 27th day of March of the same year, the second district-meeting was held, at which eight pounds, lawful money, was voted for schooling, and six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence for necessary charges. In April following it was voted "that the centre of the district should be the place to build a meeting-house upon, if a convenient place, and if not, the nearest convenient place to the centre should be the place to build upon." At the same meeting it was voted that the schools should be kept in two places—one on the north side, the other on the south side of the district. At this time there were no inhabitants of the district living farther north than the north line of the Kitchen land, which ran just north of the house now owned by Wm. S. Wakefield, at Charlton Centre. Between the Kitchen land and the Gore lay the Thompson land, on which there were no inhabitants. This land had been divided in 1749 amongst the devisees of Joseph Thompson, but at the time the district of Charlton was established none of the land had been purchased by settlers, and, in 1760, when a tax of two-pence per acre was granted by the General Court on the lands of the non-resident proprietors toward paying for building the meeting-house, sixty acres of the land were sold to pay the tax on three thousand five hundred and seventy-seven acres, still owned by non-residents.

The Stoughton land, in 1718, was purchased by Samuel Brown, of Salem, and was afterwards owned by his son, William Brown. Elizabeth Danforth, Samuel Danforth, Elijah Dunbar and others became part owners, but no division was made nor any part of the land disposed of to settlers until after the right and interest of William Brown had been confiscated by the General Court in 1782. An agent was appointed to ascertain the right and interest of said Brown and to make and execute division deeds, so that the Commonwealth as well as the other proprietors might hold their several rights in severalty. A division of the land was made and the part taken by the Commonwealth was sold at auction in 1785 by a committee chosen by the General Court, Caleb Ammidown, of Charlton, being one of the committee. Ebenezer Davis bought eight hundred acres of the confiscated land, Jacob Davis three hundred acres, Ebenezer Crafts three hundred acres; James Wolcott, Erasmus Babbitt and others were also purchasers. After this time the lands of the Danforths, Dunbar and others were gradually disposed of.

The land of Daniel Cox descended to his heirs, and was surveyed and divided into lots in 1751. Before this time some of the land had been sold for taxes, but no sales appear to have been made by the heirs for many years afterward. Most of the land was taken possession of and improved, and finally the occupants claimed ownership and refused to give up the lands. A suit-at-law, lasting several years, finally settled the matter in favor of the heirs, and the lands were sold by an agent or attorney.

In December, 1755, Edward Chamberlain and Nathaniel French were chosen a committee to provide preaching, and in January, 1756, a grant of seven pounds for the support of the Gospel was made. In June following the district voted seven pounds to provide a stock of powder, bullets and flints, and also voted that the schools should be kept in three places, but refused to allow any part of the money granted for schools to be laid out for hiring a school-dame in summer, as petitioned for by some of the inhabitants. March 14, 1757, it was voted that the district's stock of ammunition should be kept at Richard Dresser's, and, from a list reported by the selectmen, selected the names of such as they judged most suitable to serve as jurors. The persons selected were Obadiah McIntire, Nathaniel Blood, John Dresser, Eleazer McIntire, Samuel Streeter, Ebenezer Twiss, Isaiah Blood, John Stevens, Ebenezer Foskett, Joseph Twiss and Ebenezer Chamberlain. As soon as the district was organized the work of building a place of public worship and of providing schools was undertaken, but beyond deciding that the centre of the district should be the place to build a meeting-house upon and making slight provisions for schools nothing was accomplished. Timber for a meeting-house had been pre-

pared before the separation from Oxford. The warrant for a meeting to be held December 8, 1755, contained an article as follows: "To see if the district will agree to build a meeting-house, and if so, to agree upon the bigness to build the same;" and also the following: "To see if the district will choose a committee to take care of the timber that was hewed some time ago for a meeting-house, as also to provide materials for the same as may be thought most convenient if the district agree to build a meeting-house." At the meeting held under this warrant it was voted to take no action on these articles; and at a meeting held February 7, 1757, it was voted to raise no money either for schools or for the support of the Gospel, for the reason probably that it was expected that the petition that had been presented to the General Court for the annexation of the Gore would be granted. The inhabitants of the district had become satisfied that they were not in a condition to carry on the affairs of a town or district, and, judging from the tenor of their petitition, did not consider their situation had been improved by their separation from the town of Oxford. The district had voted, January 1, 1756, not to accept the Gore or join in a petition that it might be added to the district. A different spirit soon prevailed.

The petition was as follows:

To the Governor, Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled at Boston, January, 1756:

The petition of the subscribers inhabitants of Charlton and a place called the Gore Humbly shows, That the inhabitants of Charlton are now very sensible that it is wholly impracticable if not impossible for them to carry on the affairs of a district or in any measure support the charge necessarily arising from setting the Gospel amongst them. That the inhabitants of the Gore are so situated that they can't be laid to any town with the least advantage and are so small as not to be fit for a district by themselves, but if they were added to Charlton they would make a good town or district and be able to support public charges. And as they lie very handy to be laid to Charlton, they humbly pray that the land called the Gore with the inhabitants thereof lying westward of a line extending from the northeast corner of Charlton, northerly the same course as the east line of Charlton till it meets the south bounds of old Leicester, be added to the district of Charlton, there to do duty and enjoy privileges as other inhabitants of said district do enjoy. And as in duty bound will ever pray, etc.

The petition was signed by Solomon Harwood and thirty-three others of the district of Charlton and by Jonathan Wheelock and twelve others of the Gore. John Chandler and twelve other non-resident owners of real estate joined in a request that the petition might be granted. June 8, 1756, the answer of Jonathan Tucker, Nathaniel Jones and others was read with the petition, and the matter referred to the next fall session and further notices ordered. June 3, 1757, a committee having considered the matter, reported that the petition ought to be granted. "The report was read and accepted, and ordered that the inhabitants of the said Gore and the land within the bounds petitioned for, be, and hereby are, annexed to the district of Charlton and made part thereof, to do duty and enjoy privileges as the other inhabitants of said district do or by law ought to enjoy." The territory added to the district was about six miles in length and one mile in width on the east line and nearly three miles in width on the west line. All the "North Side" village, except the few houses on the road to Charlton Centre south of the school-house, is on the Gore territory. The number of persons taxed in the district of Charlton in 1756, as shown by the tax-list for that year, was fifty-three, and they were: William Alton, Richard Blood, Isaiah Blood, Nathaniel Blood, Jonathan Ballard, John Ballard, Edward Chamberlain, Joseph Clemence, Jonathan Clemence, Philip Clemence, Philip Clemence, Jr., Richard Dresser, John Dresser, John Davidson, William Coburn, Lemuel Edwards, Ebenezer Foskett, Nathaniel French, Benjamin Hobbs, Solomon Harwood, Adam Johnson, Ebenezer Lamb, James Lamb, Obadiah McIntire, Ebenezer McIntire, Eleazer McIntire, Eleazer McIntire, Jr., Daniel McIntire, Thomas McIntire, Thomas McIntire, Jr., Nathan McIntire, Joseph McIntire, Philip McIntire, Ezra McIntire, Noah McIntire, Zebulon McIntire, Robert McIntire, Nathan Moore, John Oaks, Jacob Parker, Elisha Putney, George Pike, Paul Rich, Samuel Rogers, Obadiah Sabin, Samuel Streeter, Samuel Streeter, Jr., Samuel Scott, John Stevens, Ebenezer Twiss, Joseph Twiss, Joseph Twiss, Jr., John Warfield.

The number of persons living on the Gore land that were assessed a tax the spring after it was set to Charlton was thirty-nine. They were: Joseph Baldwin, James Blanchard, David Brown, William Cummins, John Convers, Nathaniel Dewey, Nathan Dennis, Samuel Eustis, Nathaniel Eustis, Philip Gage, Aaron Gleason, Ebenezer Hammond, Jonas Hammond, David Hammond, Nathaniel Jones, Henry Merritt, Ephraim Morey, Joseph Parker, Thomas Parker, Thomas Parker, Jr., Malachi Partridge, William Parker, Nehemiah Stone, Jonathan Tucker, William Tucker, John Thompson, Ebenezer White, Josiah White, Daniel Weld, Job Weld, Noah Weld, Daniel Williams, Benjamin Ward, Uriah Ward, Jonathan Wheelock, Paul Wheelock, David Wheelock, Peter Sleeman and Jonathan Upham. Of the persons above named who were prominent in public affairs, and whose names appear frequently on the records, Jonathan Tucker, Daniel Williams and the Welds were from Roxbury, Nehemiah Stone and the Hammonds from Newton, the Wheelocks from Mendon, and the Wards from Roxbury.

A committee was chosen by the General Court in 1719 to sell the Gore land, and it was divided into lots of three hundred acres, but, so far as the records show, no person living on the land at the time it was annexed to Charlton became an owner prior to 1735. In that year Jonathan Tucker, of Roxbury, deeded to his son Jonathan one-half of three hundred acres in the Gore, and the same year Jonathan Wheelock bought one hundred and fifty acres, and they were probably the first settlers in the north part of the town. The Hammonds bought land adjoining Tucker's on the

west in 1739, and Nehemiah Stone became the owner of land in 1746 that was afterwards owned by his son Nehemiah, and by his grandson, Nehemiah B. Stone. Although Charlton, after the Gore was added, contained a larger population than many of the towns in the State, it remained a district, without the right of sending a Representative to the General Court, until a law was enacted in 1775, making all districts in the Commonwealth towns.

With the addition of population and resources secured by the addition of territory, the inhabitants considered themselves in a condition to carry on successfully public affairs. Accordingly, July 28, 1757, a meeting was held, and the district voted ten pounds, lawful money, for the support of the Gospel, and thirteen pounds six shillings and eight pence for the support of schools. Ebenezer McIntire, Jonas Hammond and Isaiah Blood were chosen a committee to provide preaching, and Ebenezer White, Ebenezer Hammond, John Stevens, Eleazer McIntire and Nathaniel Blood, School Committee. The district also voted "to build a meeting-house at the centre of the district, if a convenient place; if not, at the nearest convenient place thereto." The district before the Gore was annexed had passed a similar vote, but the large addition of territory made it necessary to select a new location, but failing to agree as to where the centre of the district was or the nearest convenient place thereto, at a meeting held November 22, 1757, a committee was chosen, consisting of Dea. Thomas Wheeler, of Worcester, Samuel Chandler, Esq., of Woodstock, and Col. Hezekiah Sabin, of Thompson, "to state a place for a meeting-house." The district voted to pay Richard Dresser six shillings eight pence for entertaining the committee, but refused to accept the "place stated." An article in the warrant for a meeting held January 16, 1758, was as follows: "To see if the inhabitants of the district will vote that the meeting-house shall stand at a stake that is set up north of Ebenezer McIntire's house, and if not, to see if the inhabitants of the district will agree in sending to the General Court for a committee to find the centre of the district, and to state the place for the meeting-house." At this meeting it was voted "to build the meeting-house at the stake a little north of Ebenezer McIntire's house."[1] It has been stated that a committee from the General Court staked out a place for the meeting-house; but if the district records are to be depended on, the statement is incorrect. As recorded, the vote for accepting the place was sixteen to nine. Ebenezer McIntire gave the district an acre of land, but it was stated in the deed that it was for the use of said district "for the meeting-house to stand upon and for a training-field, and for no other uses." This piece of land, as described in the deed was twenty rods long and eight rods wide, and bounded easterly by the road. For many years it has not been used for either of the purposes specified. The first meeting for the choice of district officers after the Gore was annexed was held March 20, 1758. At this meeting Jonathan Tucker, Richard Dresser, Jonas Hammond, Isaiah Blood and Ebenezer McIntire were chosen selectmen; Richard Dresser, clerk, and Jonathan Wheelock, treasurer.

At the same meeting it was voted to build a meeting-house fifty feet long and forty feet wide and to cover the whole with shingles. One hundred pounds was granted toward the expense of building and Nathaniel Blood, Isaiah Blood, Jonathan Upham, Jonathan Ballard and Ebenezer Hammond were chosen a meeting-house committee for the year and were authorized "to set a price upon materials and upon labor and to choose a master workman to set up the frame." In July, 1759, it was voted "to let out the framing of our meeting-house by the great," and for twenty-six pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence, Jonathan Upham undertook "to set up the frame and assist in raising the same." In September following the district voted "to provide victuals and drink for the raising of the meeting-house and other necessaries," and a committee was chosen to see that provisions were suitably prepared. In March preceding forty pounds had been voted toward defraying the charges of building. In 1760, upon the petition of Jonathan Tucker and other residents of the district, a tax of two pence per acre for one year on land of non-resident proprietors was granted by the General Court "in order to enable the inhabitants to finish the meeting-house." Nearly nineteen thousand acres of land in the district was at this time owned by non-resident proprietors, as the tax authorized amounted to one hundred and fifty-three pounds, fourteen shillings and eight pence. Although not completed, the house was in a condition to be used as a place of public worship by January, 1761. A meeting of the inhabitants for district business was held in it January 6th. There had been expended upon it, as reported by a committee, two hundred and eighty-two pounds, five shillings, three pence and two farthings. In February following twenty pounds was voted "toward finishing the meeting-house." Before the district was incorporated some of the inhabitants had attended public worship at Dudley and a part at Sturbridge. Afterward money had been voted from time to time for the support of the Gospel and meetings had been held probably at the house of Ebenezer McIntire, where all meetings for the transaction of district business were held until the meeting-house was in a condition to be used. May 26, 1761, the district voted to concur with the church[2] in giving Rev.

[1] Ebenezer McIntire owned all the land on Charlton Hill, on which the Centre Village stands, and he and his sons and their families were the only residents until 1775. His house was on the west side of the road that runs on the east side of the Common, and probably a little farther south than the house where George F. Cummins now lives, and stood on land that now is part of the Common.

[2] The members of the church were: Richard Blood, Jonathan Up-

Caleb Curtis a call to settle in the ministry, and voted to give him one hundred and thirty-three pounds, six shillings and eight pence as settlement, and sixty pounds salary, so long as he should supply the pulpit. Mr. Curtis accepted the call and was ordained October 15, 1761.

In 1762 the district voted to put pillars under the gallery beams and to build seats from alley to alley, and appropriations were made from time to time to pay expenses. In 1766 a petition was presented to the General Court for a tax on the land of non-resident proprietors towards finishing the meeting-house, but no tax was granted.

In 1772 the district voted to give Jacob Davis £163 12*s.* to finish the inside of the meeting-house, "the work to be done as well and complete in all respects as the work was done in the meeting-house at Oxford and to be completed in eighteen months." It appears that the work was completed according to the agreement, and in September, 1773, a committee was chosen "to Dignifie all the pews in the meeting-house." The business of this committee, judging by their report, which was accepted, was to number and appraise the pews. It was voted "that the man who paid the highest tax on real estate towards the meeting-house should have his first choice, paying the appraisal and so on by succession until all were disposed of." By this arrangement the choice fell to tax-payers in the following order: Jacob Davis, Ebenezer Hammond, Jonas Hammond, Paul Wheelock, Nehemiah Stone, Ebenezer McIntire, Nathaniel Blood, Jonathan Tucker, John Stevens, David Wheelock, Nathaniel Goodell, David Hammond, Daniel Weld, Ebenezer Foskett, Henry Merritt, William Tucker, John Nichols, Jonathan Mower, John Edwards, Benjamin Marsh, Benjamin Alton, James Blanchard, John Marble, Jonathan Ballard, Edmund Bemis, Joseph Parker, Ebenezer White, Jr., John Farley. As one pew was reserved for the use of the ministry, it appears there were twenty-nine pews in the house at this time. Besides the pews there were seats in the house for the use of persons who were not pew-owners.

In 1788 it was voted to take up three of the body seats and sell at auction the room for pew ground. In 1790 Daniel Williams was granted leave to put a pew in the west end of the men's body seats. In 1793 General John Spurr paid £6 2*s.* for pew ground. In 1775, as has been stated, the district of Charlton, by an act of the General Court, was made a town. March 11, 1776, the church voted to dismiss Rev. Caleb Curtis, according to his request. The town, at a meeting held March 25th, voted not to concur with the church, but in July following voted in favor of dismissal. October 29th an ecclesiastical council, after considering the reasons of Mr. Curtis for asking a dismission and finding that at his desire, the church and the town had voted to dismiss him, the council approved of what had been done and accordingly declared Mr. Curtis dismissed. Mr. Curtis, like many other clergymen of the time, owned a farm.[1] After his dismissal he continued to live on his farm until his decease, in 1802, at the age of seventy-five years. He was active in public affairs and was chosen a delegate to the Provincial Congress in 1775 and a representative to the General Court in 1787.

The town continued to support ministers of the standing order until 1782. In that year the warrant contained an article, as follows: "To see if the town will vote to support for the future the public teacher, or teachers, of piety, religion and morality of said town by taxation or by free contribution." On this article the vote was, "for taxation, 55; for free contribution, 106." After this time no money was raised by the town for the support of preaching. A congregational society was incorporated in 1784. The act of incorporation was amended in 1786, and in 1798 the amended act was repealed, and an act passed, incorporating Israel Waters, Salem Town, John Spurr, Jonas Ward and others a religious society, by the name of "The Proprietors of the New Congregational Centre Meeting-house in Charlton." A meeting-house was built for the society by Deacon Jonas Ward, which was probably raised about the 1st of June, 1798, as May 24th the society chose three stewards, "to provide such drink as they should think necessary for raising day," and three "to deal out the drink," and voted "that the carpenters on raising-day should inform the stewards what time to refresh." The house was dedicated November 26, 1799. It was very large, having one hundred pews on the lower floor, and fifty in the gallery, and stood where the Universalist meeting-house now stands. The pews were divided amongst the proprietors by lot.[2]

After Mr. Curtis was dismissed there was no settled minister until January, 1783, when Rev. Archibald Campbell was installed, and remained until April, 1793, after which time there was no settled pastor for about four years. In 1797 Rev. Erastus Learned was ordained; he was dismissed in 1802. In November, 1803, Rev. Edwards Whipple accepted a call from the church and society at a salary of four hundred dollars a year. He was ordained January 25, 1804, and remained until February 20, 1821.

The successor of Mr. Whipple was Rev. Thomas

ham, Timothy Barton, Josiah Towne, Jonathan Ballard, Jonathan Mower, Jonas Hammond, Nehemiah Stone, Ebenezer Lamb, Elisha Putney, Nathanial Blood, John Farlee, Josiah Robinson, Samuel Baker, Ebenezer Hammond, John Edwards, John Coburn, Aaron Gleason, Samuel Chamberlain, Jonathan Dennis, James Blanchard, Johanah Blood, Ruth Blood, Lucy Chamberlain, Elizabeth Hammond, Esther Hammond, Mehitable Dennis, Susanna Towne, Eunice Gleason, Elizabeth Baker, Martha Upham, Deborah Coburn, Alice Ballard, Hepsibeh Barton.

[1] The farm is now owned by Reuben S. Eastman.

[2] The first meeting-house was sold, in 1803, to Levi Davis for three hundred and fifty dollars, one-half of which was paid to the pew owners, the other half to the town. The house was taken down and the materials used for a barn on the farm now owned by Moses D. Woodbury.

Rich, whose term of service ended in 1825. A majority of the proprietors had become dissenters from the Calvinistic Congregationalist doctrine, and, by an arrangement with the minority, became the owners of the meeting-house. In October, 1826, the minority and other residents of the town organized a society and took the name of "The First Calvinistic Congregational Society of Charlton." Meetings were held in the hall of William S. Weld (afterwards called "Craig's Hall") until a meeting-house was built. The house was commenced in 1826, and completed in time to be dedicated June 5, 1827. The same day Rev. John Wilder, who had been invited by the church and society to become their pastor, was installed. Mr. Wilder remained until February, 1833. Since that time the pastors have been—Rev. William H. Whittemore, from June, 1833, to September, 1835; Rev. Isaac R. Barbour, from August, 1836, to June, 1839; Rev. George W. Underwood, from June, 1840, to March, 1843; Rev. John Wilder, from April, 1843, till his decease, in 1844; Rev. Alanson Alvord, from February, 1845, to March, 1846; Rev. Nelson Clarke, from June, 1846, to December, 1849; Rev. John Haven, from April, 1850, to October, 1879; Rev. Frank Jenkins, from January, 1881, to July, 1882; Rev. Charles M. Pierce, from August, 1883, to November, 1886. Rev. William Sewall, the present pastor, was installed June 24, 1887.

In 1855 the meeting-house was remodeled and improved. The society has an income from a fund of about two thousand dollars, a bequest from Sally Willis, who died in 1887.

As early as 1757 there were people in Charlton who held Baptist sentiments. In that year the following certificate was filed with the assessors:

LEICESTER, November 15, 1757.

This may Sertify all People to whom it may concern that Obadiah Mackintire, Sener., and Eleazer Mackintire, Sener., and Ebenezer Twiss and Solomon Harwood, all of Charlton, do Usually and frequently attend the annabaptis Meeting under the Pastoral care of Elder Thomas Green and do Desire the Liberty the Law gives in Being Clear[d] from paying of Rates to those of other Way of thinking And Lickwise Eleazer Mackintire, Junr.

Test. Wee who are Chosen by the Church to Give Setificates.

Elder THOMAS GREEN,
SAMUWILL GREEN,
THOMAS HOLEMAN.

The same year Nathaniel Jones obtained a similar certificate from the Baptist Church in Sutton. In 1761 twenty-three tax-payers in Charlton had filed such certificates with the assessors and, in consequence, were exempted from paying taxes for the support of the standing order. In July, 1762, a Baptist Church was formed at what is called the North Side, composed of members from Charlton, Leicester and Spencer. There is nothing in the society or church records to show when the first meeting-house was built, but, as in all warrants for district or town-meetings prior to 1780, the inhabitants had been warned to meet at the meeting-house in said Charlton, and after that date at the Centre meeting-house, it may reasonably be inferred that it was built in 1779. The society, for a time, increased quite rapidly in numbers, and, in 1793, a new house was built on land given for the purpose by Captain Levi Davis.

The society voted to give to Elder David Rathbun the old meeting-house for a dwelling-house, provided he should settle with them, but at a subsequent meeting this vote was reconsidered. And when the new house was ready for use the old one was sold to Moses Dodge.[1]

Elder Nathaniel Green, of Leicester, was the first minister. He was ordained October 12, 1763, and labored with the church and society until his decease, March 20, 1791. After the death of Elder Green the pastors were Elder David Rathbun, from 1792 to 1795; Elder Charles Thompson, from December, 1802, till his decease May 1, 1803; and Elder James Boomer, from 1803 to 1834, when his health failed and he was obliged to give up preaching. He died February 24, 1837. He was the last minister of the church and society. Soon after his decease letters of dismission and recommendation to other churches of the Baptist denomination were given the remaining members.[2]

Elder Boomer is remembered by the old residents of the town as an earnest, effective preacher, who labored faithfully for the welfare of his parishioners. He enjoyed the respect and confidence of his townsmen, and was twice elected a representative to the General Court. Several causes contributed to the decline of the society. There were many removals from town. Some were so situated that they could more conveniently attend other churches of the denomination, and with a considerable number there was a change of religious sentiment.

It is said that a Methodist Church was organized in the southwest part of the town in 1792, and that circuit preachers served the society until 1810, after which the society ceased to exist. Meetings were held in the hall at Dresser Hill and in other places in the south part of the town for a considerable number of years before a house of worship was built. Some of the preachers were: Hezekiah Davis, Stephen W. Hammond, Otis Perrin and Joseph S. Ellis. In 1855, when it was decided to build a church at Charlton City, a legal organization was effected, and measures taken to carry out the project. The house was completed in 1856. Since the organization of the society the pastors have been as follows: William B. Olds, 1855–56; Jarvis Wilson, part of 1857; Daniel Dorchester, 1858–59; C. H. Hanaford, 1860–62; J. S. Thomas, 1862; John Noon, 1863; J. W. P. Jordan, 1864; A. M. Osgood, 1865; D. K. Banister, 1866-68; N. A. Soule, 1869–71; N. F. Stevens, 1872;

[1] The house was taken down and the materials used for a dwelling-house on the farm now owned by George J. Dodge.

[2] The last meeting-house after the dissolution of the society was taken down and removed to the easterly part of Leicester and set up for a factory.

J. J. Woodbury, 1873–75; S. H. Noon, 1876; F. T. George, 1877; G. W. H. Clarke, 1878; P. C. Sloper, 1879–80; W. A. Braman, 1881–83; G. O. Crosby, 1884–85; O. W. Adams, 1886, '87–88.

The society has an income from a liberal bequest from Sally Willis, lately deceased.

After the division of the Congregational Society in 1825, the meeting-house was purchased by the town, but was sold in 1826 to Dr. Dan Lamb, Samuel D. Spurr, John Davis and others, and passed under the control of the Unitarians. In 1827 a society and church of that denomination was organized, of which Rev. Edward Turner became the pastor. He was installed June 18, 1827, and remained until May, 1831. He was the only pastor of the society, and soon after his services ended the society ceased to exist. Many of the members joined the Universalists in organizing the First Union Society of Charlton.

A Universalist Society was formed in 1827, and held meetings at the North Side. The preachers were Rev. Massena B. Ballou, Rev. Gilman Noyes and Rev. John Boyden. In 1838 a society was organized, composed of Universalists and Unitarians, that took the name of "The First Union Society of Charlton," and voted to hold meetings at Charlton Centre. The old meeting-house was purchased of the proprietors and taken down, and a new house built on the spot where the old one stood. The basement was built by the town according to the terms of an agreement with the society, and is used as a place for holding town-meetings and for public uses. The house was completed and dedicated in December, 1839. In 1851 the society took the name of "The First Universalist Society of Charlton." Rev. Aurin Bugbee was pastor of the society from 1838 to 1851. Since that time the pastors have been Rev. M. E. Hawes, 1851–52; Rev. Lyman Maynard, 1853; Rev. J. H. Willis, 1854–55. From 1855 to 1858 there was no regular pastor; the pulpit was supplied by Rev. Z. Baker and others. In March, 1858, Rev. Lucius Holmes became the pastor, and continued until March, 1863; Rev. Clarence Fowler was pastor the remainder of 1863 and 1864; Rev. Edward Smiley, 1866–74; Rev. Anson Titus, 1875–78; Rev. I. P. Quimby, 1879–83. In 1883 Rev. Lucius Holmes a second time became pastor and still continues in that office.

Nehemiah B. Stone, who died in 1866, left by will five thousand dollars to the society, the interest of which was to be used for the support of preaching.

In 1858 a society was formed at Lelandville of people of various religious beliefs. A meeting-house was built and religious services held regularly on the Sabbath for several years. Rev. William B. Olds supplied the pulpit most of the time. From some cause interest in the meetings declined, religious services were discontinued, and the meeting-house, after remaining unused for a considerable time, was sold and removed.

About 1865 a Second Advent Society was formed in the southeast part of the town. A chapel was built in which meetings have since been held. There has been no permanent minister. The preaching has been by clergymen of the denomination from other towns.

The Roman Catholics held meetings at Charlton Depot for several years. In 1887 a building was purchased at Charlton City in which their meetings are now held. The church is under the care of Rev. Father Donahoe, of Southbridge.

At the first meeting held in the district March 12, 1755, no money was appropriated for any purpose. The second meeting was held the same month. An article in the warrant for the second meeting was "To make such grant or grants of money as the district may think necessary for the district's use as for schooling the children in the place or for other things that may be thought needful." Eight pounds, lawful money, was voted for schooling. At a meeting held in April following it was voted that the schools should be kept in two places, the one on the north side, the other on the south side of the district. At that time there were no inhabitants living farther north than the Centre Village now extends. It is probable that the school for the south part was on or near Dresser Hill, in the neighborhood of the Bloods and the Dressers. The school for the north part was without doubt farther south than what is now Charlton Centre. In 1756 it was voted that the schools should be kept in three places, and that no part of the money should be laid out for hiring a school-dame in summer, as petitioned for by some of the inhabitants who had small children. The Gore having been annexed to the district in 1757, in July of that year £13 6*s.* 8*d.* was voted for schooling, and Ebenezer White, Ebenezer Hammond, John Stevens, Eleazer McIntire and Nathaniel Blood were chosen School Committee. It was voted that each part should provide its own school-house and that the committee should provide schooling as each part should choose. In 1760 the selectmen were chosen School Committee, and the appropriation for schools was fifteen pounds. In 1761 a committee was chosen "to state places for school-houses in the several parts of the district." The committee reported that they had agreed on six places, three on the east side and three on the west side of the district, and that the house for the southwest part should stand where it was already built. The report was accepted.

For several years after this time the number of schools was not increased, and the sum appropriated for their support in any year did not exceed twenty pounds. In 1767 the district was divided into eight school wards, one of which was called the Middle Ward, the school-house for which was to be at the southwest corner of the burying-ground. Before this time it does not appear that there had been a school at the Centre. The district voted that each ward should build its own school-house. In May, 1773, Ebenezer Hammond, Jacob Davis and Isaiah Blood

were chosen a committee to act in defence of the town on an indictment for not keeping a grammar school. As the population increased additional schools were provided and the appropriations for their support were increased.

In 1780 there were ten school-wards in the town. In 1778 the sum voted for schools was one hundred pounds. The currency had become of so little value in 1780 that twenty-five hundred pounds was voted. In 1781 the appropriation was "60 pounds in hard money or current exchange." In 1786 a committee was chosen "to regulate the schools for each ward and to select a place for a school-house in each ward where a school-house had not been built, the places selected to be reported to the town for acceptance." The committee were authorized to expend, under the direction of the selectmen, the money that each ward was entitled to receive. In 1788 the town granted the petition of the "middle ward" for leave to build a school-house with the share of money raised for schooling belonging to said ward. The same privilege was granted the "east ward" the year following. In 1795 three additional school-wards were made and the sum of two hundred pounds was voted for providing schooling. A few years later two more school-wards were made and fifteen schools were supported until 1836, when the number was reduced to thirteen by uniting two at the Centre and two in the northeast part of the town.

As for many years each ward or district provided its own school-house and the money raised for schools was divided amongst the several wards, in proportion to the amount of tax paid by the inhabitants of each, the wards or districts really provided the schooling. In 1854 a more equitable method of dividing the money was adopted, a portion of the money raised for school purposes being divided equally among the districts. In 1869 the town voted to abolish the school-district system and since that time has owned the school-houses. A sufficient number of schools to accommodate all the school-children of the town are maintained thirty weeks each year. For several years the number of schools has varied from eleven to thirteen. The annual expense for their support is about $3800.

The No. 3 School District has a fund of $1000, a bequest by Jesse Smith, who died in 1835. The interest of this fund is used for the benefit of the school in the district.

The No. 2 District has a fund of the same amount, the bequest of Nehemiah B. Stone, the income from which is used in like manner.

Capt. Julius E. Tucker, who died in 1873, left a legacy of $1000 to the town, the interest of which will, according to the terms of his will, be mainly used for school purposes.

In 1860 a Library Association was formed for the purpose of establishing a library. The undertaking proved quite successful and a good collection of books was secured. In order that its use might be enjoyed by the public generally, in 1882 it was made over to the town for a Free Public Library, on condition that an annual appropriation should be made for the purchase of books and for necessary expenses. Since that time the town has annually appropriated $200 for its benefit. April 1, 1888, the library contained 1168 volumes, for circulation and 365 books of reference. In the future, in addition to the appropriations made by the town, the library will have the income from a fund of $500, bequeathed by Mrs. Emeline Munroe, said income to be expended for the purchase of books.

Pauperism was rare in the early history of the town. Occasional aid was rendered persons in indigent circumstances. In 1766 Nathan McIntire was paid two shillings two pence "for a pare of mittens and footing; 2 pear of stockings for James Butler." Other small amounts were paid from time to time. In 1773 Dr. William Ware was allowed twelve shillings three pence for doctoring the poor. Some families were warned to leave the town to prevent their acquiring a settlement. In 1766 it was voted "to allow Solomon Harwood, for warning out three families, by vertu of a warrant from the selectmen, fore shillings." Several times the town voted to build a work-house, but the votes were never carried into effect, and for a considerable time homes were found for paupers with such persons as were willing, for a stipulated price, to undertake the support of one or more of them for the year. Later they were "auctioned off to the lowest bidder." In 1836 a farm of two hundred acres was purchased, on which, since that time, the unfortunate poor of the town, in sickness and in health, have been comfortably provided for. In 1864 a new house was built on the farm, at a cost of $6125.

According to tradition, the first place of burial was on the southwest corner of the farm of Obadiah McIntire, which is now owned by David O. Horn. The land is now covered by a growth of wood of considerable size, but the rough, unlettered stones, set to mark the graves, can readily be found. In 1762 it was voted "to lay out a burying-ground as near our meeting-house as the land will admit of, if the land may be had." In 1763 it was voted "to accept an acre of land, a little south of Ebenezer McIntire's barn, for a burying-ground for y^{e} district to bury their dead."

A little later a burial-place was provided at the north part of the town, called the North Side Burying-ground, and another in the south part, called the Dresser Hill Burying-ground. All these lots have been enlarged, and are still used as burial-places. Any family or person in town has had the privilege of selecting any unappropriated lot when needed, but no person has been allowed to select a lot until wanted. The town has an income from a legacy of five hundred dollars from Thomas J. Spurr, and also

from a legacy of two hundred dollars from Mrs. Ruth Twiss, which, according to the terms of the bequests, are used mainly for the improvement of the Centre Burying-ground.

In the war of the Revolution Charlton bore its share of burdens resolutely. There was no failure in furnishing the quotas of men required. Liberal bounties were paid the soldiers who served in the army, and they were, as far as possible, supplied by the town with clothing and blankets, and their families were provided for during their absence. A meeting was held August 19, 1773, to take into consideration a letter from the Committee of Correspondence of Boston. A committee was chosen, consisting of Deacon Jonas Hammond, Captain Richard Dresser and Captain Nathaniel Blood, "to draw up resolves relating to the unconstitutional burdens laid on the province." The report of the committee was as follows:

Gentlemen,—We have taken into serious consideration the pamphlet sent us from Boston, wherein the rights and privileges of this province are clearly stated, and the infringements made thereon justly pointed out. We return our sincere thanks to the town of Boston for the vigilance and firmness in support of the country, which has been very conspicuous in that metropolis, and will heartily join in all such meaaures as may appear most conducive to the restoration of our invaluable privileges from the hand of oppression.

The report of the committee was approved, and Jonas Hammond, Richard Dresser, Nathaniel Blood, Ebenezer Hammond, Stephen Fay, John Dresser and Ebenezer Foskett were chosen a Committee of Correspondence.

September 12, 1774, it was voted to provide one hundred and fifty pounds of powder, three hundred pounds of lead and fifty dozen flints, and eighteen pounds, lawful money, was voted to pay for the same. Ezra McIntire, constable, was instructed to make no return of jurors, according to the late order. October 10, 1774, Captain Jonathan Tucker was chosen delegate to attend the Provincial Congress to be held at Concord the second Tuesday of the month. At the same meeting it was voted to furnish the regular troops with no implements, labor, etc. December 22d the constables were directed to pay what province money they had collected, or might collect, to Henry Gardner, of Stow, for the use of the province, agreeable to the advice of the Provincial Congress. January 9, 1775, Captain Jonathan Tucker was chosen delegate to attend the Provincial Congress to be held at Cambridge the 1st day of February following. And at the same meeting Captain Samuel Curtis, Captain Richard Dresser, Lieutenant William Tucker, Ezra McIntire and Ebenezer Foskett were chosen a committee to see that the directions of the Continental and Provincial Congresses were strictly adhered to. It was also voted to aid and assist and protect the constables in collecting the province tax. March 6th it was voted "to make the men in the district some allowance for disciplining themselves." May 22, 1775, Rev. Caleb Curtis was chosen a delegate to attend the Provincial Congress to be held at Watertown. March 4, 1776, Nathaniel Jones, Ebenezer Foskett and Thomas Parker were chosen a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, and in June following Ezra McIntire and Caleb Ammidown were added to the committee. At the meeting in March Daniel Streeter was allowed one pound and eight shillings for carrying blankets to the army. June 17, 1776, the town voted to support the Continental Congress in declaring independence of Great Britain.

March 18, 1777, the town voted to give their men who should enlist into the Continental service for the term of three years, or during the war, the sum of twenty pounds each, in addition to the bounty given by the Continental Congress and the State, and that the money for the purpose should be raised by a general assessment, in order that all the inhabitants and estates should pay an equal proportion in defending civil and religious privileges. This vote was passed in accordance with the recommendation of a committee chosen to devise means to raise the quota of men required of the town as speedily as possible.

June 9, 1777, Lieutenant John Edwards was chosen "to procure and lay before the court the evidence that might be had of the inimical disposition of any inhabitant of the town towards this or any of the United States who might be charged by the freeholders, or other inhabitants, with being a person whose residence in the State was dangerous to the public peace and safety."

By a vote of the town, the names of Obadiah McIntire, Eleazer McIntire, Eleazer McIntire, Jr., and Jesse McIntire were placed on the list of suspected persons. It is not known that any evidence was ever procured and laid before the court tending to prove that the residence of either in the State was dangerous to the public peace and safety.

January 20, 1778, it was voted to raise by tax the sum of eight hundred and eighty-nine pounds seven shillings and six pence, and to pay said sum into the treasury of the State by the 1st day of the next April, agreeable to an act of the General Court.

February 2, 1778, Captain Richard Dresser, Lieutenant Ebenezer Hammond and Daniel Williams were chosen a committe to receive subscriptions for the Continental soldiers enlisted for the town, and to convey to them, as soon as possible, such things as should be subscribed.

March 2, 1778, Nathaniel Jones, Ebenezer Foskett, Caleb Ammidown, Ezra McIntire and John Dresser were chosen a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, and Ebenezer Hammond, Nathaniel Blood and Nathaniel Goodell were chosen to provide for the families of the men from the town enlisted into the Continental army for three years, or during the war. April 2, 1778, Peter Sleeman, Reuben Davis and Benjamin Alton were chosen a committee to provide shirts, stockings and shoes for the town's quota

of men in the army, and to appraise said articles according to their quality. The committee valued the articles collected by them at one hundred and ninety-six pounds six shillings, and the town voted two hundred pounds to pay for the same.

March 1, 1779, John Dresser, John Edwards and Caleb Ammidown were chosen a Committee of Correspondence, etc., and Isaiah Blood, David Wheelock and Stephen Fay a committee to provide for the families of soldiers. In September following the town voted to raise nine hundred pounds to enable the committee to provide for said families.

March 6, 1780, Stephen Fay, David Hammond and Ezra McIntire were chosen to provide for the families of the Continental soldiers.

June 29th, the same year, the town voted six hundred and fifty pounds, old lawful money, to pay their soldiers for six months' service, and July 4th voted to pay such men as should enlist for three months forty shillings per month each, "to be paid in capital, articles of produce, or money equivalent thereto."

October 9, 1780, the town voted to raise three hundred and fifty pounds of the new or late emission, or other money equivalent thereto, to procure the town's proportion of beef, and Salem Town and David Rich were chosen to procure said beef, and in December following seven hundred pounds were voted for a like purpose, and a committee chosen to procure the beef.

June 3, 1781, it was voted to furnish each soldier that should enlist from the town for three years, or during the war, with forty hard dollars, or other money equivalent thereto.

July 16th, voted to give the men raised to go to Rhode Island forty shillings per month, and the men raised to go to headquarters for three months fifty shillings per month, and it was voted to raise three hundred and thirty pounds in silver and gold to provide the town's quota of beef, and Salem Town was chosen to purchase the beef. The pay-rolls, descriptive lists and other papers in the office of the Secretary of State, at Boston, contain the names of two hundred and fifty different soldiers from Charlton who were in service in the army. Of this number forty-one were in Colonel Larned's regiment at Roxbury from April, 1775, till December 26th following, and twenty-eight were in Colonel William Campbell's regiment for a shorter period. In December, 1775, thirty men were raised to reinforce the army. In 1776 forty men enlisted for one year. In March, 1777, forty-eight men were raised to complete the quota of the town. In August of the same year one-fourth of the militia (thirty-six men) were marched to Rhode Island under command of Captain Abijah Lamb.

There were enlistments of men for three years, or during the war, in 1780, and twenty-four men were drafted. Other drafts from the militia were made of men for short terms of service.

Jacob Davis, Reuben Davis, John Nichols, Samuel Curtis, and Abijah Lamb each held a captain's commission in the service, and Jonathan Tucker, William Tucker, David Rich and Robert Kelley were lieutenants.

According to a return made by the selectmen in 1788, in compliance with a resolve of the General Court, the town paid in bounties to soldiers who served in the war a sum equal to seven thousand nine hundred and twelve pounds silver money.

In May, 1782, the town voted to instruct their representative "to adhere strictly to the whole of the resolves and recommendations of the late county convention, held at Worcester, for the removal of divers grievances, which the good people of the commonwealth labored under, and to take prudential care relative to the impost act, so-called, and also to use his best endeavor that there might be a more equal mode of taxation come into in the commonwealth, so that the laborer might not bear more than his just proportion of taxes." In 1783, and again in 1784, the representative was given similar instructions. A town-meeting was held August 10, 1786, to take into consideration a letter from the committee of the convention held at Leicester June 26th. Caleb Curtis and Caleb Ammidown were chosen delegates to attend a convention to be held at Sutton, August 15th. The people of the town were earnest in their efforts to secure a removal of the grievances complained of, and there is no doubt that the men who organized the "Shays' Rebellion" had the sympathy of many of the prominent men of the town. Rev. Caleb Curtis, who had been a delegate to the conventions held, and who was arrested and held in custody for a short time for alleged encouragement of armed resistance of the State government, was elected a representative to the General Court in 1787.

In July, 1787, the town voted that "the selectmen, in the name and behalf of the town, should petition the Governor and Council to grant a full and free pardon to Capt. Henry Gale, of Princeton, who had been convicted of treason for his participation in the Rebellion, if it could be done consistent with the honor and dignity of the Government."

Interest was taken in the War of 1812, and pay in addition to what was received from government was voted men in service.

At a town-meeting held September 14, 1812, the following article was acted on: "To see what sum of money the town will raise to pay each non-commissioned officer and private soldier per month who has been, or may be, drafted or detached from the militia of the commonwealth, who is a resident of Charlton while the present war with Great Britain continues, provided they perform the duties of the field."

It was voted "to allow seven dollars per month in addition to the common pay to the militia that have been drafted, or that may be drafted in future to serve in the present war with Great Britain and her dependencies."

Dr. Ebenezer Borden, Dr. Dan Lamb, John Brown and John Spurr; Jr., were chosen a committee to take into consideration the measures of government. A Committee of Safety was also chosen.

No action was taken by the town in regard to the war with Mexico.

During the War of the Rebellion the town was ever ready to respond to any call and to furnish men to fill any quota assigned it.

At a town-meeting held May 9, 1861, the sum of ten thousand dollars was appropriated for raising a military company and for aid to the families of those who entered the service. Volunteers were to be paid one dollar per day for time spent in preparatory drill and ten dollars per month in addition to government pay while in service, to commence when they left town. And one dollar and fifty cents per week was to be paid to the wife of any volunteer or to his family, and fifty cents per week to each child under twelve years of age. If any volunteer was killed, his pay was to be continued during the time his company was in the service. If the town failed to raise a company, volunteers might join other companies on the same conditions, and any resident of the town who had joined a company of any other town and did not receive pay from said town was to be paid the same as persons joining a company of the town. R. B. Dodge, Erastus Winslow, Dexter Blood and Judson McIntire were chosen a committee to take charge of the funds and to make payments. It was also voted to furnish such uniforms, equipments, etc., as the State did not provide.

July 28, 1862, the town voted to pay each volunteer one hundred and ten dollars when mustered into the United States service. R. B. Dodge, Levi Hammond and Jonas Bemis were chosen a committee to aid the selectmen in obtaining recruits. August 2d, voted to pay one hundred and fifty dollars to volunteers and forty dollars to all who had previously enlisted, in addition to what they had previously been paid.

At a meeting held August 20, 1862, "to see what action the town would take relative to the call of the President for 300,000 additional volunteers for nine months," it was voted to pay each volunteer one hundred dollars when mustered into service, and that the first five to enlist should be a committee to assist the selectmen in procuring enlistments. In accordance with this vote, Rufus N. Moffit, Henry G. Lamb, Salem A. Spurr, Daniel S. Robbins and John A. Ward became the committee. The sum of four thousand dollars was appropriated to pay the bounties.

August 29th it was voted that the town clerk should make a record of all the soldiers that had enlisted or should enlist from the town, with the company and regiment of each, the time when mustered into service and term of enlistment.

September 24th, voted to pay the bounty to the wife or family of any volunteer who should go into camp and die before being mustered into service.

At a meeting held December 15, 1862, "to see what measures the town would take relative to furnishing their quota of men," it was voted to pay two hundred and fifty dollars to volunteers who should enlist for three years, and four thousand dollars was appropriated to meet such payments.

January 15, 1864, the town voted to pay one hundred and fifty dollars for each volunteer to fill its quota under any call issued prior to March, 1865.

The following is from "A History of Massachusetts in the Civil War," by William Schouler: "Charlton furnished two-hundred and thirteen men for the war, which was a surplus of eighteen over and above all demands. One was a commissioned officer. The whole amount of money appropriated and expended by the town on account of the war, exclusive of the State aid, was twenty-two thousand dollars. The amount of money raised and expended by the town during the war for State aid to soldiers' families and repaid by the Commonwealth was as follows: In 1861, $221.94; in 1862, $2455.99; in 1863, $4115.53; in 1864, $3153.22; in 1865, $1800. Total amount, $11,746.68. Population in 1860, 2047; in 1865, 1925. Valuation in 1860, $872,454; in 1865, $909,729. The selectmen in 1861 were R. B. Dodge, Almon Sampson, Hiram Willis; in 1862, J. H. Hathaway, Erastus Winslow, Alfred E. Fiske; in 1863, J. H. Hathaway, R. B. Dodge, Gilbert Rich; in 1864, J. H. Hathaway, A. H. Marble, Andrus March; in 1865, J. H. Hathaway, Alfred E. Fiske, Reuben Rich. The town clerk and town treasurer, during all the years of the war, was Alfred E. Fiske.

J. H. Hathaway, who was chairman of the Board of Selectmen for four years, was an efficient agent in obtaining volunteers for the service.

Soldiers who were killed or who died from disease contracted in the service: Seymour Adams, Hezekiah Aldrich, Elisha W. Buxton, Francis Clarke, Alvan B. Dugar, Henry W. Dunn, George P. Davis, Cornelius Davis, Calvin J. Darling, Manson Gould, Patrick Gillespie, Michael B. Hayes, William H. Kinney, George Knight, Nelson Harris, Chauncy Harris, Van Buren McKinstry, Harry March, Andrew Moore, Livingston Mower, Hartwell Newton, William O'Connell, Elbridge S. Perry, Elliott H. Robbins, Wilson D. Stone, Orman Stevens, Luther Spooner, Charles F. Sanger, Samuel Tourtellotte, Albert L. Williams, George W. Willard, Frederick E. Young, John A. Young, Juan Young, Charles H. Waite, Herbert Fuller, Henry S. Dealing.

William H. King, who enlisted as a private soldier at the commencement of the war and continued in service until its close, was commissioned captain before his services ended.

Dr. George H. Taft was a surgeon in the army in 1862.

Mills for grinding grain and for sawing lumber were built at an early date. Before 1759 there was a mill owned by Jonathan Ballard on the place afterward owned by Captain David Rich, and later by his

son, John H. Rich. Other mills were in use soon after this time, and at a date not much later there were several places where potash was made.

In 1790 Thaddeus Marble and Aaron Marble commenced the manufacture of scythes at the place now called Millward. In 1804 Aaron sold his interest to Thaddeus, who continued the business alone. Aaron afterwards with a son engaged in the same business at the North Side.

At about the same time William Smith had a shop and manufactured scythes on the stream below what is now called Lelandville, in the southeast part of the town. The shop was afterward run by Joab Maynard and perhaps others.

A tannery had been established at the North Side before 1770 by Jonathan Wheelock. In that year Wheelock sold to Ebenezer Davis. It was afterwards owned by Israel Waters, who carried on the business of tanning and currying to a considerable extent for several years. It was afterwards owned and run by Colonel Asa Bacon and by his sons, Berthier Bacon, Alvin Bacon, and Fiske Bacon.

The business of distilling gin was quite extensively carried on at the North Side for a considerable time. Isaiah Rider and William P. Rider owned and run the first distillery there. Aaron Marble and Charles Marble commenced the business a little later, and Abner Wheelock was the last in the business at the place.

In 1828 Charles Preston and Stephen Bartlett bought land and water-power in the southeast part of the town and built a stone mill for the manufacture of cotton thread. Before the mill was put in operation Preston became the sole owner, and for a time carried on the business alone. Afterward Asa Baldwin and James Boutwell were associated with him in business, which was continued until the decease of Preston, in 1839. After the death of Preston the property was purchased by Philip Potter, who continued the manufacture of thread until the mill was destroyed by fire in 1849. It was never rebuilt.

For many years there was in the easterly part of the town a mill where "home-made cloth," such as used to be made in almost every house, was dressed or finished. The last person who owned and run the mill was Amos Williams. There was a mill at Charlton City used for the same purpose owned by Henry Puffer. The property was at a later date purchased by Caleb Torry, who built a mill for the manufacture of woolen goods. In 1848 Michael Coogan bought the mill and run it until 1856, when Andrus March purchased the property and leased it to Baker & Bottomly, who run the mill about three years, making a cheap grade of satinets. In 1860 Baker and March entered into partnership and run the mill about six years, when Baker withdrew from the firm. March continued the business alone until 1875, and then rented the mill to Edward Akers and Nathan Norris, who manufactured a grade of goods that could be sold at a low price and afford the manufacturers a profit. In 1878 Mr. Akers withdrew from the firm. Mr. Norris purchased the mill and continued the business alone until the mill was burned in 1885. He rebuilt the mill and commenced manufacturing again, but continued in the business but a short time.

In 1877 Mr Akers purchased the Thayer privilege on the stream above the March Mill and built a factory with a capacity for two sets of machinery, and when the firm of Akers & Norris was dissolved, in 1878, he commenced business alone. In 1882 Fred. S. Taylor was taken as a partner in the business. The firm commenced making a better grade of goods, the buildings were enlarged and the machinery increased. Substantial picker and store-houses have been erected on the Berry privilege below. Eighty hands are employed. The monthly pay-roll is two thousand dollars, and forty thousand yards of satinet are manufactured monthly.

In the spring of 1888 Akers & Taylor and William B. Carpenter purchased the Norris Mill and commenced business under the firm-name of the Cady Brook Manufacturing Company, making the same kind of goods that are made by Akers & Taylor. Thirty-five hands are employed, and thirty thousand yards of cloth made monthly. In 1880 M. D. Aldrich fitted up a mill for the manufacture of satinets a short distance west of the city. In 1882 the mill was leased to Nathaniel Taft and J. O. Copp. In 1886 Taft withdrew from the firm, since which time Copp has continued the business alone. His business affords employment to forty hands, and twenty-eight thousand yards of satinets are made monthly.

Joel A. Chapman, at Charlton City, runs a satinet-mill, employing twelve hands and making twelve thousand yards of cloth monthly.

George Pike commenced the manufacture of satinet at Millward in 1887. He runs one set of machinery and makes about twelve thousand yards of cloth monthly, employing twelve hands.

About 1815 Harvey Dresser, a young man of great enterprise and capacity for business, engaged extensively in the manufacture of furniture, carriages, harnesses and farming implements on Dresser Hill. He continued the business until his death in 1835.

In 1843, John P. & Samuel J. Leland commenced the manufacture of augers and bits in the southeast part of the town, at the place since called Lelandville. They continued in this business until 1861, when they engaged in making ramrods for the government. This government contract lasted about three years, in which time they manufactured three hundred thousand ramrods. While the Lelands were in business, quite a village was built up. In 1865 they sold their shops and buildings to Henry H. Stevens, at that time the owner of the Dudley Linen Works. For several years some part of the work connected with his business was done in the shops, but of late no use has been made of them.

Granite of good quality for working is abundant on "Rockey Hill," in the southeast part of the town. Before 1800, Rufus Wakefield and Sylvanus Wakefield commenced working the quarries. Since that time the business has been continued and has been carried on by Gibbs Dodge, Joseph Woodbury, Horace Lamson and others. At the present time, W. Y. Woodbury, J. L. Woodbury and Horace L. Lamson, who carry on business under the firm-name of Woodbury Bros. & Co., are the only persons working the quarries. Their business affords employment to about twenty men.

George Marsh engaged in the manufacture of carriages at Charlton City, about 1831. At a later date, Horace P. Hicks carried on the same business there.

The sash and blind business has been carried on to a considerable extent, first by Harvey Forbush in the west part of the town, later by Charles Taft at Charlton City, and still later by Knight & Rich at the same place.

Charles E. Morse commenced the manufacture of boots and shoes at the place that has since been called Morseville about 1850. He built large shops for his business, and dwelling-houses for the use of the help employed. The business was carried on quite extensively until the shops were destroyed by fire in 1884. For several years Rufus Dodge was associated in business with Mr. Morse. At a later date Andrew Partridge was a partner in the business. After he retired, C. E. Morse, Jr., and William C. Haven were members of the firm of C. E. Morse & Co.

Jonas L. Rice was engaged in manufacturing shoes at the North Side from 1850 till 1861, doing considerable business.

In 1853 a company was formed at the North Side for the manufacture of boots and shoes, called the Charlton Boot and Shoe Company, of which Berthier Bacon was agent. The business was continued until 1855, when the company was dissolved.

The manufacture of boxes for boots, shoes, cloth and other merchandise has been an important business for a number of years, affording employment to a considerable number of men and a market for a large amount of lumber. Zina Grover, Henry C. Putnam, George Pike and William H. Young have been engaged in the business. Henry C. Putnam commenced in 1863, and is the only person in town now doing any considerable amount of business. He employs about twenty-five men and uses two million feet of lumber yearly.

In 1867 Emory S. Southwick built a large shop at Charlton Depot, in which he manufactured boots and shoes for several years, doing quite an extensive business. In 1871 the shop was destroyed by fire and was never rebuilt.

In 1875 H. G. Lamb and A. N. Lamb commenced the manufacture of shoes at Charlton Depot. In 1880 A. N. Lamb retired and Charles Damon became a partner in the business, and remained until 1884, when he retired. In 1885 A. N. Lamb and William H. Lamb were admitted as partners in the business, which is still continued. The business affords employment to about thirty hands and about two hundred pairs of shoes of fine quality are made daily.

In 1865 the manufacture of wire was commenced by Ira Berry on Cady Brook, below Charlton City. In 1868 George C. Prouty entered into partnership with Berry and continued with him until 1871, when the partnership was terminated. Berry continued the business but a short time after the withdrawal of Prouty. In 1871 Prouty built the wire-mill at Charlton City, and commenced business alone. He has built neat, substantial dwellings for the use of help employed. About one hundred and sixty tons of fine card-wire is made yearly.

Although several men of enterprise and capacity for managing business successfully have engaged in manufacturing enterprises within the last few years, and have contributed essentially to the prosperity of the town, agriculture is the principal business of the inhabitants. The soil is of average fertility and there are some excellent farms owned and cultivated by enterprising, progressive farmers, who contribute largely to the annual exhibitions of the agricultural societies held at Worcester, Sturbridge, Oxford, Spencer and other places more remote. The town has been noted for its fine cattle, especially for its large, well-trained oxen, and although horses have, to a considerable extent, taken the place of oxen for farm-work, there are still some farmers that rear and train oxen that compete successfully with any found at fairs.

According to the statistical tables of agricultural products and property, prepared by Carroll D. Wright, Charlton ranks fourth among the towns of Worcester County in the value of agricultural products.

Daniel H. Tucker is the owner of the three hundred acres of land which was owned by his great-grandfather, Jonathan Tucker. The one hundred and fifty acres of land which was the farm of Ebenezer Hammond is now owned by his great-grandson, Henry Hammond. Edward D. Blood is the owner of the farm on which his ancestor, Richard Blood, settled. The land bought by Ebenezer Foskett in 1739, and on which he lived, is now the property of his great-grandson, Dan Foskett, and Edwin Phillips owns the farm on which his great-grandfather, Jonathan Dennis, settled. No other farm in the town is now owned by a descendant of the first occupant.

Representatives to the General Court have been as follows: Isaiah Blood, 1775; Jacob Davis, 1776; Jacob Davis, Caleb Ammidown, Isaiah Blood, 1777; Caleb Ammidown, 1778–79; Jacob Davis, 1780; Ebenezer Davis, 1782; Caleb Ammidown, 1783; Ebenezer Davis, 1784; Caleb Ammidown, 1786; Samuel Robinson, Caleb Curtis, 1787; Samuel Robinson, 1788; Ebeezer Davis, 1789; Salem Town, 1790–91–92–93; Caleb Ammidown, 1794; Salem Town, 1795; Ebenezer Da-

vis, 1796; Salem Town, 1797; Ebenezer Davis, 1798; Salem Town, 1799; Levi Davis, 1800; Salem Town, 1801–2–3–4; Gen. John Spurr, 1805; Gen. John Spurr, Samuel Robinson, 1806–7; Gen. John Spurr, Dr. James Wolcott, 1808; Gen. John Spurr, Thaddeus Marble, 1809; Gen. John Spurr, Thaddeus Marble, Ephraim Willard, 1810–11; Thaddeus Marble, Ephraim Willard, Wm. P. Rider, 1812; Gen. John Spurr, Isaiah Rider, 1813; Gen. John Spurr, Wm. P. Rider, 1814; Gen. John Spurr, Isaiah Rider, 1815; Ephraim Willard, Isaiah Rider, 1816–17–18–19; Samuel Hall, 1821–22; James Boomer, 1823; John Spurr, 1824; James Boomer, 1826; Samuel D. Spurr, 1828; Samuel D. Spurr, John Hill, Jr., 1829; John Hill, Jr., Issachar Comins, 1830; Jonathan Winslow, 1831; Ebenezer White, Issachar Comins, 1832; Ebenezer White, Rufus Mixer, 1833; Rufus Mixer, Paul Rich, 1834; Paul Rich, Jonas Tucker, 1835; Jonas Tucker, William P. Marble, 1836; William P. Marble, Amasa Stone, 1837; Amasa Stone, Moses Williams, 1838; Moses Williams, Aaron Marble, Alpheus White, 1839; Aaron Marble, Alpheus White, Simeon Lamb, 1840; John P. Marble, 1841–42; William B. Boomer, 1843–44; William Marble, 1845–46; Simeon Lamb, 1848; Nehemiah B. Stone, 1849; Luther Litchfield, 1851–52; Levi Hammond, 1853–54; Alfred Mower, 1855; Mason Marble, 1856; Rufus B. Dodge, 1857; Aaron H. Marble, 1858; Gilbert Rich, 1860; Dexter Blood 1862; Henry Clark, 1864; Albert C. Willard, 1866; J. H. Hathaway, 1868; Alfred E. Fiske, 1871; Moses D. Woodbury, 1873; Andrus March, 1876; George D. Woodbury, 1879; Dr. George H. Taft, 1882; Henry G. Lamb, 1885.

In 1857 Charlton was joined with Sturbridge to make a representative district. In 1866 the towns of Auburn, Charlton, Leicester, Spencer and Southbridge were formed into a representative district. In 1876 Oxford, Southbridge, Charlton and Spencer were made a district. In 1886 Charlton, Dudley and Southbridge were united, the three towns being entitled to but one representative.

The men prominent in public affairs until the close of the Revolution have been mentioned. They were mainly men who were among the first settlers. Quite a number who became large land-owners acquired considerable wealth. Ebenezer Davis, a man of sound judgment, prudent and exact in all his business operations, a large dealer in real estate and other property, left at his decease a larger estate than was ever acquired by any other man in the town. The late Hon. Emory Washburn, who was for several years Governor of the State, was his grandson, as was also the late Ebenezer D. Ammidown, of Southbridge. Jacob Davis, a brother of Ebenezer, was a man of remarkable enterprise, who dealt largely in real estate. He was one of the founders of Leicester Academy, and aided liberally in its establishment. Gen. Salem Town, Sr., was long in the public service. He was a representative to the General Court eleven years, several times a member of the State Senate, and one of the committee in 1807 to locate the Worcester and Stafford Turnpike, to assess the land damages, and to superintend the building of the road. He held other offices of trust and responsibility. His son, the late Gen. Salem Town, had command of a regiment of militia called out by the Governor in 1814, and stationed at South Boston. He was State Senator in 1821, '22 and 56, being in the latter year the oldest member. Caleb Ammidown, who was a resident of that part of the town which was taken after his decease to form part of the town of Southbridge, was five years a representative to the General Court. He did much business as a land surveyor and conveyancer, and was one of the agents of the State for selling confiscated lands.

Gen. John Spurr, one of the "Boston Tea Party," was a prominent, influential man, and represented the town in the General Court ten years. Major John Spurr, a son of Gen. Spurr, was active in public affairs, much interested in political matters, and an efficient worker in the party to which he belonged. Isaiah Rider and William P. Rider were men of note and enterprise. Rufus Mixer and William P. Marble were men of prominence, well versed in the laws relating to town and Probate matters, and were careful, competent conveyancers and did much business in the settlement of estates.

Mention may properly be made of Amasa Stone, a man of great enterprise and business ability, who accumulated a large fortune in railroad business and other important enterprises; Daniel Phillips, one of the pioneers in the express business, in which he was eminently successful; Moses D. Phillips, a brother of Daniel, and enterprising bookseller and publisher, and who was the head of the firm of Phillips, Sampson & Co., the founders of the *Atlantic Monthly;* Linus B. Comins, a capable, successful man of business, who represented his district in Congress several terms, and Albern N. Towne, a noted railroad manager, who were natives of the town, as were Samuel D. Spurr, Dwight Woodbury, John P. Marble, Jerome Marble, Salem T. Russell, Daniel Stevens and Charles P. Stevens, all sagacious, capable business men.

Franklin Gale, who was a lawyer of distinction in Columbus, Ohio, and for many years a judge of a State Court; Turner Ellis, who was a lawyer of eminence in Indiana; Stephen P. Twiss, who was for several years judge of the United States Territorial Court in Utah; Dr. W. T. G. Morton, generally regarded as the discoverer of the use of ether as an anæsthetic in surgical operations; Rev. Julius H. Ward, a writer of distinction; Rev. Caleb Blood, Rev. Ebenezer Lamson, Rev. David R. Lamson, Rev. Darius Gore and Rev. Lewis W. Hicks, clergymen of ability, and Joseph Whipple, a graduate of West Point, and who died in service in Mexico, were also natives of Charlton.

The town has been represented in the State Senate by General Salem Town, Sr., General Salem Town,

Jr., Major John Spurr, Rev. Aurin Bugbee and Rufus B. Dodge.

Jacob Davis, General Salem Town, Sr., and Samuel Lamb were delegates to the convention to form the State Constitution in 1779. Major John Spurr was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1820, and William P. Marble was delegate to the Convention of 1853.

DISTRICT AND TOWN CLERKS.—Richard Dresser, the first clerk, held the office eleven years; Nehemiah Stone, the second, served fourteen years and was treasurer seventeen years. Samuel Lamb, Dr. Ebenezer H. Phillips, Dr. Dan Lamb, Leonard Towne, Julius E. Tucker, Luther Litchfield and Alfred E. Fiske, each held the office many years; the latter was clerk thirty years and treasurer twenty years.

The early physicians of the town were William Ware, Abel Waters, Ebenezer H. Phillips, James Wolcott and Ebenezer Borden. Later there were Dan Lamb, Charles M. Fay, Isaac Porter, Henry H. Darling, Albert Potter, George H. Taft and L. D. Fuller. Others have been in town for a short time. The only physician at the present time is Dr. George H. Taft.

There have been four lawyers in the town—Erasmus Babbitt, Liberty Bates, William Stedman and John Davis. Since the death of John Davis, in 1840, the inhabitants have been obliged to go out of town for legal advice.

The population in 1765 was 739; in 1776, 1310; in 1820, 2,134. After 1820 the census showed but little variation until 1840; since that date there has been a gradual falling off in numbers. In 1885 the population was 1,823. Number of families, 471. Number of dwelling-houses, 459. Assessor's valuation 1888: real estate, $758,760; personal, $155,710. Number of polls, 512.

CHAPTER XCVI.

LUNENBURG.

BY EZRA S. STEARNS, A.M.

Location—Ponds and Drainage—Original Grants—Settlements—Incorporation—Proprietary Affairs—Roads—The Town Divided—Personal Notices.

LUNENBURG, situated in the northeast part of the county of Worcester, is bounded on the north by Townsend, on the east by Shirley, on the south by Lancaster and Leominster, and on the west by Fitchburg and Ashby. The adjoining towns, Ashby, Townsend and Shirley, are in the county of Middlesex. The centre of the town is twenty-four miles north from Worcester, forty-three miles northwesterly from Boston, and is in latitude 42° 35′ 30″ and in longitude 71° 43′ 30″ west from Greenwich. By the survey of Cyrus Kilburn, in 1831, the town contained an area of seventeen thousand four hundred and ninety-four acres, and by the estimate of the assessors, exclusive of water, fifteen thousand nine hundred and forty acres. Within the town are five natural ponds and three of them bear names of Indian origin. The one situated near the re-entrant angle in the line of Leominster contains ninety-five acres, and its name has experienced many orthographical changes. In the proceedings of the Colonial Legislature, in 1713, it is written Unkachewalwick, and, ten years later, Francis Fullam, in the records of the committee of the General Court, writes Unkechewalom, and about the same time comes Edward Hartwell, who wrestles with the name, and leaves upon the records Uncachawalonk, while Rev. Peter Whitney, in the "History of Worcester County" (1793), in writing Unkeshewalom nearly repeats the record of Francis Fullam, which has been the prevailing orthography of modern times. Wilder's "History of Leominster" (1853), dodges the issue and abbreviates the word into Chualoom, and frequently of late, when the name is expressed in vocal terms, only the last two syllables are employed. At best the old Indian name is not like the one loved and described by the Elder Weller as "an easy word to spell," and it is not wholly imaginative to say that in the olden times, when a new settler in these parts began to wrinkle his face and twist his mouth and utter a volley of hard and guttural sounds, his hearers knew he was not cursing, but only trying to tell them where he caught a string of fish.

Massapog Pond, of sixty-two acres, also near the Leominster line, is one mile and nearly one-fourth southeasterly and receives the overflow from Unkechewalom. In 1713, in the records of the General Court, this word is written Masshapauge, and in Mashaporg the same sounds are preserved by the records of Nathan Heywood and Edward Hartwell, but from the earliest mention to the present time it has been spelled with considerable uniformity. From an early survey of a small marsh on the north, in 1750, a marsh near the pond is described as "not land nor water and partly both." The overflowing stream bears northerly, easterly and southerly, receiving tributaries on either hand, and empties into the Cataconameg, in the southeast part of the town, about one hundred rods from the line of Shirley. By Francis Fullam the name of the third pond is written Cataconamog, by Rev. Peter Whitney, Catatoonamog, and by Rev. Henry Chandler, in the "History of Shirley," Catecunemaug. The stream from this pond, having gathered the drainage of more than one-half the town, flows through Shirley and empties into the Nashua River. A little more than one mile east from the centre of the town is Lane's Pond, and nearly an equal distance south of that is Dead Pond. Neither of them exceeds five or six acres in area. They are not mentioned in the early records and it is not known when they were first discovered.

The northern part of the town is drained by Mulpus Brook. The course of this stream is easterly and nearly parallel to the line of Townsend. It flows through Shirley and empties into the Nashua. Pearl Hill Brook, in the west part, flowing into Fitchburg, and Baker's Brook, flowing through the southwest corner, drain small areas in this town.

At the time the territory constituting the town of Lunenburg was severed from the wilderness and fell into the possession and under the control of its grantees, the locality was well known to the dwellers in the older towns. Lancaster on the south and Groton, including Shirley, on the east, had been settled many years. The echoes from the activities of those hardy pioneers and the presence of many scouting parties of white men, explorers and hunters within the confines constitute the first and the unwritten chapter of the history of the town. The earliest official act immediately appertaining to the soil of Lunenburg, of which any record appears, is a grant of two hundred and four acres to Nathaniel Walker, June 6, 1663. The limits of this chapter will exclude details. It was surveyed in October, 1666, and the title was confirmed by the General Court, May 27, 1668. This tract of land was situated near the present line of Shirley. It was subsequently owned by Ephraim Savage, and November 5, 1714, it was purchased by James Kibby, of Reading.

In May, 1672, a grant of one hundred and fifty acres was made to Frances Adams, wife of James Adams, which was located in the east part of this town, and also was purchased by Mr. Kibby. A further account of these two early grants within the town of Lunenburg will be employed in explanation of later and more important events. In 1664 the General Court granted two thousand acres to the town of Woburn. The title was suffered to lapse, but was renewed in 1716. In May, 1717, this extensive grant was surveyed by Captain Joseph Burnap, of Reading, assisted by Edward Hartwell, then of Lancaster. It was located south of the centre of the town. Beginning at a point in Leominster line about mid-way between Unkechewalom and Massapog Ponds, the boundary line extended easterly almost one mile, thence northerly a little more than two miles, thence westerly one mile and one-half and then southerly to a point in Leominster line about two hundred rods west of the angle at Unkechewalom Pond. The north line of this grant was about one-half mile south and nearly parallel to a section of the old Northfield road. It included the pond and an important section of the town, but it remained unimproved until many settlers were located around it. In 1717 one thousand acres were granted to the town of Dorchester. It was immediately surveyed and located west of and adjoining Woburn Farm. Its western boundaries were near Fitchburg. Such were the conditions when the grant of the township was made. The region for many years had borne the name of Turkey Hills, and the ponds and the rivers were known by their present Indian names. The major act was not deferred. On the 7th of December, 1719, the General Court, in one act, granted "two new towns on the west side of Groton west line." William Taylor, Samuel Thaxter, Francis Fullam, John Shepley and Benjamin Whittemore, then members of the General Court, were selected to conduct a survey of the grants, to allot the same and to admit the grantees. The grant appears in Torrey's "Fitchburg" and in Sawtelle's "Townsend," but many interesting details of the early proceedings remain unpublished. Three of the committee, Fullam, Shepley and Whittemore, with Samuel Jones, surveyor, and four chain-men, began the survey of the boundary lines of the two townships December 22, 1719, and completed the work in eight days. In April following, in connection with another committee, they established the west line of Groton, or the east line of the new towns. Continuing a work well and seasonably begun, the committee, all being present, met at Concord May 11, 1720, and proceeded to admit settlers or grantees, or, in the language of the record of their proceedings, "to allott & grant out y^e^ Lands contained in Each of y^e^ Two Townships." By the committee the townships were styled North Town and South Town. The former at that time included Townsend and a part of Ashby, and the latter embraced the present towns of Lunenburg, Fitchburg and a part of Ashby. This statement, however, should be qualified with a mention of the fact that the north line of Townsend and the west line of Lunenburg (now Fitchburg) were subsequently amended. At this meeting eighty proprietors were admitted. This number was subsequently increased, but never exceeded ninety. In October, 1720, a house-lot was surveyed for each proprietor and for the two ministerial rights, but the school and college lands were not defined until a later day. The remainder, and much the greater part, of the township was owned in common by the proprietors, and mainly distributed among them from time to time in second, third and fourth division lots. During the years that intervened between these proceedings and the act of incorporation the affairs of the township were conducted by the committee appointed by the General Court, and frequent meetings were held at the inn of Jonathan Hubbard, in Concord, and at the houses of Samuel Page and of Josiah Willard, in this town. Meanwhile the settlement slowly increased. The early settlers were exposed to constant danger, and their hardships were many. The following petition, now published for the first time, represents that there were nine families here in 1725. It was one of the first papers sent out from Lunenburg, and it presents a vivid picture of an infant settlement on the exposed frontiers. It is superscribed "to Honor^le^ Wiliam Dummer, Esgur, Boston."

To the Honorbl Lnt. Govner:

Sir,—We desire with thanks to acknowledg your Honours care of us as well in time past as this presant spring in sending Colo. Buckmaster

to se what postur of defence we war in & in furder desiring to know our Afayrs which we should be glad to enform your Honour oftener of had we opertunity. we have here this spring 9 famelis posted in 5 garisons which are all wiling to stand their ground if they can; they have the liberty if 2 garisons will come together to haue the solders belonging to each garison with them for ther suport. Our manner of emproving the solders has been by scouting & sumtimes garding men at ther woork, sumtimes 2 or 3 days together in the woods, but wee think it more for our safety to scout round the town so as to cum in the same day for the strengthing our garisons at night & when our men gos out to woork they must have a gard or expose themselves & we must leave sume in our garisons or else they are exposed so that we canot keep a scout always out except we have more solders. We have made no discovrey of the enemy yet among us, but live in dayly expectation of them; but knowing they [Indians] are in the hands of god who is abel to restrain them to whos name we desire to give the praise of our presarvation the year past & in whos name we desire still to trust with dependance on your Honour's protection, a means under god of presarvation; if your Honour shall think it needfull to make any adition to our number of solders we leve it to your Honour's wise concedration & remain your Honour's most humbel servants.

JOSIAH WILLARD.
PHILIP GOODRIDGE.

Turkey Hils, May ye 10: 1725.

Continuing their trust in God and Governor Dummer and measuring their faith by the number of the soldiers, the settlement was prospered during the ensuing summer. In March of the following year, at a meeting of the committee held at Concord, it was recorded: "The Information ye Settlers then Gave ye Commtte Was that there was 26 Houses Raised and Ten of them Settled and Inhabited." Concerning the actual number of residents in the town during the next few years the records present no accurate information, and omitting for the present particular mention of those known to be residing here, there remains ample evidence that the infant settlement made continued progress in population and improvements. With each year a few families arrived and new openings were made in the forest and in the rising smoke above the clearings they saw the assurance of an enlarged community and the promise of increasing harvests.

The town was incorporated August 1, 1728. The name of Lunenburg was suggested by one of the titles of George II., who had recently succeeded to the British throne. By this proceeding South Town was supplanted by a more sonorous term, and while Turkey Hills was perpetuated in the local vocabulary, the term no longer designated a community. Compared with the history of many towns, Lunenburg was incorporated at an early stage in the progress of the settlement. The reason of a successful petition for incorporation is probably found in the fact that within the settlement and among the petitioners were a few men of influence and character whose solicitation was potent with the Governor and the General Court. The cause which led the petitioners to desire an early act of incorporation is not concealed. From the first the affairs of the propriety had been ordered and controlled by the committee to whose proceedings frequent mention has been made. Their authority over the municipal and proprietary affairs of the settlement was absolute and in them was vested all power of legislation in the concerns of the settlement. Therefore, when the committee, in the autumn of 1727, ordered the proprietors to build a meeting-house, stated the dimensions and dictated its location, the issue was boldly met, and in the act of incorporation the authority of the committee was dissolved. The proprietors considered apart from the town owned in common all the undivided land in the township. They were either the original grantees or their successors, and their number could not exceed the number of grantees admitted by the committee, and generally the number was less, because a few owned more than a single right. The proprietors were not necessarily residents of the town and only a part of the original grantees ever lived here, but within a few years nearly all the non-resident owners sold their rights to men living in this town. The proceedings of the proprietors constitute an important chapter in the annals of Lunenburg and Fitchburg. First they re-surveyed all the lots that had been distributed by the committee and entered the title to each lot in a large record-book, which was the height of the art of book-making in those times and is now in an excellent state of preservation. Then they gave the five members of the committee collectively one thousand acres of land in compensation for their services. This tract was subsequently located in the southwest corner of Fitchburg, bounding four hundred rods on the line of Leominster and four hundred on the line of Westminster, the other sides being parallel to these. That the committee had left the affairs of the proprietors at loose ends is seen in the following proceedings.

By an adjustment of town lines a considerable tract was severed from Lunenburg, or what was supposed to be, and added to Lancaster new grant (now Leominster). Several house-lots had been located by the committee within this area, and to the unfortunate owners the proprietors gave an equivalent from the undivided land within the town. Then, to compensate themselves, they applied to the great fountain of land supply. The General Court granted their petition October 2, 1728, as appears in an extract from the court records: "A petition of Josiah Willard and Hilkiah Boynton, agents for the town of Lunenburg, praying that the said town may be allowed an equivalent for two thousand nine hundred and twenty acres of land lately taken out of said town and added to Lancaster new grant, etc."

October 2, 1728, "In the House of Representatives read and ordered that the town of Lunenburg have liberty by a Surveyour and Chainmen on Oath to lay out two thousand nine hundred and twenty acres of land on the west side of said town and contiguous thereto by a parallel line to their west line throughout, for an equivalent for the land taken from said town for and within Lancaster new grant."

A portion of this addition is now in Ashby, but enough remains to constitute a considerable part of the area of Fitchburg. On account of this proceed-

ing the township of Ashburnham was subsequently located nearly a mile further west than otherwise would have been the case.

In a former account of the grant and survey of the Walker and the Adams farms it was stated that they fell into the possession of James Kibby, of Reading, several years before the grant and settlement of the town. Soon after acquiring possession of these grants Mr. Kibby became insane and for several years no reference to the owner or to the grants is found. In the mean time, unconscious of the existence of any prior rights, the committee had overrun the obscured boundaries and had completely absorbed both grants in the distribution of land in that portion of the town. Soon after the incorporation of the town Zachariah Fitch, the guardian of Mr. Kibby, demanded possession of the two tracts of land owned by his ward. To protect the titles of the new owners who were in possession, the proprietors compromised with the guardian by giving him one hundred and two pounds and a grant of three hundred acres in the southwest part of the town. This land, known for many years as the Fitch farm, was next north of the committee farm of one thousand acres, and was bounded on the west by the west line of Fitchburg and on the south by a line four hundred rods from and parallel to the Leominster line. It was subsequently purchased by William and Joseph Downe. In this proceeding, in addition to money paid, the proprietors had suffered the loss of three hundred acres and again sought indemnity of the General Court. The appeal was not in vain. A grant of four hundred acres was immediately made, which in two parts was located on the east bank of the Connecticut River. This land was subsequently deeded to Josiah Willard and Edward Hartwell in consideration of the money paid the guardian of James Kibby. By the conditions of the grant of the township two hundred and fifty acres each was reserved for the benefit of Harvard College and for schools.. In 1729 the proprietors gave Harvard College two hundred and fifty and forty-one hundredths acres which was located in the northeast part of the town, adjacent to Townsend, but did not extend east to the line of Shirley. In 1774 the college sold the lot to Joseph Bellows for one hundred and twenty pounds. One hundred and sixty-nine acres of the school lot was located in 1764 on the easterly side of Pearl Hill. In 1764 a part of this lot fell in the limits of Fitchburg. The remainder of the school lands was located by a vote of the proprietors "at a place called Toffet swamp" now in the south part of Fitchburg. For ministerial lands the proprietors laid out four lots. The town, apart from the proprietors, assumed control of the school and ministerial lands, and near the close of the past century disposed of them in small parcels.

'Torrey, in his admirable sketch of Fitchburg and Lunenburg, expresses surprise that with a grant of six miles square, the proprietors managed to secure a township so large. The General Court expressed an equal surprise one hundred years earlier, and ordered them to make a new measurement and report. What was subsequently done is briefly told in the Court records:

November 28, 1729. A petition of Josiah Willard, Esq., and others, a committee of the town of Lunenburg, in the county of Middlesex, showing that the inhabitants have been at the charge of a new and more exact survey of the said Town and find thereby that they have Four thousand and one hundred and ninety-seven acres of Land within the limits of their Township above the original grant of six miles square, and forasmuch as they have been at great expense and Difficulty in their settlement by reason of the War; Therefore praying that the plan of said Town may be accepted and confirmed notwithstanding the said overmeasure.

In the House of Representatives read and ordered that the said plan be accepted and that the land therein delineated and described be and hereby is confirmed to the Grantees of Lunenburg, their Heirs and Assigns, provided it exceed not the contents set forth and does not interfere with any former grant.

In Council read & approved.

Consented to

WM. DUMMER.

In this measurement no account was made of three thousand acres in the Woburn and Dorchester grants. They were included in the municipality; but they were no part of the six miles square granted the proprietors. The ponds also were excluded. By the surveys of 1830 and 1831 Fitchburg has an area of 17,879 acres; Lunenburg, of 17,494 acres; and estimating the area donated to Ashby at 1627 acres, the amount is 37,000 acres. Then to six miles square add the confession of the proprietors and the two independent grants, — the amount is 30,237 acres. Compared with other ancient surveys, the excess is not unusual. Not that acres then were larger than now, but that the practice of the time was liberal, and the methods of measurement not as exact. In the early surveys there was also an intentional allowance for uneven ground and generally one rod in fifty for what the early surveyors styled "swag of y° chain."

The proprietors continued an organization over one hundred years and as long as any undivided land remained in Lunenburg, Fitchburg or a defined portion of Ashby. At a meeting in May, 1833, they adjourned to meet the next May at the house of Dr. Aaron Bard, and there the record ends. They received the grant from the General Court in community, and sold or donated it to individuals, and in their proceedings is vested the title to all the real estate within the original township. Except to receive the school and ministerial lands, the town, as an organization, had no part in these proceedings. In two or three instances the proprietors sought the friendly offices and the superior influence of the town, which, through a kinship of interest, was invariably granted. In this manner a few votes relating to matters purely proprietary appear in the early records of the town.

On the day following the act of incorporation the General Court adopted an order instructing Captain Josiah Willard to call the first town-meeting. Im-

mediately the inhabitants of Lunenburg were duly warned to meet at the house of Ensign Jonathan Willard. This house was on the Lancaster Road and not far east of the Woburn grant. The first election ever made in this town called Captain Josiah Willard in parliamentary terms to the chair, but more probably he sat upon a block or stood throughout the meeting. The selectmen were: Lieutenant James Colburn, Captain Josiah Willard, Mr. Hilkiah Boynton, Mr. Ephraim Peirce and Mr. Samuel Page. Lieutenant Edward Hartwell was town treasurer, and for minor town officers choice was made of Isaac Farnsworth, Noah Dodge, Joshua Hutchins, Jonathan Willard, Nathan Heywood, Eleazer Houghton, Samuel Johnson, James Jewell, John Fisk, Jeremiah Norcross, Jacob Stiles and Jonathan Whitney. Isaac Farnsworth, who was the town clerk the first nine years of the town's history, made a record of the meeting and probably was chosen at this time, but either through modesty or carelessness he made no record of his first election. The record of the meeting preserves the names of many who were residents of Lunenburg in 1728. Others who are known to be residents at this time are: Rev. Andrew Gardner, Philip Goodridge, David Peirce, David Gould, Moses Gould, Benoni Boynton, Jonas Gillson, Daniel Austin, John Grout and the sons of Samuel Page and Philip Goodridge. The town increased rapidly during the years immediately ensuing, introducing many new names, but quite nearly all who were here at the date of incorporation are included in the foregoing list. The second town-meeting, to raise money to meet public charges and to direct the building of the first meeting-house, was convened in September. The next meeting assembled in January, 1729. "It was voted and chose Capt. Josiah Willard Agent for y^e^ Town of Lunenburg aforesaid to Join with Such other men as y^e^ several neighboring towns shall appoint to Consider what may be best in order to divide y^e^ County of Middlesex into two Counties." This proposition was met in 1731 by the incorporation of Worcester County. Excepting Woodstock, Conn., which, for some years, was considered a part of the county and State, Lunenburg in the order of age was the thirteenth and youngest town in the new county.

Omitting mention of many roads extending from house to house within the town, one of the earliest exploits of the town was to make a road or amend the existing bridle-path, from Lunenburg Centre to the line of Lancaster. In 1743 a road was cut to the west line of the town "for the accommodation of Dorchester Canada (Ashburnham), Ipswich Canada (Winchendon) and the towns above us." In 1745 the town voted that the men living in Captain Hartwell's company build a bridge over the North Branch "in the way that goes to David Goodridge's," and another bridge over the North Branch "in the way that goes to David Page's." The first place was at or near the bridge at South Fitchburg, and the other at the bridge on Laurel Street, in Fitchburg. At the same time the men residing in Captain Willard's company were directed to "build a bridge over Mullepus, in the way by or near Hezekiah Wetherbee's, and a bridge over said Mullepus in the way that goes to Townsend below Widow White's Mill." Subsequently, money was raised at short intervals for repairing and building bridges at these points, but after the Indian wars the militia was not again detailed to do the work. The town refused to build a short piece of road for the accommodation of John Scott, and on his petition the court appointed a committee, who reported in 1754 that, "having viewed the said road, have laid out y^e^ same to y^e^ great satisfaction of Mr. John Scott and the owners of the land the road goes through, who freely gave their land for the road." This was a short and unimportant piece of road wholly within Fitchburg, and is described in the court records as "beginning at the land of said John Scott and running northeast on John Bridge's land, described by marked trees, then on land of Mr. Mead, then on land of Joseph Eaton, then on land of Joseph Spofford to the road that comes from Isaac Gibson's." The presumption that it was a thoroughfare from Lunenburg Centre to the house of Mr. Scott is not sustained by the record.

In the building of the Northfield road the town did not participate, yet this ancient road receives frequent mention in the records. In 1733 a township bounding on Northfield was granted to Josiah Willard and his associates, many of whom were residents of Lunenburg. The early name of the grant was Earlington and Arlington (now Winchester, N. H.), and the road became known both as the Northfield and the Earlington road. It was conditioned in the grant of the township that the grantees within two years "clear and make a convenient travelling Road, twelve feet wide, from Lunenburg to Northfield, and build a house for receiving & Entertaining travellers on said Road, about midway between Northfield & Lunenburg afores^d^.— And for the Encouragement of a Sutable Family to settle in s^d^ House, It is resolved that there shall be granted to him that shall Dwell in s^d^ House for the space of seven years from the Grant one hundred and fifty acres of land."

Many residents of Lunenburg, of Townsend, and of "the lower towns" were employed, and the road was nearly or quite completed in the summer of 1733. There yet are many traditions handed down through several generations from ancestors who, in perpetual fear of the Indians, were engaged in this enterprise. The farm of one hundred and fifty acres on which was the house of entertainment was surveyed by Nathan Heywood, and located not far from where the west line of Winchendon was subsequently established. The survey was made October 7, 1733. In the autumn of 1734 Benjamin Bellows, Hilkiah Boynton and Moses Willard, a committee of the

grantees of Arlington, petitioned the General Court for another tract of land on which to build another house of entertainment at a convenient point on the line of the road. This petition sets forth that the road from Lunenburg to Northfield is forty-two miles; that about twenty-four miles from Lunenburg there "is a house of entertainment set up to the great ease and comfort of persons travelling that road, and your petitioners, apprehending it would greatly accommodate Travellers, more especially in the winter season, to have another House of Entertainment between Lunenburg and that already set up." The General Court promptly granted four hundred and fifty acres, which was surveyed by David Farrar and located on the line of the road in the northwest part of Ashburnham. In 1735 a house was built, and for a few years a family occupied it. The Enos Jones farm is a part of this grant. After the obliterating influences of one hundred and fifty years, an attempt to accurately trace this ancient thoroughfare cannot be wholly successful. The ready voice of tradition offers too many suggestions, and frequently points out roads that are known to have been built subsequently, and for other purposes. At several points the location is well-established by contemporaneous records. The old Northfield Road began at a point more than a mile southeast of the centre of Lunenburg, and probably on and using the Lancaster Road, it continued past the Old or South Cemetery, and bearing northerly as far as the North Cemetery, and near that point making an angle, its course was nearly due west to near the present line of Fitchburg; then, possibly to avoid the rivers beyond, it bore north, and passed where John Fitch was subsequently captured, now the residence of Paul Gates, in Ashby; thence it bore westerly, and from the west line of Lunenburg, now in Ashby, to the east line of Northfield, it was cut through a wilderness of unappropriated land. The survey of an ancient grant in Ashburnham locates the road in its continued course at a point not far from where the present road from Rindge to Fitchburg crosses the line between Ashburnham and Ashby. Then passing north of the North Branch of the Nashua and the South Branch of Miller's Rivers, its course, by the farm (formerly) of Enos Jones in Ashburnham, and near Spring Village in Winchendon, is established by early records.

In 1757 an effort to divide the town was inaugurated. The eastern section was first settled, and continued to be the most populous. Here was the meeting-house, the pound and the stocks. Here was the repository of the records and of the standard weights and measures, and, in fact, the seat of government. The situation clearly demanded that in the event of a division by a north and south line, the western portion must be created into a new town. In harmony with these conditions the issue was made. While the incorporation of a town was solely within the province of the General Court, the petitioners desired to fortify their solicitations by the consent and approval of the whole town. For a few years public sentiment was divided by the proposed geographical line of division, and the larger number of voters in the eastern section denied the early petitions for a new town. The effort was continually renewed and vigorously prosecuted, until in January, 1764, the consent of a majority of the whole town was obtained, and a line of division substantially the present town line was agreed upon.

Immediately the inhabitants of the proposed town instructed John Fitch, Amos Kimball, Samuel Hunt, Ephraim Whitney and Jonathan Wood, who had been prominent in this affair, to obtain from the General Court an act of incorporation. Their mission was eminently successful, and Fitchburg, including more than one-half the area of the original township, was incorporated February 3, 1764.

The limits of this sketch, excluding voluminous material and many interesting events and incidents in the early history of the town, has forbidden a frequent repetition of the names of committees and many other prominent characters; but no appreciative chapter of the early annals of Lunenburg can fail to associate the actors with the events, and to give some account of the early residents of the town.

Of the committee of the General Court prominent in the early proceedings, Hon. William Tailer was a member of the Council, and the remaining four were members of the House of Representatives. Hon. William Tailer was born March 10, 1677. He lived in Dorchester, where he died March 1, 1732. He was prominent in the early Indian Wars. In 1712 he was chosen commander of the "Ancient and Honorable Artillery." He visited England, and returned with a commission as Lieutenant-Governor, and subsequently he was acting Governor of the Province. The name is here written "Tailer" to correspond with the usage of his time. Samuel Thaxter was of Hingham, and a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Jacobs) Thaxter. He was a colonel, a magistrate, and from 1716 to 1719 a delegate or member of the House of Representatives. He died previous to 1741.

Francis Fullam was a magistrate and an influential citizen of Watertown. He was a member of the House of Representatives 1717–24, and a selectman of Watertown many years. At the incorporation of Weston his homestead fell in that town, where he died subsequent to 1752. He was the clerk of the committee and his clear, ornate penmanship is preserved. He wrote his name as here given, but in many records it is Fulham. Francis Fullam, who was residing in Fitchburg at the date of incorporation, was his grandson.

John Shepley was a son of Thomas, and was born in Charlestown. He settled in Groton, where he died September 4, 1736. He was a prominent citizen and a member of the House of Representatives many

years. This name in early records is written Shippie, Shiple and Sheple.

Benjamin Whittemore, the fifth member of the committee, was born in Charlestown, September 1, 1669. He was a son of John and Mary (Upham) Whittemore, of Charlestown and of Cambridge. Benjamin settled in Concord, where he became an active citizen, a selectman and a Representative several years. He died September 8, 1734. At the meetings of the committee Mr. Tailer was sometimes absent. The others, almost without exception, were present.

Samuel Page, the first settler in Lunenburg, was born in Groton, June 4, 1672. He was a son of John and Faith (Dunster) Page. In 1719, when the committee surveyed the township, they found him residing on the province land and were entertained at his house. This Selkirk of the wilderness began a clearing on the Marshall place in 1718 or a year or two previously, and when discovered by the committee his family consisted of a wife Martha and seven children, the youngest an infant of ten months. Five other children were born in this town. In the admission of grantees, he and his son Joseph became original proprietors of the town. He was a selectman, 1728 and 1731; collector, 1732; and School Committee, 1738. The first pound was at his homestead, and he was chosen pound-keeper. He died September 7, 1747. In sketches of the man and in tradition he is styled "Governor" Page, in recognition, perhaps, of the fact, that while his family constituted the population of the locality he was the chief executive officer of the domain, but there is no evidence that the title was employed during his life. Very probably, it is one of the pleasant fictions of tradition.

Josiah Willard, whose active career would fill a volume, was a son of Henry and Dorcas (Cutler) Willard. He was born in Lancaster, 1695. He removed to Lunenburg, 1723 or the following year, and was foremost in the affairs of the settlement. He was a captain on the frontiers and subsequently was a colonel and for a season was commandant at Fort Dummer. In 1733 he obtained, with others, many of them residents of this town, the grant of a township adjacent to Northfield (now Winchester), N. H., and thither he removed, probably in 1737. During the remainder of his life his active energies and achievements are conspicuous in the annals of New Hampshire. He died December 8, 1750. The following lines are copied from a journal announcing his death: "He was a gentleman of superior natural powers, of a pleasant, happy and agreeable temper of mind, a faithful friend, one that paid singular regard to ministers of the Gospel, a kind husband and tender parent. His death is a great loss to the public and particularly on the western frontiers."

Edward Hartwell, son of John and Elizabeth (Wright) Hartwell, was born in Concord May 25, 1681. In early life he lived a few years in Lancaster, where he was a sergeant in the Indian wars in 1722, and a lieutenant a year or two later. He was in Lancaster in the spring of 1725, but in August of that year he wrote the Governor of the Province that he had removed to Turkey Hills, where he had built a house and made improvements upon his land. He closed the letter with an assurance that at his new home he was "in a good capacity to serve his King and country." He was one of the grantees of the town, and probably he had been engaged in clearing land and building a house during a part of the years 1721–24. He settled on the Lancaster Road, over three miles from the centre of the town.

He was a man of great size and physical strength and power of endurance. Possessing an equally strong mind, energy and force of character, he continually exercised a commanding influence over the rising fortunes of the settlement. In the troublous times on the frontiers he was much employed in the service, and rose to the rank of major. He was a deacon of the church, selectman, town treasurer, School Committee and frequently was elected to important committees and to other office in town affairs. He was a Representative many years, serving in this capacity at eighty-five years of age.

From an early date he was a magistrate, and in 1750 he was appointed judge of the Court of Common Pleas, succeeding Judge Joseph Dwight, and was continued on the bench until a reorganization of the court, in 1762. In addition to these accumulating trusts and responsibilities, it is a surprise that a single life-time afforded opportunity for his well-managed private affairs and many other active employments. With Colonel Willard and Colonel Benjamin Bellows, he was a manager of the Northfield Road, and was a grantee of several townships. Among the proprietors of Dorchester Canada (Ashburnham) he was a controlling spirit from 1736 to '44, serving on nearly every committee, and was one of the men who cut a road from the Lunenburg line to the centre of the town. For many years he was the clerk of the proprietors of Lunenburg, and recorded the original title to every lot of land in the township, except a small area of undivided land, which remained unsold at the time his successor was chosen. He died February 17, 1785, "as full of piety as of days." He lives in every page of the early records, and there is found his only monument. He rests in an unknown grave.

Isaac Farnsworth, son of Benjamin and Mary (Prescott) Farnsworth, was born in Groton July 4, 1701. He settled near the centre of the town in 1724. At this time his home was enlivened with a wife and one child. Six children were born in this town. He was an influential man, and was the first town clerk, serving nine years. He wrote a fair hand, and had more regard for the laws of orthography than many of his associates. About 1740 the family returned to Groton.

Widow Jane Boynton came to this town in 1724 or '25, bringing with her the memory of a deceased husband and fourteen living children. She did much to advance the settlement. She and her family came from Rowley, and, owing to the number of her grown-up sons, they settled in several places. One of her daughters became the wife of John Grout, a useful citizen, the owner of house-lot No. 83, and a selectman several years. Another daughter married Zachariah Whitney, who died in this town, 1781.

David Page, a son of Samuel, who settled in the western part of the town, and often said to be the first settler in Fitchburg, married a daughter of this numerous family. Mrs. Boynton, the mother, died in 1761, aged only a few days less than one hundred years. Benoni Boynton, probably the eldest son, settled nearly a mile north of the North Cemetery. He married in Rowley, and lived a few years in Groton before he came to Lunenburg. His name is frequently met in the early records. He died December 30, 1758.

Hilkiah Boynton, another son, was much employed in town affairs, and was connected with some of the land speculations of his time. He died November 16, 1745.

Philip Goodridge, born in Newbury in 1668 or '69, settled here about 1724, and died January 16, 1729. On his tomb-stone is engraved "The first man interred here." His descendants to the present day have been numerous in this town, and are found throughout New England. This name is frequently written Goodrich. They have been distinguished by industry, ability and character.

Benjamin Goodridge, eldest son of Philip, was born in Newbury February 3, 1701. He lived in the southwest part of the town, and was a most active and influential man, and prominent in both proprietary and town affairs. The number of his elections to office is without a parallel in the history of the town. He was a selectman thirty years, town clerk twenty-two years, and constable, collector, member of School Committee and a magistrate several years, and a captain in the French and Indian War. He died April 19, 1773.

Samuel Johnson, son of Edward and Esther (Gardner) Johnson, was born in Woburn, February 21, 1692. He was an influential man in the affairs of the settlement, the first deacon of the church, a town officer many years, and by occupation an inn-holder. He accumulated a good estate and was one of the proprietors of several townships in New Hampshire.

Nathan Heywood, son of John and Sarah Heywood, was born in Concord, September 24, 1698. He was a noted surveyor, and his name is attached to the surveys of many townships. He was one of the first settlers of the town, living at No. 175 on the Kilburn map. He was a town officer, a lieutenant and a deputy-sheriff. He was living here at the beginning of the present century, but there is no record of his death.

Thomas Prentice, born in Lancaster, 1710, a son of Rev. John Prentice, was a man of ability, and while he remained here he was evidently popular and respected. About 1750 he returned to Lancaster, and subsequently removed to Newton. His mother, by a former marriage, was the mother of Rev. Andrew Gardner, the first minister of Lunenburg.

Ephraim Wetherbee early settled in this town. He was a captain, a town officer and actively engaged in land speculations. His name appears in the lists of grantees of townships in New Hampshire. He died in Boston, November 7, 1745.

Benjamin Bellows, son of John and Mary (Wood) Bellows, born 1677, married, 1704, the widowed mother of Col. Josiah Willard. They resided in Lancaster (now Harvard), where their four children were born. In 1728, or immediately following, the family removed to this town. He settled in the centre of the town, on the estate known as the Dr. King place, and in a few years he owned many acres of land in this town. One daughter married Moses Gould, another married Fairbanks Moore, and the youngest became the wife of Ephraim Wetherbee. He died 1743; his widow died September 8, 1747.

Col. Benjamin Bellows, only son of Benjamin, was born in Lancaster, May 26, 1712, and removed to Walpole, N. H., 1752, where he died, July 10, 1777. From the time of his majority until he removed from this town he was the recipient of many honors, and in the conduct of public affairs he was associated with Col. Josiah Willard, Major Edward Hartwell, Benjamin Goodridge, Esq., and other worthies of the town, and among them all, except in years, he found no superiors. He was a surveyor, a farmer and was earnestly enlisted in the land speculations which were rife in those times. His subsequent career in Walpole and the eminent public services of many of his descendants enliven the annals of New Hampshire.

CHAPTER XCVII.

LUNENBURG—(*Continued.*)

Indian Alarms—The French and Indian Wars—Capture of John Fitch—The Revolution—The War of the Rebellion.

FROM the time a number of men, sufficient to attract the vigilant attention of the colonial government, had gathered in the settlement until the declaration of peace in 1763 the town was almost continuously represented in the military service. In addition to stated service in the wars of the period, rumors of the presence of Indians at a near or remote point, and the frequent necessity of scouting through the unsettled country to the north and the west were continually calling the hardy settlers to arms. In seasons of more imminent danger the men at work in the fields were attended by an equal number of soldiers, and

sometimes the harvests of the town were garnered by armed men going in a body from field to field. Many of the military rolls are not preserved, and the history of much of this desultory service cannot be recalled. The military affairs were directed by the government, and ignoring the agency of towns, it made demands upon the able-bodied men of the province at large. For this reason the local records furnish very little information of an important feature of the history of the time. Beginning with the French and Indian Wars, many of the rolls are preserved in the archives of the State, and these contain the names of many Lunenburg men. In a record of deaths is found the name of one of the sons of the first settler of Lunenburg, who was a soldier in the unfortunate expedition under Admiral Vernon to the West Indies: "John Page, the son of M^{r} Samuel Page, of Lunenburg, Dyed at Jamaica, Being there in y^{e} Spanish Expedition, December y^{e} twenty-ninth A. D. 1740, as they hear."

It is certain there were several Lunenburg men in Col. Samuel Willard's regiment, who participated in the capture of Louisbourg in the summer of 1745; among these was Jonathan Hubbard, who was recommended for promotion and who subsequently was a major. He lived in Lunenburg from 1732 to 1756. He was a deacon, a town officer and a most influential citizen. Immediately after the capture of John Fitch, Capt. Jonathan Willard, of this town, was ordered by Col. Samuel Willard to scout through the "upper towns." The following Lunenburg men were in this service July and August, 1748: Jonathan Willard, captain; Timothy Bancroft, Thomas Brown, John Dunsmoor, Isaac Gibson, David Goodridge, Nehemiah Gould, Samuel Johnson, Amos Kimball, Ebenezer Kimball, Ephraim Kimball, Jonathan Page, Samuel Poole, William Porter, Thomas Stearns, Samuel Stow, Jonathan Wood, Paul Wetherbee, Ezekiel Wyman and Zachary Wyman. This John Dunsmoor subsequently was a noted physician in this town. Jonathan Wood was a captain in the Revolution, and several of these men were then residing in the west part of the town, now Fitchburg. Between 1736 and 1744 a considerable number of families had settled in New Ipswich, Rindge, Ashburnham and Winchendon. Their presence on the border lent a feeling of comparative security to the dwellers of Lunenburg, who for a season were protected from the dangers of the extreme frontier.

In 1744 the younger towns were deserted and again Lunenburg assumed her former position on the border. For the defence of the undeserted frontier a series of block-houses or garrisons on the exterior lines of Townsend, Lunenburg and Westminster were built, and here a line of defence was drawn. Soldiers under the pay of the province were detailed for the support of the garrisons. In 1748 a company of forty-seven men, under command of Captain Edward Hartwell, was raised for this service, and, while under one command, were distributed along the border of the defended towns. Ten of this company were assigned to the block-houses in Townsend, ten to Lunenburg, fifteen to Westminster and three to Leominster. The remaining nine was a staff of inspection, comprising the officers and a body-guard. Fortunately, the official roll is preserved: Edward Hartwell, captain; John Stevens, lieutenant; John Holden, sergeant; James Johnson, clerk; Joseph Baker, Timothy Hall, Fairbanks Moore, Jr., corporals; Abner Holden, William Bemis, Jonathan Farnsworth, Elias Stone, Ephraim Dutton, Simon Farnsworth, Ebenezer Hadley, John Thomson, Elisha Pratt, Ebenezer Wood, Jonathan Pett, Zaccheus Blodget, Samuel Wood, Joseph Jennings, Stephen Farnsworth, John Nichols, Nehemiah Wood, Benoni Boynton, Benoni Boynton, Jr., Joseph Platts, Nicholas Dyke, Abel Platts, William Smith, James Preston, Ephraim Stevens, Joshua Benjamin, John Rumrill, Nehemiah Holden, Oliver Barrett, William Gilford, James King, William Graham, Jonathan White, Joseph Wheelock, Thomas Wilder, Thomas Stearns, David Dunster, Joseph Holden, Jr., Stephen Holden, Elisha Bigelow. Of these, thirty enlisted in April, two in May, the eight last named June 24th and the rest in June, July and August. In the column of expiration of service Zaccheus Blodget and Joseph Jennings are marked "July 5;" five were discharged at different dates and the remainder were mustered out the middle of October. A minute upon the muster-roll announces that the five last named were added to the Westminster detail, making fifteen in all, and that Jonathan White, Joseph Wheelock and Thomas Wilder were stationed in Leominster.

Notwithstanding these measures of precaution, on the morning of the 5th of July the Indians made a sudden attack upon one of these fortified places. The one selected by the enemy was the most northern of the garrisons upon the line of Lunenburg, which stood where Paul Gates now resides in the present town of Ashby.

The house was on the Northfield road, seven miles from Lunenburg Centre, and was owned and occupied by John Fitch, whose family consisted of a wife and five children. The ages of the children were: Catharine, thirteen years; John, eleven years; Paul, six years and six months; Jacob, four years; and Susannah, sixteen months. Four soldiers were stationed at this house or garrison, but, on the day of the assault, only Zaccheus Blodgett and Joseph Jennings were present. The story of the capture has been told many times, and generally with the Surdody embellishment. Admitting that Surdody is a good name for an Indian, it remains very probable that the Indians made an attack at the most exposed and solitary point in the line of defense, and if they came in the last stages of their march over the Northfield road, they were led directly to the point of attack. Previous to the moment of the assault no considerable number of the Indians had been discovered at

any point in the line, while during the following days they were found in several localities in this immediate vicinity. Mr. Fitch, in a petition to the General Court December 10, 1749, says he had no neighbors within three and one-half miles to join with him in fortifying his house, "yet divers of the inhabitants of Lunenburg, knowing the great security that a garrison at his place might be, urged him to build one and assisted him in it." After making known that four soldiers were stationed at his garrison, in 1748, he proceeds in modest terms to give a narrative of the eventful day: "And on the fifth of July in the same year, by reason of bodily infirmity, there were but two soldiers with him, although others with the scouts were to come in that day. On that day, before noon and before the scouts came, the Indian enemy appeared and shot down one soldier upon being discovered and immediately drove him [John Fitch] and the other soldier into the garrison. And after besieging the same about one hour and a half, they killed the other soldier through the port-hole in the flanker. Then your petitioner was left alone with his wife and five children and soon after he surrendered." The Indians burned the house, killed an ox and conducted the family to Canada. It has been stated that the family were ransomed by "friends in Bradford, where he formerly resided." It has not been shown that Mr. Fitch ever lived in Bradford, and the fact is he was returned by the French with others at the suspension of hostilities. In company with five French officers and other prisoners, he arrived in New York, by the way of Albany, September 23, 1748, not yet three months after his capture. When the complete exchange of prisoners was made is not known, and the feeble health of his wife might have delayed his progress home. She died in Providence, R. I., December 24, 1748. The capture was probably made and the house was in flames about noon, yet it is current tradition that no resident of the town was informed of the event until the following day. This is improbable. It is certain, however, that Captain Hartwell called his company together and that an alarm and great excitement pervaded the town. On the 8th of July, 1748, the inhabitants of Lunenburg and Leominster joined a petition to Governor Shirley setting forth that the Indians "very lately have been among us," and earnestly praying for an additional number of soldiers. Four days later the commissioned officers and selectmen of Lunenburg forward a similar petition announcing that the family of John Fitch was captured and two soldiers killed on the 5th instant, and that on the 7th instant the Indians "discovered themselves in a bold, insulting manner three miles further into town than was the garrison which they had destroyed, where they chased and shot at one of the inhabitants, who narrowly escaped their hands." They further state that three days the people were rallied by alarms and hurried into the woods after the enemy. It was David Goodridge who was the hero of this exploit, and the scene was within the limits of Fitchburg. Mr. Goodridge subsequently was a lieutenant in one of the Crown Point expeditions.

Joseph Jennings, one of the soldiers slain at the Fitch garrison, was a drafted man from Western (now Warren). He was an apprentice to Samuel Bliss, and when he came to Lunenburg he brought Mr. Bliss' gun, which fell into the hands of the Indians—perhaps the hands of Surdody. Mr. Bliss sent a communication to Governor Shirley alleging that the gun was worth ten pounds, and beside, that he had lost the time of his apprentice, and made it apparent that all in all he was neither blissful nor satisfied. The government was tender and compassionate, and while there appeared to be no spare men on hand, they sent him a new gun.

Zaccheus Blodget was probably from Dracut. Oliver Blodget was residing there in 1749 and gave an order for the wages due his deceased brother, "who was killed by the Indians last year."

John Fitch was born in the part of Billerica now in Bedford, February 12, 1707–8. His father, Samuel Fitch (a son of Samuel, grandson of Dea. Zachary Fitch, of Reading), married Elizabeth Walker and settled on a part of the Winthrop grant in Billerica, which he inherited from his maternal grandfather, Job Lane. John was the sixth of nine children. He was a second cousin of Zachariah Fitch, who was the guardian of James Kibby. Joseph Fitch, the father of the wife of William Downe, was a brother of Zachariah. John Fitch came to Lunenburg a few years after the date of incorporation. He married Susannah Gates, a daughter of Simon and Hannah (Benjamin) Gates, of Stow, and in 1735 he purchased a part of an original house-lot, No. 66, adjoining the lot of Ephraim Pierce, about two miles south of the centre of the town (near No. 188 on the Kilburn map). Here he lived until 1739, when he bought of Ephraim Wetherbee one hundred and twenty acres "at a place called Rendevous in Lunenburg and adjoining Townsend." This land, now in Ashby, is the homestead of Paul Gates. Subsequently he bought a considerable adjoining land. Upon his return from captivity he built a house on or very near the site of the garrison, and there resided over twenty years. He married, February 14, 1750–1, Elizabeth (Bowers) Peirce, widow of David Peirce, of Lunenburg. About this date he received a substantial legacy from the estate of Simon Gates, the father of his first wife. By the division of Lunenburg in 1764 his homestead became a part of Fitchburg, and in 1767 it was included in the new town of Ashby. Occupying the same house, he was a citizen of three towns within a short space of time. He was the chairman of the committee to procure an act dividing Lunenburg and creating a new town, and in his honor the name of Fitchburg was bestowed. In his estate he was prospered, and for several years was one of the few names on the tax-

lists assessed for money at interest. He was moderator of the first town-meeting in Ashby, a constable and a member of the first Board of Selectmen. He became engaged in land speculation, and deeds of land bought or sold by him are very numerous in the registry of Worcester County and Cheshire and Hillsborough Counties in New Hampshire. In 1772 he removed from Ashby to Rindge, N. H., where he lived until 1779, when he removed to Harvard. In 1780 he removed to Jaffrey, N. H. His wife was living in 1774. She probably died in Rindge or in Harvard. Alone and aged, and for some cause in poverty, the closing and fading scene of an active, eventful and useful life only remains. In 1785 he returned to Ashby, and finding a home in the family of a relative, he was supported in part by the town. He died April 8, 1795, aged eighty-seven years.

Succeeding these stirring times, a truce was maintained a few years between England and France, and until 1755 very few men from this town are found in the service.

In Col. Willard's regiment (a part of the expedition to Crown Point) was a company commanded by Capt. Samuel Hunt, containing twenty-four men from this town, eight from Townsend, four from Leominster and ten from other places. These men were in the service from August 11, 1755, to January 1, 1756. The names of the Lunenburg men are as follows: Samuel Hunt, captain; Samuel Poole, ensign; Jonathan Bradstreet, sergeant; Gilbert Thornton, sergeant; Samuel Hutchins, corporal; Samuel Stow, Timothy Bancroft, Archelaus McIntosh, Phinehas Divol, Thomas Wetherbee, Stephen Foster, Timothy Darnell, Ephraim Peirce, Nathaniel Carlton, Jonathan Stevens, Moses Spofford, Scripture Frost, Thomas Stearns, Thomas Rand, Bezaleel Wood, William Chadwick, Eliphalet Goodridge, Jewett Boynton and Thomas Holt.

In another company, but serving a longer time, were Patrick Delany, Pearson Eaton, John Scott and Thomas Jewett.

An undated roll in the Crown Point service, and probably a part of this expedition, bears the names of Ebenezer Hart, Nathaniel Page, Silas Dutton, Abijah Wetherbee, Jonathan Wetherbee, John Martin, Solomon Bigelow, Samuel Cummings, Jr., Reuben Wyman, Simon Smith, John Henderson and William Kimball. The last named was a servant or an apprentice of George Kimball, who enlisted under a name borrowed of his master.

Among the rolls of the following year a company commanded by Capt. James Reed, containing thirty-eight men, was in Col. Ruggles' regiment at Fort Edward. The roll is valuable, containing the name, age, birth-place, residence and occupation of each man.

The names of the Lunenburg men are Thomas Brown, ensign; John Harriman, sergeant; John Moffet, clerk; Samuel Hutchins, corporal; Nehemiah Bowers, Timothy Darling, Joseph Gilson, Manassah Litch, Joseph Platts, Joseph Reed, Robert Spear, John Scott, Bradstreet Spofford, Reuben Smith, Benjamin Scott, Jonas Tarbell, Michael Wood, Phinehas Wheelock, William Holt. In this company Philip Goodridge was lieutenant, but he was sick and not with the company when the foregoing pay-roll was made up. John Harriman died in the service. On the roll two others are reported dead who are known to have returned.

In 1757 Jonathan Page, William Jones and Moses Spofford were in the service, and a part of the time were stationed at Castle William.

On the rolls of 1759 are many Lunenburg names. These men were also in the Crown Point service, and omitting names who are found in the preceding roll, there remain David Pierce, David Carlile, Moses Page, Patrick Delany, Jonathan Peabody, Moses Ritter, Jr., Moses Platts, Dean Carlton, Zephaniah Buss, Simeon Burnham, Samuel Gibson, Samuel Parker, Nathaniel Page, Jr., Samuel Hammond, Josiah Dodge, Jr., David Chaplin, Jr., Benjamin Gould, Richard Fowler, John White, Patrick White and John Wyman. John Wyman died in the service. During the years 1760 and 1761, and in the final and successful effort for the conquest of Canada, a martial record is continued. Among the names of new recruits appear the names of William Kendall, Samuel Hutchins, Moses Platts, Samuel Hilton and Nathan Platts, and in the company of Captain Aaron Brown, of Littleton, were John Martin, sergeant, Jonathan Boynton, Samuel Downe, Timothy Parker, John Simonds, Ezekiel Simonds, William Simonds and Simon Smith; also in the company of Captain Beaman, of Lancaster, Joseph Reed and Samuel Wyman are reported among "the invalids brought home from the westward." Other men in this company were Daniel Carlile, Patrick Delany, Joseph Gilson, John Hogg, Aaron Hodgkins, Jonathan Page, Samuel Peabody, Daniel Ritter, Ebenezer Wyman, Reuben Wyman, Oliver Powers. About this time John Spear and Silas Wyman died in the service. Five Lunenburg men in 1761 were in the company of Captain Aaron Willard: Jeremiah Stiles, drummer, John Hill, William Henderson, Joshua Page and Israel Wyman. These extended lists do not contain the names of all the residents of Lunenburg who were in the service, yet the most of them have never appeared in print before. With limited space at command, in some instances only one enlistment is given of those who entered the service again the succeeding year. It will be found that many of the persons named were subsequently residents of other towns, but they lived in Lunenburg at the time the service was performed.

The Revolutionary history of Lunenburg should include a series of patriotic resolutions which were debated and adopted during the months of active thought and excitement immediately preceding an open declaration of hostilities, and which, with the

space at command, cannot be quoted. They cover several pages of the records and are clearly expressive of a sentiment and purpose that animated and sustained the patriots of Lunenburg through the trials and sacrifices of the war. Two companies of twenty-seven men each, exclusive of officers, were organized October 25, 1774. In the choice of officers all males over sixteen years of age were allowed to vote. The town approved of the selection made by the men as follows: George Kimball, captain; David Wood, first lieutenant; Jonathan Peirce, second lieutenant, and Benjamin Redington, ensign of the first company. Abijah Stearns, captain; Jared Smith, first lieuten ant; Moses Ritter, second lieutenant, and Phineas Hutchins, ensign of the second company. The terms first and second did not have an ordinal significance. A geographical line divided the town in two parts and a company was organized in each section. On the 18th day of April the minute-men were called out for drill and a practice in the manual of arms. After a dinner, provided by the officers, they were marched to the meeting-house, where a sermon was delivered by Rev. Zabdiel Adams, from the text: "Though a host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear."—Psalm xxvii. 3.

The spring of 1775 was unusually warm and forward. On the morning of the 19th of April, the farmers of Lunenburg were sowing grain and plowing their fields. On the preceding day they had learned from their chosen commanders the discipline and from their esteemed pastor the duties of the soldier. In arm and mind the rustic toilers became the patriot soldiers. As they toiled on the war had begun, yet they knew it not. The swift messages of the morning were not long delayed. Some time in the forenoon, tradition says at nine o'clock, the alarm was fired in this town.

A full company from Lunenburg marched for Concord—tradition says so early that they reached Concord and beyond that evening, but the muster-roll would indicate that they proceeded with more preparation and deliberation:

"A Muster Roll of a company or party of men that marched from Lunenburg on y^{e} 20th of April, 1775, for the Defense of the Colony against the ministerial troops under the Command of George Kimball, Cap^{t} of a company in Lunenburg, who marched in Consequence of an alarm made the 19th of April, 1775. George Kimball, captain; David Wood, first lieutenant; Samuel Kimball, second lieutenant; Boman Brown, sergeant; John Searle, do.; Benj. Darling, do.; Samuel Farrar, do.; Samuel Hutchinson, corporal; Samuel Hilton, do.; Daniel Holt, do.; Barnabas Wood, do.; David Chaplin, drummer; Silas Gibson, John Wood, Abijah Page, Nathan Johnson, Isaac Bailey, Andrew Mitchell, Edward Richards, Moses Sanderson, Charles Gilchrist, Pearson Eaton, John McCarty, Benj. Redington, William Prentice, Jacob Stiles, Solomon Hovey, Eli Dodge, Zebulon Wallis, Moses Ritter, Thomas Simonds, David Houghton, Jonathan Peirce, Obediah Walker, William Gilchrist, Jacob Sanderson, John Dole, Nehemiah Lane, Nathaniel Hastings, Joseph Hartwell, Joshua Reed, Benjamin Goodridge, Asa Carlton, Amos Page, Thomas Wetherbee, Thaddeus Cummings, Phinehas Divol, Benoni Wallis, George Henry, John Little, John Campbell, Joseph Foster, Caleb Taylor, Jeremiah Willard, Curwin Wallis, William Goodridge, Samuel Johnson, Joseph Priest, Nathan Chapman, Seth Harrington." Here are sixty names, and beside some who hastened forward independent of organization, there were two officers and five men from this town in the Leominster company, as follows: Joseph Bellows and Thomas Harkness, lieutenants; Noah Dodge, Phinehas Carter, Israel Wyman, Richard Fowler and Jonathan Martin.

From the men and companies thus gathered at Cambridge and from new recruits constantly arriving an army for the siege of Boston was organized. A full company, composed of Lunenburg and Fitchburg men, were in Colonel Asa Whitcomb's regiment a part of the time at least and remained in the service at Boston until the close of the year. The roll is as follows: John Fuller, of Lunenburg, captain; Ebenezer Bridge, of Fitchburg, lieutenant; Jared Smith, of Lunenburg, lieutenant.

Men from Lunenburg:—Josiah Hartwell, Samuel Farrer, Samuel Litch, Ephraim Martin, John Wellman, John Wason, John Hill, Jonathan Taylor, Eleazer Priest, Adonijah (or Darius) Houghton, Solomon Boynton, Manassah Divol, Timothy Carlton, Francis Henry, Sewell Dodge, Benjamin Walker, Jonas Hazeltine, David Wetherbee, Joseph Foster, Jeremiah Willard, William Goodridge, Caleb Taylor, Thomas Hazeltine, Cheever Fowler, Henry Cockman, Samuel Johnson, Curwin Wallis, Joseph Priest, Nathan Chapman, Ephraim Holden, Stephen Wyman, Abraham Carlton, Abijah Goodridge, James Carter, William Ritter, William Alexander.

Men from Fitchburg:—Jonathan Hunt, Edward Hartwell, Thomas Gary, Joseph Gilson, Ebenezer Harrington, Joseph Polley, Eleazer Priest, Nathaniel Gibson, William Bean, Ebenezer Polley, Samuel Downe, Jonathan Gibson, Daniel Harris, Stephen Bailey, Joseph Farwell, Thomas Platts, Roger Bigelow, John Goodridge, Clark Bancroft, Stephen Fuller, Aaron Hodgkins, Thomas Kimball, also John Taylor, of Hillsborough; Thomas Ball, of Concord; and Charles Raley, residence not stated on the roll.

In the same service and in Colonel Doolittle's regiment Captain Josiah Stearns, of Lunenburg, commanded a company of sixty-one men. In this company William Thurlo, of Fitchburg, was lieutenant and the following were Lunenburg men: John Searle, Joshua Martin, John Hall, Jacob Stewart, Barnaby Wood, Joseph Chaplin, Benjamin Bailey, John Brown, William Clark, Levi Dodge, James Darling, Pearson Eaton, Asa Jones, John Moffat, William

Prentiss, Thomas Peirce, John Ritter, John Stearns (died in the service), Joseph Simonds, Moses Sanderson, Aaron Taylor, Seth Wyman, William Wyman, Joab Wetherbee; also five from Fitchburg and thirty from other places.

There were other men from this town in the service during the summer and autumn of this year. The residence is stated upon the original rolls and there is no room for doubt concerning the identity of the men. While the following list increases the number of Lunenburg men who served in the siege of Boston, it is not presumed to include every one: Elnathan Sawtell, Timothy Darling, Joshua Goodridge, Samuel Priest, Richard Gilchrist, Elijah Gould, Nathan Pushee, Joshua Reed, Peter Davis, Abraham Ireland, Abner Mitchell, William Hennessey, Joseph Chaplin, Joseph Chaplin, Jr., Thomas Hovey, Isaac Baily and Zebulon Willis. The last named probably is the same person as Zebulon Wallis in the roll of minute-men.

On the 23d of May, 1775, Dr. John Taylor was elected a Representative to the Assembly, which convened at Watertown on the 19th of July.

1776.—At the annual election of town officers in March a Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety was chosen. They were: William Stearns, Abijah Stearns, George Kimball, Benjamin Redington, Joseph Hartwell, Josiah Stearns and Daniel Gardner. From this time town-meetings were no longer called "In His Majesty's Name," but "in the name of the government and the people of Massachusetts Bay," they found a greeting more congenial to a sentiment of independence. By a vote of the town Stephen Gorham was allowed "to take earth from under the meeting-house for to make salt peter." During the remaining years of the war the inhabitants often assembled in town-meeting and the records furnish abundant evidence of a continued and patriotic effort in raising men to renew the decimated ranks of the army and in meeting the increasing burdens of taxation. The enlistments in 1776 were many and the rolls, to a considerable extent, repeat the names of the preceding year. A partial list of the soldiers for a longer or shorter period during the succeeding years include: William Pope, Aaron Buss, John Fuller, George Kimball, David Carlisle and Joshua Martin, who were captains in the service, and also the following lieutenants: Thomas Harkness, Jared Smith, David Wood, Jonathan Peirce, Benjamin Redington, Moses Ritter, Phinehas Hutchins and John Little. A partial list of soldiers not yet named are: Thomas Wetherbee, Zephaniah Wood, Abraham Lowe, Thomas Hill, David Wallis, Benoni Wallis, John Buss, George Landers, Benjamin Stewart, Abijah Wetherbee, Ebenezer Wallis, Jonathan Messer, William Lowe, Ephraim Wetherbee, Daniel Wetherbee, Nathaniel Hastings, Isaac Wetherbee, Calvin Graves and George Martin; Peter Bathrick, Abraham Carlton, Jr., James Carter, William Gilchrist and Charles Gilchrist, who died in the service.

Col. Abijah Stearns was prominent in military affairs during the Revolution, and during a residence of many years in this town he was an active citizen and a worthy man. He was the youngest brother of Rev. David and Dea. William Stearns, of this town, and was born in Watertown, December 19, 1724. He came here as early as 1751, living at the centre of the town. He was often elected to office and during the war he commanded a regiment in two or more campaigns. He died November 6, 1783.

Col. Joseph Bellows, a son of Col. Benjamin, the founder of Walpole, N. H., and a brother of Gen. Benjamin Bellows, was born in this town June 6, 1744. After the family removed to Walpole he returned in early manhood to this town. He was a captain in the Revolution and commissioned lieutenant colonel of the militia by Governor Hancock. He was a man of influence and popular among his townsmen. Being bondsman for some failing contractors, his property was attached and his pride was humiliated in the loss of the paternal acres. Feeble health and discouragement unfitted him for active life, and from 1784 until his death, May 13, 1817, he lived near his relatives in Walpole.

Hon. Josiah Stearns, another of our Revolutionary worthies, was the son of Thomas and Abigail (Reed) Stearns. He was born in Littleton, July 18, 1747, and removed to this town several years before the Revolution. He commanded a company of minute-men and was a captain in the siege of Boston. He was a selectman fifteen years, treasurer nine years and a School Committee, collector and town clerk, as well as a deacon and a magistrate. He was a representative four years, and in 1792 he was chosen to the Senate to fill a vacancy occasioned by the death of Hon. Abel Wilder, of Winchendon, and was subsequently elected. He was a member of the Governor's Council, 1797 to 1799. He died April 7, 1822.

Dr. John Dunsmoor, who was a surgeon in the army, was a native of Scotland, where he was born in 1720. He was a physician of skill and ability and occupied a prominent position among the profession. Apparently he enjoyed the esteem of his townsmen and he was many times nominated on committees, but he generally declined to serve and probably found full employment in his calling. After a practice of many years in this town, he died November 22, 1794.

Dr. John Taylor was a man of brilliant qualities. He was a controlling spirit in the town and a leader in the colony. He was born 1734 and probably in Townsend. Preceding Dr. Dunsmoor, he was the first physician of note in this town. Finding active employment in his other business and in public affairs, it is probable that he was not engaged in active practice many years after the arrival of Dr. Dunsmoor. He was frequently chosen to town office, and was twice elected from this town to the Provincial Congress

and excepting General Ward, his name appears upon the journals more frequently than that of any of his associates. At the session which convened at Cambridge, February 1, 1775, it was through his influence, as stated by his colleagues, that an adjournment to Concord was accomplished. He was named on the most important committees, being associated with Colonel Prescott, Governor Brooks and Vice-President Gerry. He was a brilliant debater, and in all the deliberations of the convention he displayed an ability of thought and expression that permitted few superiors. He was a member of the committee which drafted the spirited reply to the proclamation of General Gage extending a promise of pardon to all except Samuel Adams and John Hancock, and also one of the commission that took the historic depositions concerning the affray at Lexington and Concord, which were sent to Dr. Franklin, then in England. Preceding and in the midst of this loyal and brilliant service Dr. Taylor, however successful in his professional treatment of his fellow-men, did not subdue in himself a deep-seated fever for land speculations, and omitting mention of many transactions of considerable magnitude, in 1774 he bought a tract of land in Maine containing thirty-four thousand five hundred and sixty acres, now the town of Union. He employed many men to clear and improve the land, and by frequent visits he personally directed the work. During the Revolution he removed from this town and in 1780 he was residing in Pomfret, Conn. Subsequently he removed to Douglas, and was a delegate from that town to the convention of 1788, which ratified the Federal Constitution. From the printed proceedings it is known that he opposed the Constitution and made a vigorous objection to several articles. Following the announcement of the final vote, standing one hundred and eighty-seven to one hundred and sixty-eight, he said that "while he had uniformly opposed the Constitution, he would now go home and infuse a spirit of love for the measure and harmony among the people." The closing years of his life were neither prosperous nor peaceful. About 1780 he sold his township in Maine, and in this and other business transactions he met accumulating troubles and became involved in vexatious and endless litigation. Several times he was committed to jail, and for a season, at least, his courage was undaunted. He died at Dudley from an overdose of laudanum April 27, 1794.

General James Reed, who was a captain in the French and Indian Wars, and whose name appears in the early part of this chapter, was a resident of this town several years. He was a son of Joseph and Sarah (Rice) Reed, and was born in Woburn, 1723. He came from Brookfield to Lunenburg, 1751, and lived a part of the time at or near the centre of the town. On the earliest military roll on which his name is found he is described by occupation a "Taylor." Subsequently he was a licensed inn-holder, and in April, 1753, the selectmen petition for a license to Joshua Hutchins "in place of Captain James Reed, who is now going into His Majesty's service." In 1756 he was a captain in Colonel Ruggles' regiment. He held the same rank in two or more subsequent campaigns. He was a selectman of Lunenburg, 1763 and 1764, being elected the last time in March, and a full month after the incorporation of Fitchburg, and in a conveyance of land executed March 4, 1765, he is called James Reed, of Lunenburg. These records are not propitious to a current tradition that during these years he was living at the site of the City Hall in Fitchburg. He removed to Fitzwilliam, N. H., before the close of the year 1765. In June, 1775, he was appointed colonel of a New Hampshire regiment, and the following year was named by Congress a brigadier-general. In an illness, at Crown Point, he lost his eye-sight and was retired from active service soon after his promotion. He subsequently resided in Keene and in Fitzwilliam, N. H., several years, and later he removed to Fitchburg, where he died February 13, 1807.

Lunenburg, in the War of the Rebellion, was in full sympathy with the unexampled patriotism that pervaded the loyal States. The ardor and zeal of April, 1861, the ready response of the volunteers to the call of the President, the voice of loyalty upon the street and in public meetings and many general features of a patriotic record require no assertion. It would be a thankless task and a useless offering to summon the record in support of such a measure of good works, the summary of which will crowd the limits of this chapter. On the morning of April 22, 1861, a flag was raised on Mount Pleasant by Micah W. Boutwell, Andrew Riley and Albert S. Marshall, and another, later in the day, between the Congregational and Unitarian Churches. Within a few days thirty-eight flags were displayed within the town. Attending the second flag-raising a public meeting was organized, with Cyrus Kilburn chairman and George A. Cunningham secretary, and a series of resolutions, after several speeches, were adopted. Other meetings, both informal and official, followed, and in the proceedings appear the names of Nathaniel F. Cunningham, Daniel Putnam, Cyrus Kilburn, Thomas Billings, George A. Cunningham, James Putnam, Frederic M. Marston, Lemuel Pitts, Daniel Lowe, Otis P. Abercrombie, John Howard, Merrick Wetherbee, William Baker, Ephraim Jones, Charles A. Goodrich and other citizens of the town. Five men enlisted for three months, as follows: Charles Kilburn, John E. Lyons, George H. Stall, Ansel W. Stall and Russell O. Houghton.

Seventy-six enlisted upon the early calls of the President for three years' men. They were: Joseph C. Riley, Alfred Billings, Amos Billings, Charles C. Walker, Charles D. Litchfield, William F. Harris, Thomas Larghee, George L. Curtis, Henry L. Burnell, B. Frank Clark, Henry O. Adams, Francis A.

Hildreth, Joseph H. Pearson, William S. Boynton, William Hodgman, Amos N. Gleason, Isaac Newton, Jr., Roswell G. Adams, Marcus M. Spaulding, Charles Kilburn, Henry P. Kilburn, John E. Lyons, Charles B. Longley, James M. Hildreth, Peter Smith, Charles E. Oliver, Ansel W. Stall, William B. Stall, George V. Ball, Samuel Hartwell, Noah F. Winn, John A. Gilchrist, Calvin D. Sanderson, Alonzo Whiting, George Hudson, George A. Lancey, Luther A. Lancey, Gilbert Cook, Russell O. Houghton, Dana P. Spaulding, James D. Fairbanks, William H. Boynton, George S. Smith, William D. Perrin, Albert W. Haynes, George H. Haynes, Henry Sanderson, William R. Graves, J. Frank Boynton, Charles Albert Harris, Hiram W. Longley, Joseph L. Proctor, Albert Houghton, David Morrill, John Catin, Richard H. Wyeth, Joseph R. Graves, Foster E. L. Beal, George H. McIntire, Leonard O. Bruce, Gardner Vaughan, George H. Merrill, Eli S. Lancey, Lemuel Pitts, Jr., George S. Pitts, Charles H. Neal, Orlando Holman, Ezekiel G. Bailey, James H. Smith, David N. Kilburn, Charles E. Marshall, Alvin Seidelinger, William H. Wyeth, James L. Litchfield, Charles D. Page, John F. Butters.

On the call of August 4, 1862, for three hundred thousand men for nine months', twenty men volunteered: Henry P. Kilburn, Forester M. Jewett, George A. Howard, Levi Parker, George E. Brown, Clark Dutton, Henry H. Whitney, Frederic J. Lawrence, Benjamin F. Marshall, Samuel Wallis, Franklin O. Cady, Oliver F. Brown, Edward E. Carr, Levi W. Goodrich, George W. Conant, Merrill B. Carlton, Andrew J. Green, Jesse A. Sargent, George H. Stall, Noble Fiske.

Thirty-three re-enlisted veterans and new recruits were credited upon the early calls of 1864: Alfred Billings, Charles C. Walker, Charles D. Litchfield, George L. Curtis, John E. Lyons, James M. Hildreth, George V. Ball, Samuel Hartwell, Luther A. Lancey, Gilbert Cook, Dana P. Spaulding, James D. Fairbanks, William D. Perrin, J. Franklin Boynton, Albert Houghton, Joseph R. Graves, Charles H. Neal, Orlando Holman, William H. Wyeth, John F. Butters, Charles E. Oliver, Richard H. Wyeth, Eli S. Lancey, who were veterans. The following were new recruits: Edward C. Goodrich, Richard F. Burton, Thomas Billings, Josiah S. Houghton, John Snow, Albert Stall, Edward P. Hadley, George N. Burrage and Drs. C. C. Topliff and E. C. Merriam, who were commissioned assistant surgeons.

Seven volunteered in response to the call of July 5, 1864. There were also twenty hired recruits, whose names are not included in this record. The volunteers were: John J. Ramsdell, Charles Boynton, Martin Sanderson, George C. Jewett, Albert L. Heywood, William R. Neal, Jesse A. Sargent. The whole number of credits upon the several quotas, including re-enlistments and hired recruits, is one hundred and sixty-one, and the number of residents included in this record is one hundred and two. Of these, thirty died in the service or immediately after their return, from wounds or from disease contracted in the service; fourteen survived wounds, and fifty-eight were discharged at expiration of term of service without wounds or serious disability.

CHAPTER XCVIII.

LUNENBURG—(*Continued.*)

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY—SCHOOLS—THE CUNNINGHAM PAPERS.

To build a meeting-house and settle a minister were among the first duties of a New England settlement. The requisites were a hill on which to set the primitive house of worship and a learned orthodox minister. Generally a hill and a minister of a suitable elevation were selected with rare unanimity. In these proceedings the dutiful pleasure of the settlement was enjoined by the General Court and incorporated in the grant of the several townships. In accepting the grant of Turkey Hills the settlers were "obliged to build a good, convenient house for the worship of God within the term of four years." The conditions of the grant for several years remained unfulfilled. This failure, on the part of the proprietors, did not pass unnoticed. In November, 1727, the committee of the General Court, who had continued to exercise a certain supervision of the settlement, ordered that "The Proprietors shall forthwith proceed to the erection of a meeting-house, to be not less than forty-five feet in length and thirty-five in breadth." Immediately succeeding this action of the committee of the General Court, and before there was an opportunity to enforce the command, the proprietors secured an act of incorporation. By this procedure the resident proprietors and settlers of Turkey Hills became the independent inhabitants of the town of Lunenburg. Liberated from the conditions of the grant, and from the authority of the committee of the General Court, our worthy ancestors proceeded at once to perform voluntarily that which they had neglected to do when enjoined.

September 24, 1728, not yet two months after the date of incorporation, the town voted "Two Hundred Pounds Money for y^e^ building and finishing of a meeting-house in said town, so far as it will do or answer therefor." The site of the first meeting was where the orthodox church now stands. Concerning the progress and manner of building this primitive structure the records are silent until early in the year 1731, when money was raised and a committee appointed "to build a pulpit and as many seats as there is convenient room for." In accordance with a recognized custom of the time, it was not intended by this

sweeping vote to build "seats" in front of the pulpit and through the central part of the floor. This space was reserved for more dignified structures, denominated pews, which were constructed at the expense of the individual, and located by a committee according to the wealth and dignity of the future occupant. Possibly through fear that their committee would not manifest a proper regard for the dignity of their minister, our worthies took primary action in this particular. It was ordered in town-meeting that the "ministerial pew be located adjoining to y^e^ foot of y^e^ Pulpit-stairs, at y^e^ Right hand of y^e^ Pulpit." In the same spirit, they next promptly granted a request, and courteously recognized the dignity of Mr. Gardner, their former pastor, who still remained a resident of the town. For his accommodation it was ordered that there be reserved "a Place in y^e^ meeting-house at y^e^ Right hand of y^e^ Great Doors to build a Pew." These proceedings toward the building and completion of the first meeting-house occupied the space of four years, and while they were in progress it is reasonably certain that the edifice had been occupied for public worship from and after the summer of 1729.

The names of the early and occasional preachers in the settlement are not known. The first settled minister was Rev. Andrew Gardner, who was installed over the church then organized, May 15, 1728. This date is over two months previous to the act of incorporation and a year or more before the building of the meeting-house. By the terms of the grant of the township, Mr. Gardner, at his settlement, came into possession of one right of land, which he subsequently sold, and enjoyed the benefit, if any, of the use of the ministerial lands, and in addition he was promised twenty pounds as a settlement and a salary of eighty pounds. Of the character of the ministry of Mr. Gardner and the causes which led to an early dismissal, little is known. The records are silent. Torrey's "History of Fitchburg and Lunenburg," written after one hundred years had obscured the facts and weakened the voice of tradition, says:

> The reasons of his dismission, so far as I have been able to learn them, appear to be these:—He was not a man of that grave and sober demeanor, which the people of his time thought essential to the sacredness of his office. He was apt to indulge in a levity of manner on the Sabbath which was not in keeping with the solemnity of the day. He had also quite a predilection for hunting, and, it is said, wild turkeys and other game, even on the Sabbath, sometimes bore evidence of his skill as a marksman. For the truth of these reports I cannot vouch.

This estimate of Mr. Gardner has been frequently quoted, and sometimes with the omission of the last sentence, which qualifies and mitigates the severity of the whole. One important fact demands attention. The first reference to any dissatisfaction found in the records appears in the letter of Mr. Gardner, asking a dismissal, and while he admits the existence of considerable indifference on the part of the people, he boldly assumes the initiative in reference to a dissolution of the pastoral relation. The letter bears date of September 18, 1730. It should be read in connection with the fact that the town, only three months previously, had voted him his annual salary, without any expressed hesitation or qualification.

To the Brethren of the Church of Christ in Lunenburg:

> Beloved Brethren:—I cannot but think, from what I have heard and also from what I have observed of the transactions and behaviour of this people, relating to me and my affairs, that there is not that affection borne towards me that there should be from a people to their Gospel minister; or that there is where a people are likely to profit under their minister. The consideration whereof has been very grievous and discouraging to me, and, therefore, think it best to separate. I do, therefore, propose a separation. And if effectual care be taken that my dues be honestly paid me, the first settled minister's lot with its appurtenances put upon record and attested, and a sufficient pew at the right hand of going in at the great doors of the meeting-house,—I shall be free to be dismissed from my pastoral relation, office and obligation to you, as soon as it can regularly be performed.
>
> From your loving pastor, who wisheth you the Divine direction and blessing and desires your prayers for the same to him.
>
> Andrew Gardner, Pastor.

In the event the conduct of the pastor had grieved the faithful and either the church or the parish desired a separation, no recorded action appears until February 7, 1732, or nearly a year and a half after the suggestive letter of Mr. Gardner.

At this time the town in its capacity as a parish "voted and granted to Rev. Andrew Gardner a dismission from his pastoral or ministerial office, according to his request." At the same meeting the selectmen were instructed to pay Mr. Gardner whatever was his due. Possibly the money was raised with difficulty, but it was not paid until the following October. The sum paid at this time was three hundred and ninety-four pounds, twelve shillings and three pence, which included twenty pounds due him for a settlement and the amount of his salary from the beginning. It was the first money the poor man had received from the aggrieved inhabitants of Lunenburg. If it is true, as alleged by Torrey, that he was frequently in pursuit of wild turkeys and other game, it is probable that hunger taught him "skill as a marksman," and that he was oftener compelled by necessity than enticed by a love of the chase. However, the full sum was paid, and the church took the necessary action for the dismissal of their early pastor November 3, 1732.

Rev. Andrew Gardner, the first minister of Lunenburg, was born in Brookline, 1694. He was a son of Rev. Andrew Gardner, the third minister of Lancaster, who began his ministerial labor in that town, 1701, and previous to an installation he was accidentally killed during an Indian alarm in October, 1704. His widow, Mary, however, became the wife of Rev. John Prentice, the fourth minister of Lancaster. A daughter of this marriage was the wife of Rev. Job Cushing, of Shrewsbury, and the mother of Rev. John Cushing, D.D., of Ashburnham. Rev. Andrew Gardner, Jr., was graduated at Harvard University, 1712, and was ordained the first minister of Worcester in the autumn of 1719, and was dismissed October 31, 1722. After preaching in Rutland, and possibly in other places, he was settled over the church in Lunen-

burg, as heretofore stated, from May 15, 1728, to November 3, 1732. While a resident of this town he built a house near Clark Hill, where Martin Johnson resides, which was considerably in advance of the dwellings of his time, and which, with its quaint windows and after-years of dilapidation, is remembered by many still living. After his dismissal he remained a few years in this town, and was at times employed by the town as "Grammar School Master," the school being held at his house. In addition to the land granted the first settled minister, he acquired many acres by purchase and apparently maintained close business relations with Benjamin Bellows, Josiah Willard, Edward Hartwell, and his half-brother, Thomas Prentice. He was one of the grantees of Charlestown, N. H., under the Massachusetts charter, which subsequently was vacated. In 1737 he removed to Earlington or Arlington, now Winchester, N. H., where he was a prominent citizen, receiving frequent and honorable mention in the records. Occasionally he was employed as chaplain at Fort Dummer, where he met many of his early associates from Lancaster and Lunenburg. About 1746 he removed to Charlestown, N. H. In 1761 his name was first in the list of the grantees of Bath, N. H., and thither he removed about 1765, and became a controlling spirit in the new settlement. He lived between the Central and Upper Villages, and overlooking the scene of his declining years Gardner Mountain perpetuates his name and memory. He lived to an advanced age, but a record of his death has not been found.

At a meeting assembled November 10, 1732, one week after the dismissal of Mr. Gardner, the town chose "Dea. Samuel Johnson, Dea. Ephraim Peirce and Isaac Farnsworth a committee to provide a minister, from time to time, to supply the town with preaching." Rev. David Stearns was immediately employed, and that the first impressions of the candidate were not unfavorable is found in a record of a meeting on the 4th of the following month, when it was ordered that the committee hire Mr. Stearns to preach two months, after an existing engagement had expired. The conditions attending the frontier settlements at this time reminded them that the approach of a winter season would defer the ordination until another spring. A call was extended in February, and the candidate was ordained April 18, 1733. The pastorate of Mr. Stearns was the continued succession of palmy days; The town increased in population, the people were prosperous in temporal affairs, and the church, preserved from any serious contention, was increased in membership. The town voted him £300 as a settlement, and a salary of £120 the first year and £5 added yearly, until it reached the sum of £140. In 1736, and a few subsequent years, an additional sum was voted to make good the depreciation of the currency in which his salary was paid. At the close of twenty-eight years of successful labor he died, March 9, 1761.

Rev. David Stearns, a son of John and Abigail (Fiske) Stearns, was born in Watertown December 24, 1709; graduated at Harvard University, 1728. He married, April 7, 1736, Ruth Hubbard, a daughter of Major Jonathan and Rebecca (Brown) Hubbard, of Lunenburg. She married (2d), November 9, 1768, Rev. Aaron Whitney, of Petersham, who died September 8, 1779, and she died in Keene, N. H., at the home of her youngest daughter, November 1, 1788. Rev. David Stearns was intimately connected with many families of the town. He was a brother of Colonel Abijah, Benjamin and William Stearns, and the wives of Benjamin Bellows, Joshua Goodridge and Samuel Johnson, Jr., were his sisters. His wife was a sister of John and Jonathan Hubbard, Jr., and of the wife of Colonel Josiah Willard. Mr. Stearns lived north of and near the present Methodist Church, where William Howard now resides. There is remaining evidence that he was a man of good ability, a faithful and devoted minister, a friend of the people, and laborious for the public good. It is the testimony of Rev. Zabdiel Adams, who wrote with a full knowledge of his life and character, that "he lived greatly beloved, and died no less lamented."

In 1736 the town "voted and granted all that Room behind y^e^ seets in y^e^ Front Gallery in y^e^ Meeting-House in Lunenburg to Jonathan Wood, Samuel Reed, Phinehas O-good, Ezekiel Wyman, David Page, Stephen Boynton, John Fitch, Jonathan Abbit for to Build a Long Pew or Seet for themselves and wives forever to set in." The vote savors of a protracted meeting, and in it and in other measures of a similar character providing for an enlargement of its seating capacity is read the doom of the first meeting-house of Lunenburg, which already was too small for the accommodation of the growing settlement. The building of the second meeting-house was a prolific subject of town legislation. No less than forty-three votes concerning the location, manner of building, appropriations and disposal of the pews were passed and recorded within the space of three years, and doubtless an equal or greater number of motions were made and seriously debated that did not pass and were not recorded. Omitting reference to many votes that were reconsidered at a future meeting, the narrative is abbreviated. May 22, 1749, the town "voted that they will Build a new Meeting-House in said Town," and May 25, 1752, it was ordered "that they will meet in the new Meeting-House Next Sabbath day come fortnight to attend the public worship there." It was finally determined that the building should be located "in the end of the lane by the school-house," which was within the limits of the present Common and opposite the residence of the late Sawyer Kimball. The necessary land was donated in part by Benjamin Bellows, and the remainder was purchased of Thomas Prentice. It was a spacious house, sixty by forty-five feet, having porches on the east, south and west, and containing forty-eight pews on the floor and twenty-one in the galler-

ies. The frame was raised in the summer of 1750, and it was demolished in 1831, and many relics of the second meeting-house in Lunenburg are still preserved.

Immediately after the decease of Mr. Stearns Rev. Josiah Bridge, who was subsequently settled over the church in East Sudbury (now Wayland), was employed a few Sabbaths. He was succeeded by Rev. Samuel Payson, a brother of Rev. John Payson, of Fitchburg. He was ordained September 8, 1762, and died February 14, 1763.

The fourth pastor was Rev. Zabdiel Adams, who was ordained September 5, 1764. He died in the thirty-seventh year of a successful ministry March 1, 1801. Mr. Adams was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Mass., November 5, 1739. He was a son of Ebenezer and Ann (Boylston) Adams and a double cousin to President John Adams, their fathers being brothers and their mothers being sisters. He graduated at Harvard University in 1759. He was a thoughtful and impressive preacher, and among the clergy of his time he was held in high esteem. At the inauguration of Governor John Hancock, in 1782, he preached the first election sermon before the Executive and both branches of the Legislature. This discourse was printed. He married, June 5, 1765, Elizabeth, daughter of Rev. David Stearns. Their descendants are numerous and distinguished in many callings.

Succeeding a brief season of temporary supply Rev. Timothy Flint was ordained October 6, 1802. He was a son of William and Martha (Kimball) Flint and was born in Reading, Mass., June 17, 1780. He graduated at Harvard University, 1800. At the time of his ministry here and often at subsequent periods he was in feeble health. At times there was only one service on the Sabbath, and occasional evidence of dissatisfaction is found in the records. He was dismissed June 6, 1814. He removed from this town to Alexandria, La., where he established a young ladies' seminary and subsequently lived and traveled extensively in the West until he returned to his native town, where he died April 18, 1840. Mr. Flint was the author of a geography and of several standard works of fiction and once was editor of the *Knickerbocker Magazine.* He married in 1802 Abigail Hubbard, a sister of a later minister in this town.

Soon after the dismissal of Mr. Flint a call was extended to Rev. David Damon, who was ordained with the customary solemnities February 1, 1815. He was born in Wayland, Mass., September 12, 1787, and was graduated at Harvard College in the class with Hon. Edward Everett, 1811. He was a man of great simplicity of manner and an equal strength of character. An earnest faithful minister, he secured the respect and love of the church and the parish. He was dismissed at his request December 2, 1827. Subsequently he was settled at Amesbury and at West Cambridge (now Arlington), Mass., where he died, June 25, 1843. The greater part of the time covered by the ministry of Mr. Damon was a memorable era in the religious history of New England. The Trinitarian and the Unitarian were engaged in a hot dispute and many churches were divided. Mr. Damon was a Unitarian, yet his pacific nature invited no contention, and finding a majority of his church and congregation were not in full sympathy with him, he withdrew before any serious discussion had begun. The controversy and the establishment of two churches was only deferred. In 1819 and during the peaceful ministry of Mr. Damon the First Congregational Parish was organized, and after ninety years of loyal service the town was relieved from a further control of parochial affairs. For several years the society was vigorous and prosperous. In 1830 a new meeting-house, sixty-four by fifty feet, was erected and was dedicated December 25th of that year. The cost was nearly three thousand dollars, which was fully met from a sale of the pews. The land for its accommodation was presented by Daniel Putnam, Esq., and a bell was procured by subscription. The entrance, with a recess and two imposing pillars, was at the east end, and in all respects it was a fair expression of the architecture of the time.

Rev. Ebenezer Hubbard was the next minister. He was installed December 10, 1828. Compared with the closing scenes, the first three years of this ministry were uneventful, yet in the records appear the mists of a gathering cloud that soon obscured the horizon of their former prosperity. In the rapid progress of events, numerous personal differences developed into open hostility, which, like an infection, spread throughout the town. In the mean time the society suffered in membership. Of one hundred and fifty-eight members in 1831, only forty-two remained at the end of two years. Apparently only the most pugnacious remained, who found a lively exercise and an equal combat in the fighting qualities and skilled parries of their irritated pastor.

An acrimonious correspondence between the committee of the parish and the minister was succeeded by ecclesiastical councils, lawsuits and arbitration. In the mean time Mr. Hubbard continued to preach to a decreasing congregation, even after the society had voted that they considered his relations with them terminated, and that they would no longer pay his salary. After the door of the meeting-house was locked he regularly went to the steps on the Sabbath, displayed a sermon and continued to demand his salary and damages for the treatment he had received. A full account of this unfortunate controversy, employing all the interesting material at hand, would fill a volume. The end was found in a compromise, in May, 1834. Rev. Ebenezer Hubbard, son of Rev. Ebenezer and Abigail (Glover) Hubbard, was born in Marblehead, Mass., November 12, 1783. He graduated (as did all his predecessors in the ministry in Lunenburg) at Harvard University, 1805. He read divinity in this

town with Rev. Timothy Flint, was ordained over the Second Church in Newbury, May 11, 1809, and dismissed October 16, 1810. He was installed over the church in Middletown, November 27, 1816, and was dismissed April 29, 1828. After his residence in this town he was engaged in teaching and in farming in Tennessee and in Kentucky. He died from a disease of the brain in an asylum near Nashville, Tenn., September 2, 1858. Immediately succeeding these troublous times, and possibly hastened by them a considerable number of those entertaining Trinitarian proclivities organized an independent church and society. Without action on their part, the Unitarians, formerly in the minority, but including families of influence, remained in succession and continued to be the First Parish of Lunenburg. The decade was an era of temporary supply. Rev. Thomas H. Pons and a score of others appear in the list of those who were briefly employed.

May 12, 1847, Rev. William G. Babcock was installed, and was dismissed at his own request, April 7, 1855. During the succeeding ten years Rev. James Thurston, Rev. Charles B. Josselyn, Rev. Jacob Caldwell, Rev. William Farmer, who died in this town June 24, 1862, and Rev. John B. Willard supplied the desk, and their ministry completed a chapter in the annals of Lunenburg, fragrant of the religion and suggestive of the customs of former generations. The closing act was not long deferred. In 1867 the parish sold the meeting-house to the town, when it was removed about seventy yards north of its original site and remodeled into a spacious and convenient town-hall.

THE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH was embodied June 10, 1835. The first pastor was Rev. Thomas Bellows, born in Walpole, N. H., September 23, 1807, a son of Thomas and Eleanor (Foster) Bellows, and a grandson of Colonel Benjamin Bellows, prominent in the early annals of this town. He graduated at Dartmouth College, 1827, and pursued a course of study at Andover and New Haven Theological Seminaries. Succeeding a pastorate in Greenfield, he began to preach in this town early in 1835, and through his efforts a church was organized. On account of failing health he was not installed, and the following year he retired to a farm in his native town. The society connected with this church was organized in May, 1835. It purchased, and for a season occupied, the meeting-house of the First Parish. An influential minority of the old society was dissatisfied with the disposal of the house, and, after a few scenes of boisterous contention, the sale was rescinded, and the meeting-house was returned to the control of the First Parish. In the autumn of 1843 the society was reorganized, and while plans for building a new meeting-house were maturing, services were held in the hall of a private house. The present meeting-house was built on land purchased of Daniel Putnam, Esq., and completed in 1844.

Early in 1837, and during the time in which services were held in the old meeting-house, Rev. Eli W. Harrington began a successful ministry. He was ordained April 26, 1837, and dismissed, at his request, April 8, 1847. He was born in New Braintree, November 28, 1804, and was a son of Nathaniel and Nancy (Townsend) Harrington; graduated Amherst College, 1833; Andover Theological Seminary, 1836. Subsequently he preached in Mason, N. H., Rochester, N. Y., and in Beverly, Mass. He now resides in Pepperell, Mass. The next pastor was Rev. Asaph Boutelle, who was installed in the spring of 1848, and remained three years. He was a son of Asaph and Anna (Stearns) Boutelle, of Fitchburg, where he was born October 7, 1804; graduated Amherst College, 1828; Andover Theological Seminary, 1831. Previous to his faithful ministry here he had preached in Ohio sixteen years, and subsequently he was fifteen years pastor of the church in Peacham, Vt., where he died January 12, 1866.

Mr. Boutelle was succeeded by Rev. Edwin R. Hodgman, who was installed February 8, 1852. On account of failing health he asked a dismissal, which was approved by a council, March 26, 1855. He is a son of Buckley and Betsey (Pratt) Hodgman, born in Camden, Me., October 21, 1819; partial course at Amherst and a graduate of Dartmouth College, 1843; Andover Theological Seminary, 1844. His next pastorate was in Lynnfield and later in Westford and Townsend. He is the author of a "History of Westford."

Rev. William A. Mandell was installed January 2, 1856. In an eminent degree he enjoyed the merited esteem of the parish and of the town. He was dismissed at his request November 16, 1865, and supplied the pulpit until the close of the year. He is a son of Daniel and Eliza (Patrick) Mandell and was born in Hardwick, July 13, 1811; graduate Amherst College, 1838; Union Theological Seminary, 1841. He was city missionary in Philadelphia, Pa., and pastor at Dartmouth, Mass., from 1846 until he removed to this town. Since 1868 he has resided without charge at North Cambridge. Succeeding Mr. Mandell, the desk was supplied by Rev. Alfred Goldsmith and others about four years. Rev. William H. Dowden was installed February 2, 1870, and was dismissed February 22, 1875. He is a son of Thomas and Eunice (Simons) Dowden and was born in Fairhaven, January 15, 1836; graduate Andover Theological Seminary, 1866. His earlier pastorates were in Pelham and Carlisle and later he has supplied at East Jaffrey, N. H., and Rowley. Mr. Dowden was succeeded by Rev. Walter Rice, who was installed in May, 1875, and remained about five years. He is a son of Silas and Almira (Corey) Rice, born in Ashburnham, December 25, 1836; graduate Beloit College, 1862; Newton Theological Seminary, 1865; Andover Theological Seminary, special course, 1874. He has been a successful pastor in Brandon, Vt., since

May, 1880. The past eight years has been an era of temporary supply.

Methodist preachers have been stationed here, and a society has been maintained since 1803. The first preacher was Rev. Joshua Crowell, who was followed by the Revs. Thomas Rawling, Hezekiah Field, William Stevens, John Tinkham, Benjamin S. Hill, and to the present time about seventy-five names in all. The school-house in which the service was held several years failed to accommodate the increasing congregation. In 1813, and during the ministry of Rev. Barzillai Peirce, a native of this town, a meeting-house was built upon a frame of a building presented by Jonathan Peirce. It was situated on the old Northfield road, and beyond the North Cemetery. Previously the building had been used for the storage of bark, and after it had been dedicated to a more sacred use it was called by the profane the "Lord's Bark-house." Under the provisions of recent law a society was organized in 1825. In 1829 the present house was built on land purchased of Daniel Putnam, Esq. It is recorded by George A. Cunningham, Esq., that the frame was raised sixteen days after the first tree was felled in the forest. It was dedicated May 1, 1830. In 1870 it was thoroughly repaired. There were seasons of unusual religious interest—in 1821, when a camp-meeting was held here; in 1857, under the ministry of Rev. John Goodwin; and in 1871, under the ministry of Rev. J. F. Bassett. With hope and with courage this society has been continuously maintained, and sometimes under embarrassments that have overcome more populous organizations. In 1842 Josiah Litch, a native of this town, delivered a series of discourses announcing the second advent of Christ, and Rev. Samuel Heath, the Methodist minister, embraced the faith. From the pulpit, with the ardor of a new convert, he began to preach the doctrines of Millerism. Many of the congregation became affected, and while he remained the steadfast attended church elsewhere. The world, however, was preserved, and with it the church in Lunenburg, but it was a season of trial and anxiety to many. William Harlow, in early life a sea-captain, and later a zealous steward of the church, in reference to these events has written: "The Millerite seceders from the Methodist Church in Lunenburg, after having worked themselves up to such a pitch as to believe they could not be saved while they remained on board the old ship 'Zion,' and thinking her unseaworthy, jumped overboard at the risk of their spiritual lives, and desired to have their names erased from the shipping papers, but notwithstanding their fears, and the storms of fanaticism, the old ship has weathered them all and has since landed many souls in the broad bay of Heaven, and has a full freight of others bound to the same place."

Schools were established in this town at an early date. From December 11, 1732, when it was "voted that Col. Josiah Willard, Capt. Edward Hartwell and Mr. Benjamin Goodridge be a Com^tte to Provide a School and School-Master for to teach children and youth to read and write," down to the last annual appropriation of $1850 for school purposes, the education of the youth of the town has been a subject of earnest legislation. In general features, the recorded history is like that of other places and presents no feature not common to the records of a New England town. In March, 1733, Nathan Heywood, Benjamin Goodridge, Hilkiah Boynton and Josiah Willard, Jr., were granted seven pounds and one shilling "for keeping of school in said town." There is a tradition that Mr. Gardner, the early minister, was the first school-master. It may be the truth, but his name does not appear in the records as a school-teacher until the following vote, December 31, 1733: "Voted and chose Mr. Andrew Gardner to be y^e School-Master to Keep y^e School y^e Term of Three months, and voted that y^e School shall be Kept at y^e House of Mr. Gardner." The following year it was ordered that three schools be held at the houses of Lieut. James Colburn (near Clark Hill), Jonathan Willard (a short distance southerly from the centre) and Edward Hartwell, on Lancaster Road (about three and one-half miles from the centre), and for this purpose forty pounds was appropriated. In 1735 the selectmen were instructed to provide a school "according to the best manner for the town's safety and interest," and the following year they were instructed "to hire school-dames as they shall see meet." A vote in 1739 directed that one school be kept either in the house of Mr. Dowse, or of John Jennison (at the centre), and another at the old house of Ephraim Peirce. The house of Mr. Peirce was nearly two miles south or southeasterly from the centre of the town. When the first school-house was built is not revealed. In 1740 the town voted to build "two school-houses," but beyond this expression of a good resolution nothing was accomplished; but soon after there was a vote to build one school-house, to be located near the meeting-house. It was built without delay, and probably in 1741. In 1783 five school-houses were built, and in the progress of years the number has been increased to nine. Nearly fifty years ago an academy was sustained several years. The building was erected by Daniel Putnam, Nathaniel F. Cunningham, Thomas Wiley and Dr. Otis Abercrombie. John R. Rollins was the first and a very successful principal, and while a resident of this town was the town clerk several years. He was succeeded by Rev. Jacob Caldwell, a native of this town, William H. Boynton, James J. H. Gregory, now of Marblehead; Charles A. Goodrich, an esteemed citizen of this town, and George E. Dunlap. In 1866 the academy building was sold and removed to Fitchburg. The town has a valuable public library, and one of its institutions is its Farmers' Club, which was organized in 1848.

Several meritorious sketches and well-matured pa-

pers relating to the early history of Lunenburg have been printed. Upon the open records, easily accessible, a constant draft has been made by previous explorers. The quaint and curious and many striking incidents in the records are familiar to the local reader, and are not here repeated. In the preparation of this sketch the writer has been crowded out of the accustomed paths of research, and has found the ordinary fountains drained by earlier and vigilant gleaners of material. And while dates and certain facts of necessity have been drawn from the original and worn records, very much of the material incorporated into the narrative of the early grants—of the proceedings of the proprietors, of the military record of the past century and many incidents connected or explanatory—have been drawn from the State archives and from records which have escaped earlier notice. Many facts in the earlier history of the town are here printed for the first time. From an historical standpoint, Lunenburg, the mother of towns and the ancestral home of many families, occupies an important position among the older towns of Northern Massachusetts. For many years with the line of defense on the outer side, Lunenburg was on the border between the settlements and the wilderness. Many, pursued by the mania of immigration, were often temporarily delayed upon the borders within this town, and a few years later, when the younger and outer settlements for a season were abandoned, the fugitives from danger found safety and a temporary home within the defences of this town. By frequent intermarriage, these sojourning strangers became allied to Lunenburg families, and at their departure, were often attended by many to the manner born. And, in addition to this accidental overflow from the town and during the burning fever of immigration that warmed the blood of the older towns, and which was only briefly allayed by the French and Indian War, there was a swelling tide of immigration from Lunenburg to the growing settlements in New Hampshire and elsewhere. In such numbers and in such types of sturdy men did the living current flow, that Winchester, Walpole and, in less degree, Charlestown, in New Hampshire, were New Lunenburgs on the border of the receding wilderness. In these vigorous movements the blood of the mother-town was widely disseminated. Two-thirds of the early population of Rindge were descendants of the early families of Lunenburg. It is impossible to find a town within an extended radius or to name a State in the Union that does not contain many who trace their ancestry through the records of Lunenburg. For the pleasure and benefit of the multitude, the genealogical records of the parent-families have not been published. Continuous inquiries by interested persons have been kindly answered by obliging town clerks until the original records were defaced and restored by new copies. In a comprehensive study and arrangement of the genealogical records of the Lunenburg families, George A. Cunningham, Esq., was laboriously engaged many years. In its scope, completeness and accuracy, his manuscript copy is not excelled by any published work of a similar character. The vigor of an intelligent mind and the earnest labor of a life-time were exhausted in this treasury of genealogical knowledge. Mr. Cunningham also completed a manuscript history of the town. It is a voluminous supplement to the Torrey sketch, and quotes that work for the early history of the town. The supplement is brought down to the time when death stilled his tireless pen. The names of the soldiers in the War of Rebellion, enumerated in this paper, are drawn from his work. To Mr. William E. Cunningham, through whose generous favor these valuable manuscripts have been consulted, I extend a grateful acknowledgment.

CHAPTER XCIX.

SHREWSBURY.

BY WILLIAM T. HARLOW.

EARLY LAND GRANTS.

THE history of Shrewsbury properly begins with certain land grants of the Great and General Court of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England, located within the territory of which the town was afterwards formed. These grants, called farms, named after the grantees and five in number, were: (1) Davenport's Farm, 650 acres; (2) Haynes' Farm, otherwise called Quinsigamond Farm, 3200 acres; (3) Malden Farm, 1000 acres; (4) Rawson's Farm, 500 acres, and (5) Sewall's Farm, 1500 acres. But the quantity of land in these grants was, in fact, greatly in excess of the number of acres named, and the aggregate was, doubtless, more than 10,000 acres,

1. The Davenport Farm, granted to Captain Richard Davenport, commander of Castle Island, in Boston Harbor, in consideration of public services, was laid out to him in the valley of the Nashua River, in that part of Shrewsbury now West Boylston and Boylston, and included very valuable mill-sites, as well as the finest parcel of intervale land lying in a body to be found in Massachusetts east of Connecticut River. Its final confirmation to the grantee was May 28, 1659.[1] Capt. Davenport came to Salem with Gov. Endicott in 1628, and after many years of public service was killed by lightning ("tooke away by ye solemne strooke of Thunder"), while sleeping by his magazine, with only the wainscot between him and the powder. His son Richard, with his two sons, William and Nathaniel, came to Shrewsbury about 1736 and settled upon this grant.[2]

[1] Colony Records IV., Part I, 314 and 372.

[2] For rude plans, see Worcester Reg. Deeds, B. 3, p. 95.

2. The grantees of the Haynes' Farm, who did not themselves give their own name to their grant, but called it by the more euphonious title given by the Indians to "ye Greate Pond that lyeth West Pointe to ye sd farm," were the brothers John and Josiah Haynes, of Sudbury, and their brother-in-law, Nathaniel Treadway, of Watertown. The Haynes brothers, with their sisters, Sufferance and Mary, were the children of Walter Haynes, a Wiltshire linen-weaver, who, with his wife Elizabeth and children, all under sixteen years, came in the good ship "Confidence" from England in 1638, and settled in Sudbury. This grant was originally made to Isaac Johnson in consideration of "£400 adventured by the said Mr. Johnson in the comon stock of The Governor and company of ye Massachusetts Bay in New England," which, to begin with, was little else but an incorporated trading company founded on the East India plan. Johnson dying, this grant, as yet unlocated and accounted personal estate, came into the possession of his executor, Increase Nowell. Johnson and Nowell were both original patentees of the colony charter of 1628 and had part with Winthrop in importing it to New England. Nowell also dying before location of the grant, his executor sold it to John Haynes and his brother Josiah and their brothers-in-law—Nathaniel Treadway, who married their sister Sufferance and Thomas Noyes, who married their other sister, Mary. It was finally laid out to the Haynes brothers and Treadway (Noyes having died), and confirmed by the General Court May 27, 1664.[1] The southwest corner of Haynes' Farm was at the going out of the Nipnapp River from the southernmost end of Quinsigamond Ponds, and both the islands there belonged to the farm and so to the town of Shrewsbury to this day. Another corner was where the town bound between Northborough and Shrewsbury now stands, by the Great Road near the house of Mr. William U. Maynard. The northwest and southeast corners of the grant cannot be fixed with exactness, but cannot have been very remote from where the two school-houses, Nos. 3 and 5, now stand. The northern boundary curved northward and crossed the Boylston road near where Mr. Lowell Walker now lives, and thence passed on to the Northborough line. I have been thus particular to trace the origin and show the location of the Haynes Farm, because it was much the largest of the five grants, because it was the owners of this large tract of land that formed the nucleus of the Marlborough colony that settled Shrewsbury, and because the facts are not well known.

3. One hundred of the one thousand acres of Malden Farm were in Worcester. Its southern boundary line was three hundred and seventy rods long, and the southernmost point of West Boylston was the centre of this line, and the line running northerly for about two miles from this point, between the two towns of Boylston and West Boylston, divided this farm into two equal parts. Its northwest corner is said in the lay-out to be about a mile distant from the Davenport Farm. The original grant to the town of Malden, made May 9, 1662, was on condition that "ye ministry of Maulden do cause it to be bounded out and put on improvement within three years next ensewing." The location of the grant by metes and bounds was duly made and confirmed within the time prescribed, May 3, 1665, but the only improvements made were marking forest trees, at the corners, with the letter M.[2] On this ground, want of improvements within three years, the validity of the grant was disputed by the proprietors of Shrewsbury, and their records contain frequent references to this grant as the "pretended Malden Farm." In 1736 Rev. Joseph Emerson, of Malden, and minister of God's Word there, brought suit in the Worcester Common Pleas against Ephraim Wheeler and David Crosby, of Shrewsbury, for possession of the nine hundred acres of this grant which lay in Shrewsbury. This suit was defended by the proprietors, by whose direction Wheeler and Crosby had taken possession of the land, and Nahum Ward, one of the proprietors, acted as their counsel in the suit. On trial in the Common Pleas the verdict and judgment were for the defendants, but Mr. Emerson appealed and prevailed in the Superior Court, final judgment for the plaintiff, October Term, 1736. But the proprietors were not content, and the next year Mr. Ward was sent to the Great and General Court to re-open the question determined in the suit, and for four years Mr. Ward continued to press petitions for a new trial and for re-location of the grant, in vain. Malden Hill and Malden Brook were both named from this grant, though neither hill nor brook is in it. From uncertainty about the location of the grant, it may have been supposed or claimed that its location was so as to include the brook and hill.

4. Secretary Edward Rawson received from time to time grants of several parcels of land to eke out his pitiful salary, and among the rest a rectangle of five hundred acres lying between Marlboro', Lancaster and Worcester, about half a mile north of Haynes' Farm, and Deacon John Haynes located it for him. It was one mile (three hundred and twenty rods) long by two hundred and fifty rods wide. Rawson's Hill, called in the grant by its Indian name of Ashant's Hill, was in it and Cold Harbor Brook ran through it. Some years before this grant to him the secretary had spent some money to no profit in experiments with saltpetre or something he thought was saltpetre, and the General Court, to encourage such patriotic experimenting and compensate him for his losses thereabout, granted him five hundred acres of land "near Pequot,"

[1] Colony Records III. 189 and 435; IV., Part I. 295; IV., Part II. 7 and 8 and 111. See plan in Secretary's office, vol. —, Maps and Plans.

[2] Col. Rec. IV. Pt. II. 45 and 148.

but afterwards gave him thirty pounds instead of the land. As no consideration is expressly named in the grant which was located in Shrewsbury, and the quantity is the same, it is probable that this grant was a renewal of the other, modified so that it might be "layd out in any free place not prejudicing a plantation." The lay-out and confirmation of this grant was May 13, 1686.[1]

5. Sewall's Farm lay on the westerly side of Shrewsbury, with a narrow strip between it and Worcester line. Its south boundary line was a little south of the Great Road, its southwest corner near the head Quinsigamond Pond. Its given dimensions were seven hundred and eighty rods long, south to north, and three hundred and forty rods wide, east to west, or not quite two miles and one-half long by a little more than a mile wide—extending from its south line, before mentioned, beyond and including Grass Pond, (once so-called, but for three generations last past known as Sewall's Pond), in Boylston. It was bounded for a considerable distance on its west side by Malden Farm, and also for a less distance on the east by Haynes' Farm, and so connected the two. It had on it two mill-sites,—one a little below Sewall's Pond, where Banister's Mills were built, and the other, now unoccupied, but much the better water-power of the two, near the house of Mr. Frederick E. Abbott, where once stood Harlow's Mills, burned nearly forty years ago. Sewall's Hill, as well as Sewall's Pond, is within the farm limits, and both took their name from the grantee, Samuel Sewall, chief justice of the old Superior Court of Judicature, one of the judges who tried the Salem witches and the only one of them that is known to have repented thereof; author of Sewall's Diary, etc.

The south part of Sewall's Farm—one thousand acres—was laid out and confirmed November 20, 1695, to James Russell, sometime colony treasurer, to whom the grant (originally made to Deputy-Governor Francis Willoughby, in consideration of public service) came, unlocated, by descent from his father, Richard Russell, also sometime colony treasurer, who had bought it of the Deputy-Governor. Chief Justice Sewall's title to this part of his farm in Shrewsbury was by purchase of Treasurer James Russell. His title to the north part—five hundred acres—was in right of his wife, who was the only daughter of Mintmaster John Hull, who "by minting made a mint of money" for himself, as well as for the colony, and became the richest man of New England. Hannah Hull married Samuel Sewall long before he was chief justice, or hung the witches, or had made much progress in his famous diary, or was famous for anything, and brought her husband a marriage-portion of £30,000, all duly counted out to him on the wedding-day in "pine-tree" shillings, fresh from her father's mint.[2] This grant, which had come to Madam Hannah Hull Sewall through her father, in some way that I have not yet been able to trace, was confirmed to her and her husband, May 27, 1696. A rude plan of Sewall's Farm may be seen in the Worcester Registry of Deeds,[3] with a deed, dated June 1, 1732, of a moiety thereof from William Pepperell, of Kittery, *et ux. et als.* to Nahum Ward, of Shrewsbury. This was thirteen years before the famed exploit of Louisbourg, and the thrifty trader of Kittery was then only a hero *in posse*, and tenant, in common with others, of fifteen hundred acres of real estate in Shrewsbury, in right of his wife, who was Mary Hurst, and one of Chief Justice Sewall's three granddaughters, and so coparcener of the real estate aforesaid. This plan was made, as appears from the deed, from a survey made in November, 1714, by David Haynes, youngest son of Deacon John, of Sudbury, and one may read in the Sewall Diary the following entry, under date "1714, 8^{r} 6. Mr. David Hayns dines with us. . . . Gave him the Bounds of Quanssicamon Farms, that he may review and refresh them."

Whereby one may note that the Indians' name for Long Pond (whatever may be the Indians' spelling of it) was once applied to Sewall's Farm, as well as to Haynes'. Probably it was to distinguish the two that at a later period they were called after their respective grantees.[4]

[1] Col. Rec. V. 415, 418; III. 278.

CHAPTER C.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

THE MARLBOROUGH MEN AND WHEN SOME OF THEM SETTLED.

It will aid to a better understanding both of what precedes and what is to follow to give a brief account of the road through Shrewsbury anciently called the Connecticut Road,—in later times the Country Road, the Stage Road, Post Road and Great Road. The original road from Massachusetts Bay to the Con-

[2] So Hutchinson i. 165, to which tradition adds that the bride, being set in the scales, exactly balanced the silver pine-trees. Merely suggesting to the reader that a pine-tree shilling's prescribed weight was three pennyweights, Troy, I leave him to compute "exactly" what was Mrs. Sewall's weight on her wedding-day.

[3] Book 3, page 91.

[4] Since the above was in the hands of the publishers, I have discovered, under date of June 20, 1715, another grant of sixteen hundred and eighty-three acres to the heirs of John Haynes, lying in the southerly part of Shrewsbury and adjoining "Haynes' Old Farm" on the south side. This is what is called in the Proprietors' Records "Robbins' Farm," so named from Joseph Robbins, a "Praying Indian" of Hassanimisco, whose title Deacon Haynes in his life-time had bought, of which title this grant was a confirmation. See Court Records, 1715, and Maps and Plans, Vol. 5, page 3, Secretary of State's office. See also a plan of the original grant to the Shrewsbury Proprietors, vol. 16, page 518, on which this grant, under the name of "Haynes' Indian Farm," is laid down.

necticut River did not pass through Shrewsbury at all, but to the south of it. It was merely the old trail of the Indians. The new Connecticut Road was laid out by Major John Pynchon, whose father William had founded a town at either end of it.[1] The "worshipful" major's authority was an order of the General Court, under date March 30, 1683, in these words:

"WHEREAS the way to Kornecticut, now used, being very hazardous to travelers by reason of one deepe river that is passed fower or five times over, which may be avoided, it is referred t› Major Pynchon to order ye said way to be layd out & well marked. He having hyred two injins to gu de him in the way for fifty shillings, it is ordered that the Treasurer pay them the same in country pay towards effecting this worke."[2]

The principal change of the old way consisted in passing north instead of south of Quinsigamond Pond, and so through Shrewsbury. Departing from the old way, it passed northerly of Little Chauncey Pond in Northborough into Shrewsbury exactly where the Great Road enters the town to-day, and thence through the town to the head of Quinsigamond Pond, on substantially the same line as the present road. But in 1726 it was re-located by a jury sent out by the Middlesex Court of Sessions, whose accepted return, so far as relates to the re-location in Shrewsbury, is as follows (what immediately precedes relates to the way in Worcester): "And thence in Shrewsbury, keeping the old way, crossing the Brook, running into Long Pond, and so keeping the old way south of Gershom Wheelock's house, and between the house and barn of Daniel How, & so still keeping the old road till it comes out of the woodland east of said How's, on the edge of the Great Rocky Plain, and so keeping very nigh a straight line a little south of Mr. Cushing's house, on the east side of the aforesaid Plain, and then in the old way till it come to Capt. Keyes' fenced land, and so crossing a small corner of said Keyes' fenced ground, and then in the old way running between said Keyes' house and barn, and so keeping the old road south of Widow Blair's, and so to the Westborough[3] line in the old road, passing between Daniel Barnes' house and barn," etc.

That is to say, the re-located road crossed the town line in exactly the same place where the old road crossed it, nor has there been any change had, either in the road or the town line from that time (1726) to this day, and the town bound by the road here stands precisely where it was established in 1717 by the viewing committee's report "at a heap of stones, called Warner's Corner, which is the most easterly corner of Haynes' Farm by the Country Road." Daniel Barnes occupied the sixteenth house-lot of the proprietors' records, "bounded easterly by the town line, northerly by Haines' old Farm . . . and" (the lot) "lyeth where Mr. Warner formerly improved." This is the place where Mr. William U. Maynard now lives, and is without doubt the earliest place in Shrewsbury occupied by a white man.[4]

Whoever Mr. Warner may have been, and whatever may have become of him, certain it is that he had no title to the land "where he formerly improved." His corner makes a very noticeable and unexplained jog into the boundaries of Haynes' Farm laid out in 1664, and he was probably some daring pioneer who was either driven out or perished during King Philip's War. Widow Mary Blair, mentioned also in the relocation of 1726, lived with her children on the place where Mr. Samuel Johnson now lives. It was house-lot No. 12, "situated near where Warner formerly improved, bounded northerly on Haines' old Farm, easterly by the 16th House-Lot," etc. The widow's husband, William Blair, died shortly after coming to Shrewsbury, and the Barnes and Blair families both certainly here in 1726, not long afterwards returned to Marlborough.

The germ of the movement for settlement of Shrewsbury is described in a deed of partition[5] of Haynes' Farm, dated April, 1717, which, after reciting the "orderly" meeting of the owners, twenty-three in number, heirs and purchasers of the rights of Deacon John Haynes, Lieutenant Josiah Haynes and Mr. Nathaniel Treadway, all deceased, the appointment of a committee to go with John Brigham, surveyor, and divide the farm into three parcels ready to draw lots, and a second meeting of said owners December 10, 1716, at David How's house in Sudbury, then sets out the committee's report that they had divided the farm by east and west lines into three parts or squadrons—whereupon, lots being drawn, the North Squadron fell to the heirs and purchasers of the right of Deacon John Haynes, the South Squadron to the heirs of Lieutenant Joshua Haynes and the Middle Squadron to the heirs and purchasers of the right of Mr. Nathaniel Treadway. Of the twenty-three signers of this deed, the following or their children settled in Shrewsbury: John Keyes, Joseph Noyes, Moses Newton, Daniel How, Elias Keyes, Samuel Wheelock, Thomas Hapgood, Edward Goddard and William Taylor.

Samuel Wheelock's son Gershom is reputed to have been the first permanent settler of Shrewsbury, and the place where he settled was on the share of his father in Haynes' Farm—on the north side of the Great Road, between where Mr. Levi Prentice and Mr. William Fitzgerald now live. Tradition represents

[1] Roxbury and Springfield.

[2] Colony Records, V. 394.

[3] Now Northborough.

[4] Distinguished also by a recent archæological find of much interest. Ditching in his meadow in 1884 Mr. Maynard came upon the fossil molars of a mastodon, and the next year, in the margin of the ditch, which it was known was to be explored by the amateurs of the Worcester Natural History Society was found a human skull, doubtless the plant of a practical joker, of which not only the amateurs, but a learned professor of Harvard became eager victims.

[5] "Cambridge Registry," Book 29, page 44.

him as sleeping aloft in his cabin during the winter nights of 1716–17, and drawing up his ladder after him, "whistled an air did he," doubtless to keep up his courage. How long he continued to live there I have not ascertained, but certain it is that he was still there in 1726, as appears from the re-location of the Great Road at that time. In 1720 his father gave him a deed of this lot, and February 10, 1729, house-lot No. 26, which "lyeth near the west bounds of Hains' old Farm," was in possession of Samuel Wheelock.[1] Gershom Wheelock, the first settler, who had both a son and a grandson of the same name, was commonly called in his life-time Captain Wheelock, from his militia rank, and his father was called the deacon from his office in the church, of which he was one of the founders. Deacon Wheelock was a member of the first Board of Selectmen and a very active man in church and town affairs for many years.

Mr. Cushing, mentioned in the re-location, is Rev. Job Cushing, who and whose place of abode will be further noticed later.

John Keyes, whose house, barn and fenced land is referred to in the re-location of 1726, son of Elias Keyes, of Sudbury, and grandson of Robert Keyes, of Watertown, who came from England in 1633, had his share of Haynes' Farm assigned to him on the south side of the Great Road, nearly opposite where the currier's shop stands in the Lower Village. In 1723 he built a new house a few rods east of the rude and primitive cabin that he first lived in, but before it was finished both houses were burnt in the night and Mr. Keyes' three sons and two apprentices of Ebenezer Bragg, the carpenter, who was building the new house, perished in the flames. Mr. Bragg, also sleeping in the same house, barely escaped. The old house was also burned, but the inmates, Mr. Keyes and wife and four daughters, were awakened by Mr. Bragg just in time to flee out of it.

John Keyes held commissions as captain and major in the militia, and is traditionally known as the famous Major John Keyes. He is not to be confounded with Deacon John, his cousin, who settled in the North Parish. In 1726 he evidently had built another house, as the relocated Great Road passed between it and his barn. A very active and energetic man, member of the first and many subsequent Boards of Selectmen. He bought a moiety of Sewall's Farm, and thus became tenant in common with Nahum Ward, who was his uncle, of that large tract of land.

Elias Keyes, who was the cousin of famous Major John, had his share of the farm assigned him near his cousin's, but, in 1741, with his family, joined another colony that swarmed out of the Marlborough hive and followed the star of empire on its westward way to New Marlborough, in far-off Berkshire. The surname of Keyes is now extinct in Shrewsbury. But the Flaggs, of Boylston, are descendants of famous Major John, by his daughter Hannah, who married Gershom Flagg.

Daniel Noyes, of Sudbury, who settled on the South Squadron of Haynes' Farm, was descended both from Ensign Thomas Noyes and Lieutenant John Haynes. He was the son of Joseph, who signed the partition deed. His grandfather, also named Joseph, was the son of Ensign Thomas, and his grandmother was Ruth Haynes, daughter of Lieutenant Joshua.

Neither of the Newtons, Moses nor Thomas, settled in Shrewsbury. They sold their shares in Haynes' Farm to Nahum Ward, who was their cousin, but their children came to Shrewsbury at an early day and settled here. Elisha Newton, son of Moses, was grandfather of the late Calvin Newton, of this town, and settled on the place, part of Sewall's Farm, where Peter Gamache now lives, where also Mr. Newton (Calvin), whose three sons, still living in this town, were all born there, lived and died. Elisha Newton's brother, Aaron, also settled in the North Parish (Boylston), and so also did Thomas Newton, son of Thomas, who signed the partition deed.

Nahum Ward, who bought the Newtons' share of Haynes' Farm, though not one of the twenty-three owners in 1717, was one of the first comers here and his purchase, a large tract, lay on the south side of the road opposite the Common, extending thence both easterly and westerly. His great-grandson, author of a history of Shrewsbury, supposes he was here before 1718, and living near the Jonas Stone house (now owned by Mr. Frederick Stone, of Boston), but William Taylor at that time owned the land where that house stands, and Mr. Ward owned no land nearer than the south side of the Great Road. Mr. Ward was colonel of a militia regiment in the Provincial Line, and chairman of the first and member of many subsequent Boards of Selectmen; many times representative to the General Court, and a justice of the Worcester County Court of Common Pleas, 1745–62. He was admitted to the Worcester bar in 1731, but I have not found a case of his acting as counsel except in the Malden suit elsewhere mentioned. He was father of General Artemas Ward and ancestor of all who ever bore the Ward name in Shrewsbury. William Ward, who came from York, England, to Sudbury, about 1640, was his grandfather. The Newtons, of Shrewsbury, also are descended from William Ward.

Daniel How settled on the North Squadron, and kept a tavern on the Great Road, where the Shrews-

[1] Ward, pp. 20 and 266–268, and see the deacon's deed of 1720 to his son in "Worcester Registry," Book 23, page 214. Mr. Ward is very wide of the fact in supposing this deed to relate to house-lot No. 26 of the proprietors' records, and in supposing this lot (26) to be the place where Erastus Wheelock, great-great-grandson of the first deacon, now lives.

bury Poor-House formerly stood, on land now belonging to Mr. George H. Harlow. He was son of Josiah How, of Marlborough, and grandson of John How, who came from England and settled in Sudbury in 1638, or earlier, and on his mother's side he was grandson of Deacon John Haynes, one of the original grantees of Haynes' Farm. His mother, whose maiden-name was Mary Haynes, was in 1713 owner of a share of the "farm at Quinsigamond," and under the name and addition of Mary Prescott, of Lancaster, conveyed it to "her true and well beloved son, David How, of Marlborough." The North Squadron, by lot, as we have seen, fell to the heirs and purchasers of the right of Deacon John. In explanation of his mother's name and addition, it should be added that her first husband, Josiah How, Daniel's father, dying young, she afterwards married John Prescott, of Lancaster, son of the famous blacksmith, miller and Indian fighter, who was the first settler and founder of the first town in the county of Worcester. Daniel How was the first town treasurer, and held the office several years, and he was many years a member of the selectmen, and let the reader note the re-location, in 1726, of the Great Road between his house and barn as showing where he lived and kept tavern, and also where the road then was. From his militia office he usually went by the name of Captain How.

Thomas Hapgood was great grandson of Nathaniel Treadway, one of the original grantees of Haynes' Farm, to whose heirs fell the Middle Squadron, and he settled in Shrewsbury and built his house near where Mr. Albert Clapp now lives, and Mr. Clapp's farm is part of Thomas Hapgood's share of the Middle Squadron. He was son of Thomas Hapgood, of Marlborough, who lived to see his great-great-grandchildren, and had three hundred and thirteen descendants living at his death, and his (the said Thomas, of Shrewsbury) grandfather was Shadrach Hapgood, of Sudbury, who married Treadway's daughter Elizabeth, and was killed in the Indian fight at Brookfield, in 1675. Thomas Hapgood's name is twice signed to the partition deed with a cross —once for himself and again as attorney for another. He was a militia captain, and commonly called Captain Hapgood, town treasurer ten years and often a selectman. His three sisters, Mary,[1] Elizabeth and Hepzibah, who were, of course, of the same descent with him, married and settled in Shrewsbury.

Edward Goddard, who married the said Hepzibah Hapgood, was born in Watertown, where his father and grandfather—both also named Edward—lived, and where the latter, who married Elizabeth Miles and came with her from England about 1650, first settled. He settled in the North Squadron, on the place which Edward Howe now owns, and built the house in which Mr. Howe still lives, and which, under its modernized exterior, I suppose, retains the frame of the oldest house in Shrewsbury. The Goddard farm extended to and was bounded on the northernmost boundary line of Haynes' Farm. Mr. Goddard, who is distinguished from most of the other new-comers to Shrewsbury by having no military title, was an active man in church and town, held the office of selectman and other town officers, and was a man of considerable means.

William Taylor, who married Captain Hapgood's other sister, Elizabeth, was also a man of considerable means for his day, but did not wholly escape, like his brother-in-law, militia honors. His name in town and church-records, I believe, has the uniform prefix of sergeant. He settled on a lot of the North Squadron, adjoining Goddard's, being the place where Mr. Charles A. Holman now lives, and where the late Amasa Howe, great-grandson of Taylor, lived; where lived also Amasa's father, Nathan, and his grandfather, also named Nathan, who was son of Captain Daniel How, and married Sergeant Taylor's daughter, Hepzibah. The house which William Taylor built was taken down by Amasa Howe in 1849. The Taylor farm or share which he had in the North Squadron extended south to the Great Road, and included the site of the house in which his great-great-grandson, Thomas Harlow, now lives, and all the other land to and including the Common and the site of the Sumner house. The Great Road was substantially on the line between the North and Middle Squadrons, and this was Taylor's south line. The name Taylor as a surname died in Shrewsbury with the first comer, but his descendants, by six daughters, are very numerous. His father and grandfather both lived in Marlborough, and were both named William Taylor. He was many years a selectman of Shrewsbury.

[1] Mary Hapgood was the first wife of John Wheeler.

CHAPTER CI.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

GRANT OF TOWNSHIP—LAY-OUT OF LOTS—INCORPORATION—ORIGIN OF THE NAME OF THE TOWN.

In colony and provincial records and early deeds recorded at Cambridge and Worcester one meets frequent reference to a tract of land, larger than any existing town of this Commonwealth, as "lying between Marlborough, Worcester and Lancaster," or "joyning ye west side of Marlborough town bounds," or "lying east pointe to Quonsigamon Ponds," or as "Quonsiccamon Farms," or a "meete place for a plantation near Quansiggamog," the Indian name in our times uniformly written Quinsigamond, one to two hundred years ago, being differently spelt almost every time it was written, and being applied to the vicinity of Long Pond as well as to the pond itself—much oftener, too, as it were quite easy to show, to the

east side, notwithstanding the complacent appropriation of it by our neighbors of Worcester, than to the west side of the pond. The question why formation of this large tract of land into a town was delayed till after all the other territory in the vicinity was formed into towns has been often asked, but the answer is not far to seek, and in truth has been already given. The choicest portions of it had been already granted, and in the language of the report of a viewing committee sent out to find a meet place for a plantation at Quinsigamond, it had been "spoiled by the granting of farms."

After the death of the original grantees of the Haynes' Farm, several of their heirs sold their rights or shares therein, and in 1716 the owners of it, twenty-three in number, living mostly in Marlborough, but some of them in Sudbury and other towns, with a view to division and settlement of their three thousand two hundred acres at Quinsigamond, caused it to be surveyed and divided up. Their surveyor was John Brigham, of Marlborough, who was the grantee of a large "farm" in the West Parish of that town, and was at that very time pushing a scheme for setting off that parish as a new town, to be called Westborough, and the owners of the Haynes' Farm employed Mr. Brigham to draw up and present to the General Court a petition for the grant of the whole of the large tract between Marlborough and Worcester as a township. This petition, which was signed by John Brigham himself and thirty others, is said to have been lost, and it is not known who all of the petitioners were nor exactly what they asked for, but it was referred, together with another petition of which also John Brigham was the first signer, for incorporation of his new town of Westborough, to the same viewing committee, who reported favorably on both petitions. But it is easy to see that Mr. Brigham and his committee, of which John Chandler, of Woodstock, was chairman, and to which the reference of both these petitions was of course no accident, were looking mainly to the interest of the new town and less to those of the new township. A good slice from the latter—to wit, a strip between the former boundary of Marlborough and Haynes' Farm—was added to the former by the committee, who thought that the petitioners for the township were competent members and likely to make a speedy settlement, and that the slice proposed to be taken would not so disadvantage the township but that it might make a good town—that is to say, if the owners of all the five farms at Quinsigamond would make common cause with the petitioners, there would be plenty of land left after parting with the slice in question.

November 2, 1717, the General Court accepted the committee's report and "ordered that the tract of land protracted and described, together with the farms heretofore granted to particular persons contained in the plot, be made a township, excepting" the slice referred to, and appointed a committee to lay out the whole of said lands (except the lands before granted) to persons most likely to advance settlement of the place, who were to pay not exceeding twelve pence per acre to the use of the Province and the committee's charge for laying out.

The committee, of which Jonathan Remington was chairman, laid out forty-five lots of about seventy acres each, with a fifty-acre right to each, by which I understand a right in the settler to have fifty acres more in the undivided lands, and also laid out for each lot about six acres of valuable meadow often quite remote from the lot. The "valuable meadow" was swamp land, and is at the present day less highly valued than it once was. And the proprietors, March 28, 1722, granted "the committy to settle the town" fifteen hundred acres for laying out the lots. The Committee's Farm, so-called, was a parcel of good land in the northwest corner of the township, called the Leg, on the Stillwater River, now a part of Sterling. Many persons have been misled by Ward's "History of Shrewsbury" into supposing that it was upon the lots laid out by the Remington committee that all the first-comers to Shrewsbury settled, and such appears to have been the belief of Mr. Ward himself. The number of the proprietors in 1718, as appears from the apportionment of a tax, was forty-five, and a lot was laid out for each one, and a few of the men to whom lots were assigned no doubt settled upon them personally. But it was upon the Haynes' Farm, which covered all the land on both sides of the Great road, extending southerly beyond where the Worcester turnpike was afterwards laid, that most of the new-comers from Marlborough settled. The lots numbered one to sixteen, were laid out on a strip of land extending along the south and east boundary lines of the town—that is between Haynes' Farm and the town of Grafton on the south, and the towns of Westborough and Northborough on the east—and if one will carefully examine the description of these lots, as taken by Mr. Ward from the proprietors' book, he will find frequent recurrence to the "town lines" and "Haines' Old Farm" as boundaries. Lots Nos. 17, 18 and 19 lay east of Rawson's Farm, whose locality has been before given, and Nos. 21, 22 (which was the minister's lot) and 23 lay between Haynes' Farm and Rawson's Farm, and the description of all these lots refer to these so-called "farms" as boundaries. The other lots are more difficult to locate with exactness. Most of them were in that part of Shrewsbury now Boylston and West Boylston. No. 24 is "bounded westerly by Judge Sewall's Farm;" No. 26 "lyeth near the west bounds of Haines' Old Farm;" No. 30 "Lyeth near the North End of Davenport's Farm;" Nos. 31, 32 and 34 are bounded by the "pretended Malden Farm," etc., etc. Mr. Ward has copied these descriptions containing these references to the farms without inquiry as to what or where they were.

Ten years after the township grant the town of

Shrewsbury was incorporated—not by a formal act, but by an order upon application of the inhabitants for incorporation dated December 19, 1727. Mr. Ward thinks it was so called from the English town of that name, whence may have come the ancestors of some of the proprietors. Before Saxon scholars gave the true etymology of the name it was said to mean the borough of shrews, which may be either a kind of moles or a kind of wives. The Saxons, who took the English town in the fifth century, derisively changed its Welsh name to Scrobbes-Byrig (scrub town), of which the name Shrewsbury is a euphonious corruption. But there is neither evidence nor reason for supposing any of the proprietors' ancestors came from the English Shrewsbury. Like many other towns, probably Shrewsbury took its name from a prominent man of the time when it was in want of one. Our neighbor on the south is well known to have been named from the Duke of Grafton, damned to everlasting fame in the letters of Junius. Charles Talbot, titular Earl of Shrewsbury by birth, was one of the Seven who signed the declaration inviting over the Prince of Orange on the abdication of James II., and became Secretary of State to King William, with title of Duke of Shrewsbury. On account of his winning manners Talbot is said to have been named by William of Orange King of Hearts, and habitually called by this pleasant title by the whole royal court. Under Queen Anne he held the offices of First Lord Chamberlain and Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and finally with her dying breath the Queen gave him the staff of Lord High Treasurer, that a sure hand might hold the helm of state at her death and safely transmit the Protestant succession. As soon as the Queen had drawn her last breath Charles Talbot, Duke of Shrewsbury, August 14, 1714, proclaimed George Lewis, Elector of Hanover, King of England and Ireland. The Duke died 1718, between which time and Queen Anne's death our town was settling, and as a child born in some historical crisis is named from a prominent actor in it, so the town of Shrewsbury took its name from the statesman who, notwithstanding public apprehension of the Pretender, had safely transmitted the English crown in the Protestant line. But if the same partiality for Indian names had existed in early times as now, probably Shrewsbury and Grafton would have continued to be called Quinsigamond and Hassanimisco to this day.

CHAPTER CII.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

THE MEETING-HOUSE LOT AND THE HOUSES THAT WERE BUILT THEREON—THE PARISH FUND—ITS ORIGIN AND GROWTH.

OCTOBER 27, 1719, the proprietors of Shrewsbury voted "that the meeting-house be on Rocky Plain, near the Pines, and if the said spot cannot be obtained on reasonable terms, that then the meeting-house be set on Meeting-House Hill," whereby it appears that the hill laid down on maps and known to this day as Meeting-house Hill was so called as early as two years and a half after the first comers were here—doubtless because public opinion had designated this hill as the site of the house of worship that was to be. It belonged to the proprietors—which Rocky Plain did not—and it was nearer to the centre of the township. Rocky Plain was part of Haynes' Farm and the portion of it which the proprietors wanted belonged to one of their number, William Taylor. Its name, Rocky Pine Plain, indicates the boulders and forest trees that the pioneers had to deal with. On the 4th of May, 1721, the very month when the first meeting-house in Shrewsbury was built, William Taylor conveyed to the proprietors, of whom he was one and retaining an equal right therein with any one single proprietor, fifteen acres of land situate on Rocky Plain and lying within the bounds of a farm purchased by him of one of the heirs of John Haynes, bounded westerly by land of John Balcom, northerly by land of Edward Goddard, southerly by the squadron line and every other way by the remaining parts of said Taylor's own land. The squadron line here was the Connecticut Road, then so called. In making this conveyance Sergeant Taylor was actuated mainly by public spirit, though no doubt he expected advantages from having the meeting-house, which was sure to be the village centre, near where he had settled. On the 20th of May, sixteen days after his conveyance to them, the proprietors granted to him in satisfaction of his fifteen acres "5 acres and 24 rods of land on Pine Plain, westerly of Haynes' Farm on the south side of the country road," remote from the centre and of trifling value—a mere make-weight or nominal *quid pro quo* granted from some supposed legal necessity for a consideration. This fifteen acres, called "the common," beside the church site, the land around it and the graveyard, contained several other parcels, some of which were sold by the proprietors and some of which were appropriated without sale. The lot on which the Sumner house stands, and which was the southwest corner of the original Common, was sold in 1754 to Artemas Ward, who afterward sold it to Dr. Joseph Sumner. The house where Mr. A. J. Gibson lives, where formerly stood the old Crosby house, occupies the southeast corner. Both the Town House and the High School house are on the Taylor grant. Nor can any record of any conveyance or grant of the proprietors be found of the sites of these public buildings. The site of the Andrews house and the field in rear of it are entirely within the old Common limits; so also is a part of the site of the Jonas Stone house, but the sites of these two houses and the field were sold by the proprietors, as by their records appears.[1]

[1] More than forty years ago Nathan Howe pointed out to two of his

Under date May 13, 1766, the day of raising the second meeting-house of the First Parish, Dr. Sumner has a memorandum of the fact, accompanied with a note, that "The first meeting-house in Shrewsbury was Erected in ye mounth of May, 1721." The site of the first meeting-house, according to tradition, was a little northerly and easterly of where the present house now stands. Its dimensions, given in the proprietors' records, were "40 feet in length by 32 in breadth, 14 feet stud." And the proprietors voted, June 22, 1720, to lay an assessment of five pounds on each,—aggregate of forty-two proprietors, two hundred and ten pounds. This house had neither steeple nor bell. The first sermon ever preached in Shrewsbury was by Rev. Robert Breck, of Marlborough, June 15, 1720, and the record of the meeting of the proprietors, when the assessment before referred to was voted, contains also the proprietors' vote to apply to Mr. Breck for the notes of his sermon, in order to have them printed.[1]

For forty-five years (1721–66) the first meeting-house served its original purpose, but during the last five years or more there had been a growing feeling that a new house of worship was needed. The town had grown, and, notwithstanding it had been divided into two parishes, the old house was too small. The building of the second meeting-house was long debated at town-meetings. Finally resolved upon, in the spring of 1766, it was commenced in earnest and speedily completed. It was not jobbed off to the lowest bidder, but built by a building committee, who employed Daniel Heminway, of Shrewsbury, the famous meeting-house builder, who built the Old South, in Worcester, and many other meeting-houses and public buildings, to frame it. The committee was instructed, by vote of the town, in employing labor and in purchase of materials, to give the preference to inhabitants of the town. All the carpenters of Shrewsbury worked upon the meeting-house. All the lumber grew in Shrewsbury woods, and was sawn in Shrewsbury mills. All the nails were made by Shrewsbury blacksmiths. The record of a town-meeting immediately preceding the meeting-house raising reveals the municipal estimate of the magnitude of the undertaking. The question whether the town would procure a ginn to raise the meeting-house with was debated, and "determined in ye negative." But the committee were directed to procure a lot of new spike poles; also "voted that ye committy provide Drinks & Provisions," and "voted to commence the raising at six o'clock in the morning." And lest ye committee should mistake their instructions, and also probably to encourage a good attendance and make everybody stay till the last rafter was in place and the last pin driven home, it was further "voted to provide a Good Supper, and to send to Boston for a Barrel of Rhum."

The new house was fifty-five feet in length by forty-three in breadth, and had entrances on the east and west ends and on the south side. Like its predecessor, it had neither steeple nor bell. If one take a lantern and go up into the attic and look at the enormous plates and roof-timbers, resting where they were raised by the new spike-poles one hundred and twenty-two years ago, he cannot but wonder how they were ever got there with the use of no other machinery.[2] The original site where the house was raised, and stood till 1834, was about fifty feet south of its present location, and its longest dimension was east and west. Many hands make quick work, and just two months after the raising Dr. Sumner says, "July 16, 1766, Being Lord's day, we met ye first time in the New House, upon wh. occasion I Preached from Genesis 28 chapter & ye 17 verse."

In 1807 the porch on the west end of the meeting-house was replaced by a steeple with a belfry and dials

grandsons the corners and boundaries of the Taylor grant, and told them that they were pointed out to him when a boy by his grandfather Taylor. These grandsons were then school-boys, of the age of seven teen years, studying surveying in the Shrewsbury High School, and one of them, a youth of rare promise and mathematical capacity, surveyed and plotted the old Common as his great-great-grandfather originally granted it, and his plot lies before me on my desk while I write. His field notes are "Began at S.W. corner on the road and ran east 31 rods, N. 4° W. 72½ rods, S. 70° W. 43½ rods, S. 17° E. 68½ rods, to where we began,—area, 16 acres, 42 rods." The other boy was the writer, who alone, of all William Taylor's descendants, has the honor to bear his name. His cousin, who made the survey, and whose name was Nathan Howe, so called after his grandfather, untimely died at the age of twenty-one years of a malignant typhus. I have recently discovered in the files of the Supreme Judicial Court, October Term, 1812, at Worcester, First Parish in Shrewsbury *vs.* Daniel Smith, a carefully made plan of the "Meeting-House lands," by Henry Snow, for the use of the court on trial of that case, showing all the roads, buildings, horse-sheds, tombs and fences. and the site of the meeting-house as it was in 1832, and I am both gratified and surprised at the almost exact coincidence of the survey of this accurate and painstaking surveyor with that of my youthful cousin.

A history of Shrewsbury ought not to omit some notice of the famous lawsuit of the parish with Daniel Smith, and I must crowd in somewhere a brief account of it,—here perhaps as well as anywhere. In 1830 Daniel Smith, who was a grandson of William Taylor, claimed title to the Common as his heir, plowed it up and sowed it with rye, whereupon the parish brought an action of trespass against him. Of course Taylor himself had no title after his conveyance to the proprietors, except as one of them, and even this title, since the proprietors were a corporation, did not descend to Taylor's heirs; and, even if Taylor had never conveyed the Common at all, Smith would have had no other title than as one of Taylor's many descendants. But the proprietors were all dead, and their quasi-corporate organization was extinct. And they had never, either personally or corporately, conveyed the Common to either the town or the parish, nor to anybody. In the action brought against him by the parish, Smith's lawyers, Rejoyce Newton and Levi Lincoln, finding he had no title to stand on, boldly challenged the title of the parish. But the Court held that the parish was the legal successor of the proprietors to at least so much of the Common as had been actually used for parochial purposes, and, being in actual possession, could maintain its action against a stranger. The case is a leading authority upon parish law, 14 Pick., 297.

[1] The sermon was printed, and a single copy of it still survives, in possession of Mr. George Sumner, of Worcester.

[2] Unless "rum done it?" It was at this raising that Artemas Ward, whose active drilling of his regiment directly after passage of the Stamp Act had come to the ear of Royal Governor Bernard, received the revocation of his commission as colonel. The reply which the reduced officer sent the Governor that he had been twice honored is worthy of inscription on his monument—where it is.

for a clock. The bell, for which the money was raised by subscription, was not hung until next year. The clock was added still later. Why the steeple was built on the west end, thereby giving the building the appearance of facing Dr. Sumner's back-yard, it is difficult to say; but so it was and so it stood until 1834, when the house was swung quarter round so as to face the south and moved to its present site, raised up so as to construct a vestry underneath and remodeled. Its porches were taken off so as to conform, outside and inside, to the then prevailing style of church architecture.

In 1801 Jonah Howe and eight others were incorporated as trustees of a fund for the support of a Congregational minister in the town of Shrewsbury, by an act of the General Court passed February 18th of that year. The act recites the former appropriation of certain securities and moneys, amounting to nine hundred and twenty dollars, by the town, and the recent subscription of $2,243 for support of the minister, limits the fund to a maximum of eight thousand dollars, the interest of which only is to be applied to the minister's salary, provides for an annual meeting of trustees in April, each year, to elect a treasurer and clerk and fill vacancies in trustees, and makes the trustees responsible to the town. If the interest should ever amount to more than enough to pay the salary of the minister, it was to be applied to the schools of the town. Dr. Sumner has left a memorandum that shows the origin of the fund:

April, 1792.—According to a vote of the town of Shrewsbury, the hinder seats in the meeting-house was taken up, and six pews built, which sold for about £140, which is to remain as a fund, the interest of which to be appropriated for support of the Gospel.

Sundry contributions have, from time to time, been made by different persons to this fund, and the amount of it is now more than double the maximum prescribed in the original act. By chapter 50, Acts of 1866, its name was changed to a "Fund for the Support of a Congregational Minister in the First Congregational Parish and Religious Society in the Town of Shrewsbury," and the limitation of the original act to eight thousand dollars was raised to twenty thousand dollars, and the trustees are made accountable to the parish, instead of the town. Jonathan H. Nelson, who died in 1872, gave this fund a legacy of five thousand dollars, the largest contribution given by any donor at any one time, but less than the aggregate sums given by Amasa Howe, who in his lifetime (1869) gave eighteen hundred dollars, and who, dying in 1883, was found by his will, made in 1872, to have given a legacy of twenty-two hundred dollars to this fund, and also by a codicil made in 1882 another legacy of two thousand dollars,[1] making a total of six thousand dollars. And Thomas Rice, who died May 29, 1888, has left a legacy of one thousand dollars in trust with the trustees of this fund, one-half of the interest of which is to be applied by the trustees to the care of the testator's lot and monument in the cemetery, and the other half to be applied to the payment of the salary of the minister of the Congregational parish. I am unable to give the amounts of any other donations or the names of the donors. The present total of the fund is about eighteen thousand dollars and its income about nine hundred dollars.

[1] The writer, who was the testater's nephew and one of his executors, being consulted by his uncle about this legacy, advised him against it. His reply, characteristic of the whole life of the man—then eighty-eight years old—will interest all who knew him: "I want the same kind of preaching kept up in Shrewsbury after I am dead and gone that there always has been, no matter how many rum-sellers and Roman Catholics come into the town." And he brought his aged fist down upon the table at which we were sitting with a vigor that silenced all further advice of that kind.

CHAPTER CIII.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

THE FIRST PARISH AND ITS MINISTERS: CUSHING, SUMNER, INGERSOLL, WHIPPLE, GEORGE ALLEN, AVERELL, WILLIAMS, McGINLEY, DYER, SCUDDER, FRANK H. ALLEN.

THE three years within which Shrewsbury was required to have at least forty families and an orthodox minister began to run November 2, 1717. The forty families were here in due season, but the first minister, Rev. Job Cushing, was not settled till December 4, 1723,—more than six years after the time began to run. It would seem from the church records that the church was organized and a covenant adopted at Mr. Cushing's ordination. Let us note in passing that this covenant does not contain any creed—unless the following be regarded as such.

"We resolve to make the blessed Scriptures our platform, whereby we may discern the blessed mind of Christ and not the new-framed inventions of men,"—a favorite form of words with those who did not wish either to commit themselves to dogmatic theology nor to repel others from uniting with them by an iron-clad creed. This liberal covenant, probably drawn up by Mr. Cushing himself, closely resembles that of many of the early churches of New England, commencing with the earliest, whose platform, brought in the "Mayflower" and landed in 1620 on Plymouth Rock, remains unchanged in any clause or letter, the creed of the liberal First Church of Plymouth, to this day.

It does not appear that at Mr. Cushing's ordination or afterwards any question was raised as to his being an "orthodox minister," within the meaning of those words in the act of the General Court, but tradition is that some of the brethren suspected him of favoring the Arminian heresy. During his ministry only one controversy arose of which any memory has reached our times. This was not theological.

One Simon Goddard, who came to Shrewsbury in 1731, from Framingham, with the aid of his two brothers, who were here before him, and five or six others, whom he converted to his views, kept Mr. Cushing and the whole church in hot water for more than ten years about ruling elders. According to Brother Goddard, it was indispensable that every Christian church should have two elders to rule both it and the minister, and he wrote to Mr. Cushing and the church long letters about it and talked about it till one wonders at the long-suffering patience of pastor and people with such a crank and such a bore as he was. This contemptible controversy finally resulted in an ecclesiastical council, but what was the "result" of the council was unknown at the time and has never been discovered to this day.

Rev. Job Cushing, whose father and grandfather were both named Matthew Cushing, and the latter of whom came from Norfolk, England, in 1688, was born at Hingham, July 19, 1694, and graduated at Harvard College in 1714. He was a farmer as well as minister, and at the moment of his death he was at work in his field binding sheaves of grain, where, without sickness or premonition, he fell dead. The minister's lot, No. 22, laid out on Meeting-house Hill when it was expected that the meeting house would be built there, being found after it was built on Rocky Plain too remote for the minister to live on, Mr. Cushing bought twenty acres and one hundred and fifteen rods of William Taylor, adjoining on the east side the meeting-house lot or Common, and built his house where Mrs. Arunah Harlow now lives. Mr. Cushing also bought of Nahum Ward fifty-six acres and seventy-one rods on the south side of the road opposite his house.[1] What with these purchases and his lot (No. 22), "made up the full of ninety acres," and second and third division lands received "in right of his lot" he became in time the owner of considerable real estate, which he cleared and tilled as well as any of the other original farmers of Shrewsbury. A portion of Mr. Cushing's land on both sides of the Great Road, together with a moiety of Jordan's Pond laid out to him as second division land "equal," say the records, "to six acres of valuable meadow," has descended to his great-grandson, Mr. Josiah G. Stone, and still remains in his possession. At the time of Mr. Cushing's settlement in Shrewsbury he was twenty-nine years old, and at his death, which occurred August 6, 1760, he was sixty-six.

In the interval between the decease of Mr. Cushing and settlement of his successor, the church covenant was re-enforced by the addition of the Calvinistic tenets. After the words in the extract before given, "new-framed inventions of men," were added the following, "And yet we are of the judgment that the whole of the well-known Westminster Catechism, as explained by Calvinistic divines, contains a just summary of Christian doctrine as revealed in God's Holy Word," and after the name of Christ was inserted the words, "whom we believe to be God, equal with the Father and the Holy Ghost." Among the minority who protested and voted against these additions to the fair original, as incongruous therewith as patch of sow's ear upon silk purse, I note the name of Colonel Job Cushing, true to the teachings of his sainted father.

Before settling or even calling another minister, being jealous not only of ruling elders, but of the minister as well, the church voted not to settle any minister with power to negative its vote. At the same meeting when this vote was passed the church extended a call to Rev. Joseph Sumner as pastor, and his ordination took place June 23, 1762. For want of room in the old meeting-house, and because it was not considered safe to crowd the old house with a large audience, the ordination services were conducted in the open air on a platform erected on the Common. Rev. Joseph Sumner was born at Pomfret, Conn., June 30, 1740, being son of Deacon Samuel Sumner, of that town, and graduated at Yale College in 1759. The degree of D.D., was conferred on him by Harvard College in 1814, and shortly afterwards by Columbia College, S. C. Like his predecessor, he was a man of liberal views and tolerant practice, and if all the ministers of New England had been like them, no division of the churches on the basis of mere theological dogma would have ever taken place. During Dr. Sumner's time the Calvinistic additions to the covenant were erased by vote of the church—doubtless through his influence. He was a man of great authority with his people, and of great personal dignity and weight of character. Of colossal stature—six feet four inches in height—he presented a most imposing presence. To the last he wore the costume of the last century: knee-breeches, silver buckles, cocked hat, white wig and all. A child was once so awe-stricken at sight of Dr. Sumner, as to run away and tell his mother that he had seen God. A characteristic story is told of him and Dr. Samuel Austin, of the First Worcester Parish. In a conversation at the house of the former, in Shrewsbury, where the latter had made a call, Dr. Sumner said, "I was brought up in the orthodox faith, and have always lived in it, and I expect to die in it." "But," said Dr. Austin, "you clipped off its corners." "Yes," was Dr. Sumner's reply, "and they need clipping more." Let me add another story characteristic of Dr. Austin as well as Dr. Sumner. At a meeting of the Worcester Ministerial Association Dr. Austin and Dr. Aaron Bancroft, pastors respectively of the First and Second Parishes in Worcester, were both proposed for membership. Dr. Austin having been admitted without objection, he vehemently opposed the admission of Dr. Bancroft, and a majority of the association voted against it, whereupon Dr. Sumner arose, and declaring that he would not belong to such

[1] Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 25, Pages 123–124.

an illiberal body, withdrew from the association, and it never met again.

It was during Dr. Sumner's time that division of Congregational Churches into Trinitarian and Unitarian took place. In the last years of his ministry he had repeatedly suggested to his people the expediency of selecting a colleague pastor, and January 18, 1820, the church chose Rev. Samuel B. Ingersoll as colleague to Dr. Summer, and the parish concurring, the ordination took place June 14, 1820. This ordination being a sort of milestone in the history of the Congregational schism then in progress, I must give a brief account of it. Of the fifteen ministers who formed the ordaining council, five—namely: Dr. Aaron Bancroft, of Worcester; Rev. John Miles, of Grafton; Rev. Ward Cotton, of Boylston; Dr. Joseph Allen, of Northborough; and Rev. William Nash, of West Boylston—were Unitarians. At the examination of the candidate it appeared that he was a pronounced Calvinist. To his ordination on this account the Unitarian members of the council made no objection, but asked if he would fellowship with Unitarians. Mr. Ingersoll's reply was "I would not trust a Unitarian in my pulpit one hour." This was explicit enough for Dr. Bancroft, who arose and was followed by all the Unitarian members of the council, pastors and lay delegates, nine in number, down the long aisle out of the meeting-house. A majority of the council was still left, and the ordination proceeded. Such is the account of this ordination given to the writer nearly forty years ago by Dr. Eleazer T. Fitch, professor of divinity in Yale College, who was a member of the council.

Mr. Ingersoll, after his ordination, preached but one Sunday, and died of consumption, November 14, 1820, at Beverly, where he was born in 1787. He graduated at Yale College in 1817, and was thirty years old at the time. He was at his death thirty-three. Before going to college he had been a sailor and shipwrecked at sea. It is said that as he lay floating and perishing on a piece of wreck in mid-ocean he heard a call to go and preach the gospel, and answered it with a solemn vow that if he were saved from perishing then he would obey the call. A funeral service was held simultaneously at Beverly and at Shrewsbury. "I preached and Dr. Bancroft and Mr. Cotton prayed." Such is Dr. Sumner's brief entry in the church records. I wonder if prayer or sermon contained any allusion to the drama played within the same walls only five months before. This ordination of Mr. Ingersoll was followed by important consequences both in Shrewsbury and elsewhere. In Shrewsbury, as we shall see later, a portion of the parish withdrew and formed a new society. Dr. Sumner was greatly annoyed at what had taken place. Doubtless he had hoped, by bringing together the clergy of the vicinity who were of opposing views, to do something towards healing the schism that was dividing and weakening the churches of New England.

After Mr. Ingersoll's death Rev. Edwards Whipple was settled as a colleague to Dr. Sumner. He had previously been ordained and settled in Charlton, and dismissed at his own request. His installation took place September 20, 1821. He died September 17, 1822, of a fever after a sickness of only seven days, aged forty-four years. He was born in Westborough, November, 1778, graduated at Williams College in 1801, and studied his profession with the famous Dr. Nathaniel Emmons, of Franklin. Dr. Sumner continued in his ministry in Shrewsbury till his death, which occurred December 9, 1824, a period of more than sixty-two years, being at the time of his death nearly eighty-five years old. His funeral sermon was preached by his life-long friend, Dr. Bancroft, pursuant to an understanding between them that whichever might die first, the other should preach his funeral sermon.

But before Dr. Sumner's death still another colleague to him had been settled in Shrewsbury. Rev. George Allen was ordained here November 19, 1823. He was the son of Hon. Joseph Allen, born at Worcester, February 11, 1792, and graduated at Yale College in 1813. He remained in his pastorate at Shrewsbury till June 18, 1840, when he was dismissed by advice of an ecclesiastical council. For sixteen of the seventeen years of his life here Mr. Allen's relations with his church and parish were exceptionally pleasant and amicable. At his funeral said Rev. Dr. Buckingham, of Springfield, formerly settled in Millbury: "Years ago, when Mr. Allen was pastor of the church at Shrewsbury, we" (meaning the clergy of the vicinity) "remember to have thought that parsonage an ideal one. Looking off from that hill-top with his wife and children about him and a large and intelligent congregation listening to him, it seemed as if such love and influence and happiness ought to satisfy any mortal. They did satisfy him so long as he was permitted to enjoy them." But in the seventeenth year of his ministry there arose in Shrewsbury one of the most implacable minister quarrels in the history of New England. It had its origin in a scandal about Mr. Allen's family, of which want of space, if no other reason, would forbid detail here. Indignantly denying the truth of the scandalous stories in circulation, Mr. Allen in the pulpit and out of it castigated their circulators with a severity of language such as few men can equal and none ever exceeded, and his unsparing denunciations of all who had talked about his family, which included probably the entire inhabitants of the town, had the effect to estrange many of his warmest friends and to cause them to become disaffected. In a few months the disaffected party grew, so as to number full one-half the parish, "signed off," hired a preacher and a hall and had religious services on Sundays by themselves. It was a bitter feud, causing enmity between old friends and near neighbors, and finally resulted in an ecclesiastical council, before which the opposition to Mr. Allen, under leadership

of Mr. Henry Dana Ward, laid charges against him. The council fully vindicated Mr. Allen from all intentional wrong and recommended him to the confidence of the churches; but, on account of the widespread disaffection which had impaired, if not entirely destroyed, his usefulness in Shrewsbury, they advised his dismissal with payment of full salary for the current year. These proceedings were directly followed by a slander suit brought by Mr. Allen against Mr. Ward. At the trial of this suit in the Supreme Court at Worcester, April term, 1841, the town of Shrewsbury turned out and packed the court-house. Nor was interest limited to the town. No trial at Worcester, for years, had excited such general interest. Verdict for plaintiff, damages $700, which, at the time, was regarded as heavy and exemplary.

Rev. George Allen was unquestionably the ablest man whom Shrewsbury can boast to have ever had for a citizen. After his dismissal he returned to Worcester and lived there till his death, which occurred March 31, 1883. His age was ninety-one years. He had long survived his wife and children, of whom he once had four, two of whom had died within a year and a half before his dismissal at Shrewsbury, and one of whom was the subject of the scandal before referred to. For about thirty years Mr. Allen was chaplain of the State Lunatic Hospital at Worcester. A man of great learning and accurate scholarship, and holding the pen of a ready writer, he became in Worcester a public and influential man. He was interested in and performed efficient service in all the reformatory movements of the times. In the anti-Masonic movement which followed the murder of Morgan in Western New York, where he preached a few years before he came to Shrewsbury, he took an active and prominent part. He was one of the earliest and most pronounced anti-slavery men, and on formation of the Free-Soil party in 1848 he gave valuable aid to his brother, who, more than any other man, must be regarded as founder of that party. Though maintaining his connection from first to last with the Orthodox Congregational Church, he was a man of extremely liberal views, and had the honor to have his orthodoxy challenged many times in his life. Before settlement in Shrewsbury he was rejected by an ordaining council at Aurora, N. Y., where he had received a call, for "unsoundness on original sin." All his life he publicly repudiated the Westminster Catechism, and in 1865 at Plymouth, where the National Council of his denomination met, in eloquent words he solemnly protested against its reaffirmation as being too sectarian for the catholic spirit of the Pilgrim Fathers, over whose ashes they had met, and too narrow to comprehend the breadth of their principles of religious freedom.

Mr. Allen's successor in the ministry at Shrewsbury was Rev. James Averill, who was born at Griswold, Conn., May 29, 1815. He graduated at Amherst College in the class of 1837, studied his profession at the Yale Theological School and was ordained over the church and parish in Shrewsbury, June 22, 1841. He was dismissed at his own request November 15, 1848. Mr. Averill died in 1863 in the service of his country, chaplain of a Connecticut regiment.

Rev. Nathan Witter Williams was the successor of Mr. Averill. He was the son of Rev. Joseph Williams, and born at Providence, R. I., March 12, 1816; graduated at Yale College in 1842; studied theology with Rev. Albert Barnes, of Philadelphia; was ordained at Shrewsbury, February 28, 1849, and dismissed at his own request April 27, 1858. After Mr. Williams' dismissal he was elected Representative from Shrewsbury to the General Court and served as a member of that body in the session of 1859.

The next minister of the Congregational Church and Parish in Shrewsbury was Rev. William A. McGinley, who was ordained June 2, 1859, and dismissed by his request July 27, 1865. He was an accomplished scholar and eloquent preacher. He had originally selected the law for his profession and had read a year or more for admission to the bar before he studied divinity. He is now settled in Portsmouth, N. H.

Rev. Ebenezer Porter Dyer was the successor of Mr. McGinley. He was born at Abington, August 15, 1813, graduated at Brown University in the class of 1833, studied divinity at Andover and was first settled and ordained at Stowe, where he began preaching in 1835, and where he remained till 1846. Installed at Hingham in 1848, he remained there till 1864. He was again installed here November 7, 1867, and resigned his pastorate June 19, 1877. Beginning at Stowe in his youth, afterwards at several other places, Boston, Winter Hill, Somerville and elsewhere, he performed missionary labor, founding, it is said, by his direct efforts, three churches, and indirectly causing to be founded three others. He was author of several books, among others a metrical version of "Pilgrim's Progress," published by Lee & Shepard, Boston, in 1869, while he was in Shrewsbury. He died at Abington, August 22, 1883, aged seventy years.

Rev. John L. Scudder, who succeeded Mr. Dyer, was born in 1855, in India, where his father, Dr.—— Scudder was a missionary of the American Board. He graduated at Yale College in 1874, and pursued his professional studies at Union Theological Seminary. Ordained here December 26, 1877, he remained till March, 1882, when he requested a dismissal and went to accept a call to Minneapolis. He is now settled at Jersey City.

The successor of Mr. Scudder was Rev. Frank H. Allen, a graduate of Amherst College in the class of 1874, and a classmate of his predecessor at Union Theological Seminary. He was ordained here October 25, 1882, and resigned his office as pastor August 23, 1888, to accept a call to Milwaukee.

CHAPTER CIV.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

THE SECOND PARISH—THE BAPTIST, UNIVERSALIST AND METHODIST SOCIETIES—THE ROMAN CATHOLICS.

FROM December 17, 1742, to November 1, 1786, there were two parishes in Shrewsbury, and the separate history of both is part of the history of the town. Both were territorial, and included all the inhabitants,—*nolentes volentes*. The South or First Parish was identical with the present town of Shrewsbury. The North or Second Parish included most of Boylston and West Boylston and all of the original town not within the limits of the South. The church in the North Parish was organized October 6, 1743, Rev. Job Cushing and his deacons going over to "assist y^e^ Bretheren in the north part to gather a church." A meeting-house was built, and Rev. Ebenezer Morse was ordained in the same month (October) of the same year. The house was of the rudest and cheapest pattern, and at the ordination had neither floor, door nor window. It was completed later by voluntary contributions of labor and materials, and the interior being apportioned off into spaces for pews, each one built him a pew to suit himself. Mr. Morse was a man of varied learning and superior capacity, graduate of Harvard College 1737, and master of all the learned professions,—law and medicine as well as divinity. He was a native of Medfield, born March 2, 1718, and twenty-five years old at his settlement in Shrewsbury. The relations of pastor and people appear to have been mutually satisfactory till the popular dissatisfaction about taxation of the Colonies, in which Mr. Morse did not participate, being a pronounced loyalist from first to last. The trouble between him and his parish began in 1770, and culminated in 1775. Of the action of the town in regard to Mr. Morse, an account will be given elsewhere. The parish, June 12, 1775, voted (thirty-seven yeas to twelve nays) "to dissolve the pastoral office of Rev. Ebenezer Morse." November 10, 1775, six ministers, being present attending a day of fasting and prayer, recommended dismissal of Mr. Morse, and the parish voted to dismiss him "agreeably to y^e^ advice of the Council." Of course, these proceedings were irregular and revolutionary; but they were sustained by an irresistible public opinion, and Mr. Morse submitted under protest. He continued to live in the Second Parish and in the town of Boylston after it was incorporated as such to the end of his life, making a livelihood practicing medicine and fitting boys for college. It has been said derisively of Mr. Morse that he continued to style himself "settled minister of God's word in Boylston" as long as he lived, and often so signed marriage certificates. But nothing is clearer than that, according to law and congregational theory, he had a right to so style himself and so sign his name. In 1775 the parish appointed a committee "to notify Mr. Morse of his dismissal and to see that he do not enter the desk any more." He died at Boylston in 1802, aged eighty-three years.

Before incorporation of the Second Parish as the town of Boylston, two other ministers were called in that parish,—Rev. Jesse Reed and Rev. Eleazer Fairbank, and the latter was settled there March 27, 1777. He was born in Preston, Conn., graduated at Brown University, and was dismissed at Boylston at his own request, April 22, 1793; afterwards settled at Wilmington, Vt., and again dismissed. He removed to Palmyra, N. Y., where he died in 1821.

The founder of the Baptist Society in Shrewsbury was Luther Goddard, grandson of Edward, the proprietor. Simon Goddard, who so troubled the peace of good Mr. Cushing about ruling elders, was a brother of Edward and so great-uncle of Luther. The latter, called captain from his rank in the militia, later in life called also Elder Goddard, from his powerful gift as a Baptist exhorter, was by trade a watchmaker and carried on his trade with thrift and profit, first at Shrewsbury and later at Worcester. I mention his kinship to Simon on account of his marked resemblance to him. What with speaking in meeting and endless letter-writing, Simon had kept church and pastor in hot water upwards of ten years, and now fifty years afterwards Mr. Cushing's successor hath a like trouble. Captain Luther also can speak in meeting, likewise he can write letters, and he did both. He could not find in the blessed Scriptures either precept or example for baptism of infants, and he talked about it in meeting and out of meeting, and wrote long letters to the church and pastor about it, subscribing himself "your poor unworthy Brother, L. Goddard." This began before, and reached a climax in 1808, when Capt. Goddard was baptized by immersion and organized himself into a Baptist Church. He even requested by letter Dr. Sumner to allow him the use of his meeting-house for such organizing, &c. Mild Dr. Sumner's reply, lately printed,[1] is the most remarkable instance of mildness on record, and is witty as well as mild. He could not see the necessity or propriety in the use of the meeting-house when there was no place within two miles where baptism by immersion could be administered.

After his baptism Capt. Goddard wrote another letter to Joseph Sumner, pastor, wishing him "to pointe out some way for him to leave the church in this town and joyn to another of a different denomination." And shortly afterwards he wrote another letter of great length to the church, to which the church by a committee replied that Mr. Goddard's connec-

[1] Memorials of Rev. Joseph Sumner, D.D., printed for private distribution by his grandson, George Sumner, of Worcester.

tion with it was dissolved by his own act. From this time Elder Goddard preached in Shrewsbury and elsewhere as occasion offered. In 1813 a society of thirty-three members, called the Shrewsbury and Boylston Baptist Society, was formally organized, and the next year built a house of God. And there Elder Goddard often exercised his gifts, but no regular preacher was employed till 1818, when Rev. Elias McGregory was ordained over the church and society, and remained its minister till 1821, after which no other was ever regularly settled over it. Rev. Samuel W. Vilas was hired to supply the Baptist pulpit, and did so for about two years, when July 15, 1823, he died. About this time Elder Goddard removed to Worcester, and the Boylston Baptists withdrew and organized a society of their own.

The Shrewsbury Baptists, however, kept up their organization and continued to hold services at their house for several years with more or less regularity, but had no regular minister. The Baptist clergy of the vicinity, who regarded the church here as a sort of missionary outpost in the midst of the Gentiles, frequently came here and preached. This continued till 1835, when the church and society were formally dissolved. The Baptist house of worship is still standing, though so altered as to be no longer recognizable. It stands where it was built, on the Worcester Road, and is now owned and occupied by Mr. George G. Dowe as a dwelling-house.

I have before referred to the ordination of Rev. Samuel B. Ingersoll as a milestone in the history of the Congregational schism. And now we run against this stone again. April 11, 1821, a religious society was formed in Shrewsbury under the name of the First Restoration Society. One of the main factors that contributed to the formation of this society was the avowal of extreme Calvinistic opinions by Mr. Ingersoll, and his refusal to exchange with the neighboring clergy of more liberal views. Among the solid men who formed this society were the Knowltons, Dr. Seth and his brothers, Asa and Joseph Hastings, who were sons of Deacon William, and grandsons of Deacon Ezekiel Knowlton, and had been brought up on the Westminster Catechism. Dr. Knowlton was chairman of most committees and boards of officers of the new society during his life. Full one-half of the members of this society were residents of other towns. The Universalist Society in Worcester was not formed till twenty years later, and the Shrewsbury society had among its members several strong men from Worcester, among others Mr. Joseph Pratt and Mr. David Sargent, the latter of whom was one of the deacons of the Restoration Church. The other deacon was Joseph H. Knowlton, before named. There were also several members who lived in Sutton, more still who lived in Grafton, and a few who lived in Boylston. The first business committee of the society were Dr. Seth Knowlton, Captain Thomas Harrington, Sr., Gershom Flagg, of Boylston, Abner Stowe, Jr., of Grafton, Captain Silas Allen, Jr., Lyman Howe and John Richardson. The church building was located at the junction of the Grafton Road with the Worcester Turnpike, as a central point of a rather scattered parish.

This society was organized under the statute of 1811, which guaranteed most of the advantages of incorporation to societies so organized, and made them, as was afterwards held by the Supreme Court, *quasi* corporations. The house of worship, begun in 1822, was completed and publicly dedicated to "Our Father which is in Heaven," June 17, 1823, at which time also was installed Rev. Jacob Wood, who served as minister of this society till 1829. For the next ten years there was no settled minister. Rev. Thomas J. Greenwood, who was settled in Marlborough, for about three years supplied the pulpit here on alternate Sundays, preaching also in his own pulpit in a similar way. During this period, 1829–39, several other ministers, for longer or shorter terms, were employed, but I have not been able to ascertain even their names. In the spring of 1839 Rev. Jacob Baker was ordained over this society, and preached regularly for three years. After 1843 the society had no settled minister nor regular preaching. There were, however, occasional services in the church till about 1864. In 1868 the few surviving members met and voted to sell their house and dissolve the society.

If organization of the First Restoration Society had been delayed till after the death of Mr. Ingersoll, it probably would never have been organized at all, and if Dr. Knowlton and others, who withdrew from the Congregational Society, had remained in it, there can be little doubt that that society would have taken the Unitarian instead of Trinitarian side of the schism that was then taking place. The fate of the First Restoration Society in Shrewsbury is substantially the same as that of all the other Universalist Societies of the smaller towns. The one idea of the Universalists, seemingly an inadequate foundation for a separate denomination, has unquestionably permeated and leavened the whole lump of religious thought of the present age, and though in Shrewsbury and elsewhere the dogma of wretched doom for all but an elect few of our race may still linger in creeds, not even heathen congregations will tolerate its preaching. When the American missionary for whose outfit Shrewsbury Christians have contributed, goes to far India's coral strand to bear the lamp of life to men benighted, he has to graft the infernal tenet of his written creed with the scion of future probation—a version of restoration heresy taken from Buddha himself. And straightway all Andover takes up the cudgels to champion the Light of Asia. Shade of John Calvin! methinks the smell of a burning Andover professor would be scarcely less grateful to thy nostrils than was that of Servetus himself.

In the spring of 1845 a Methodist preacher and temperance lecturer, held some religious meetings, interspersed with a temperance lecture or two, at

School-house No. 5, in the western part of Shrewsbury, which were attended by Alonzo Stiles and Amasa Hyde, both members of the Congregational Church in Shrewsbury. Mr. Hyde, who lived to be known to the younger as well as the older of the three generations of living men, has recently died, at an advanced age. He was an excellent man and a leading member of the Methodist Church for many years. Mr. Stiles died nearly forty years ago while crossing the Isthmus of Panama on his way to California. He had formerly been an intemperate man and was at variance with the church of which he was a member on the score of temperance. He objected to and remonstrated against the use of intoxicating liquors in the communion service because it excited his appetite and tempted him to return to his former habit of intemperance. It was a common zeal for temperance that first brought Mr. Stiles in contact with the preacher and lecturer aforesaid—whose name I am unable to give—which contact resulted in the school-house meetings, where a Methodist class was formed, of which Mr. Stiles and Mr. Hyde were both members. Then and there was planted the grain of mustard seed out of which grew the fair tree of Methodism in Shrewsbury.

In the fall of the same year came from Holliston Rev. Gardner Rice, a Methodist clergyman, to teach a high school in Shrewsbury. He was a graduate of Wesleyan University, and taught school in Shrewsbury for many years, and more than one generation of children bless the memory of Master Rice. Directly on coming to town Mr. Rice took charge of the Methodist movement, which before had lacked guiding and organizing leadership, and preached Sundays in a hall in the Haven tavern, which stood where the Town House now stands; in the spring of 1846 the Methodist Society was formally organized and connected with the Worcester Conference, and Rev. John W. Wheeler came to Shrewsbury under a regular assignment to duty here according to Methodist usage, and held services Sundays at the tavern hall till completion of the Methodist house of worship. The building of this house was said by an irreverent jester to have been the greatest instance of something made out of nothing since the Creator made the world. Neither jester nor laughers at his jest knew the history of the Methodist Church. True it was, none of the original Methodists in Shrewsbury were rich men, nor had a single one of them any visible treasure laid up where moth and rust doth corrupt. But what the Methodists did in Shrewsbury is only a single instance of what the denomination has done all over the United States. Everywhere it has organized its churches and built its houses of worship in very literal imitation of the way the Creator is commonly supposed to have made the world.

It was during building of the Methodist Church (1847–48) or immediately afterwards that Rev. Jefferson Hascall, presiding elder of the Worcester Conference, whose discerning eye saw a field here white for the harvest, moved into town and thrust in his sickle. Under his labors there was a great revival of religion, and over one hundred persons professed conversion. Mr. Hascall was born in Thompson, Ct., November 6, 1807, and died at Medford November 6, 1887. He graduated at Wilbraham Academy about 1829, and immediately entered upon the ministry. He lived in Shrewsbury about twenty years in all, and most of the time was in the presiding eldership. He was a man of great ability, energy and influence, a powerful preacher of his faith and a public-spirited citizen of the town. Interested in and favoring education and all public improvements, and an earnest advocate of a vigorous prosecution of the war to suppress the slaveholders' rebellion, he was universally respected and beloved by the people of the town. I should be glad to add here some brief separate mention of each of the Methodist pastors who have ministered to the church in Shrewsbury, and regret my inability to do so. According to the itinerant usage of the denomination, only ministering here for two years or less each, they have come and gone, and after considerable unsatisfactory inquiry I reluctantly abandon my purpose to notice them separately and merely subjoin a list of their names with times of service :

Rev. D. K. Banister..... 1848-49, '57-58	Rev. Jefferson Hascall..... 1871
Rev. David Shuman.....1850-51	Rev. Edwin Chase..... 1872
Rev. Wm. R. Bagnall.....1852-53	Rev. A. Caldwell.....1873-74
Rev. Wm. Gordon.....1854-56	Rev. S. H. Noon..... 1875
Rev. H. P. Satchwell.....1859-60	Rev. W. M. Hubbard.....1876-78
Rev. Wm. W. Colburn.....1861-62	Rev. A. W. Adams..... 1879
Rev. Joseph W. Lewis.....1863-64	Rev. W. Wignall.....1880-81
Rev. Chas. T. Johnson.....1865-66	Rev. W. S. Jaggar.....1882-84
Rev. John Peterson.....1867-68	Rev. F. T. George.....1885-86
Rev. Wm. Merrill.....1869-70	Rev. F. B. Graves..... 1887
	Rev. O. C. Poland..... 1888

January 16, 1872, the Catholics of Shrewsbury bought three-eighths of an acre of land for three hundred and fifty dollars and built a church thereon. The deed of this parcel of land runs "to Patrick T. O'Reilly, of Springfield, To Have and To Hold the same to him, the said O'Reilly, his heirs and assigns, to their own use and behoof forever."[1] Patrick T. O'Reilly, of Springfield, is a Right Reverend Bishop of the Holy Roman Catholic Church, and his diocese includes the town of Shrewsbury. Nor does his tenure of the church property in this town differ at all from that of all other property of the Catholic Church in his diocese. He is tenant in fee simple of it all. The local (?) pastor of the Catholic flock here, as well as the Right Reverend Bishop, is a non-resident of this town.

If the reader be not content with this history of the Catholic Church in Shrewsbury, and shall attempt to pursue it farther, I hope he may be more successful in his inquiries than I have been.

[1] Worcester's Registry of Deeds, Book 892, page 266.

CHAPTER CV.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

THE FRENCH WARS, THE REVOLUTION, THE WAR OF 1812 AND THE MEXICAN WAR.

Of the two wars between England and France for possession of Canada (1744–63) the first was called by our fathers the Old War and the second the Last War. Only very meagre materials exist for showing the part taken by the people of Shrewsbury in these wars. That Artemas Ward, as lieutenant-colonel, Marshall Newton, as lieutenant, Nathan Howe, as ensign, and Dr. Edward Flint, as surgeon, all of Shrewsbury, served in expeditions to Canada in the last war is well known, but this implies much more. If there were officers to command there were soldiers to follow and obey. Doubtless from Shrewsbury there accompanied these officers the number of non-commissioned officers and privates appropriate to their rank. Colonel William Williams, whose diary and letters are quoted by Parkman, was commander of the regiment in which Lieutenant-Colonel Ward and Lieutenant Newton served. This regiment was in the disastrous campaign of the incompetent Abercrombie against Ticonderoga. Published extracts of a journal kept by Lieutenant-Colonel Ward fully bear out all that has ever been said or written of the disorder of the march, the lack of discipline of the army, the confusion of the battle and the folly of the retreat.

Dr. Edward Flint was chief chirurgeon of the regiment of Colonel Timothy Ruggles, which served in the expedition of 1758 against Crown Point. Ensign Nathan Howe, who was a brother-in-law of Dr. Flint, served in the campaign of 1756 at Lake George, and with his regiment assisted in building the ill-fated Fort William Henry, which the brave Lieutenant-Colonel Monro, a Scotch veteran, was forced to surrender to the French, who, after the surrender, abandoned their prisoners to be pillaged, tortured, murdered and eaten by their Indian allies. John Wheeler, of Shrewsbury, who was one of the prisoners, survived the massacre and returned home. Ensign Howe had been sent home before the siege and capture with a detachment of sick and wounded men. The town records of Shrewsbury show that the town granted him £5 16*s.* 9½*d.* on account of his sickness. At the same time, and for like cause, to William Howe, brother of Ensign Nathan, an allowance was made by the town of £6 6*d.*; also to Ephraim Smith, on account of the sickness of his son Aaron, £3 4*s.* 4*d.*, and to widow Sarah Smith for medical attendance of her late husband, Joshua Smith, upon sundry sick soldiers, £1 14*s.* 8*d.* Caleb Parker, a youthful soldier from this town, of only sixteen years, was killed in this campaign.

One soldier at least from Shrewsbury went on the romantic expedition in the old war against the Fortress of Louisbourg, on Cape Breton Island, built by the grand monarch of France to commemorate his grandeur in America, as well as to guard one of the avenues to New France, besieged and taken in forty-nine days by raw levies of New England fishermen and farmers, under command of General William Pepperell, a Piscataqua trader, who had never had before the least experience in war—one of the most amazing exploits in all the annals of time. From the volunteering of the soldiers to surrender of the fortress the campaign has all "the cloud and glamour of romance," and was called a crusade. While Governor Shirley was mustering his battalions like another Peter the Hermit, the eloquent Whitefield went up and down the land preaching the Holy War.

Nil desperandum, Christo duce.

The heart of New England took fire and sent the flower of its youth, only sons not excepted, to assault the Dunkirk of America, garrisoned by the veterans of France. Away with the crusaders went Jonah Taylor, of Shrewsbury, only son of his father, William, and his mother, Elizabeth, only brother of nine sisters, and fell mortally wounded in the first assault upon the King's Bastion. He died on Cape Breton September 23, 1745.

The first overt act of Shrewsbury in the Revolutionary War was to send delegates to the first Provincial Congress, holden at Concord October 11, 1774. Artemas Ward had been chosen Representative from Shrewsbury to the General Court, which Governor Gage had ordered to meet at Salem October 5th. The Governor countermanded his order, but the Representatives met at Salem all the same and adjourned to Concord. Phineas Heywood was chosen by Shrewsbury as a delegate to go with the Representative-elect to the Congress at Concord. The recommendations of this Congress to the towns were forthwith carried into effect by the inhabitants of Shrewsbury. 1. They organized three companies of militia, one in the North Parish, Captain Asa Beaman, and two in the South Parish, Captain Job Cushing and Captain Asa Brigham. 2. They voted not to pay taxes to Mr. Treasurer Harrison Gray, but to Henry Gardner, of Stow, whom Congress had designated as its new Receiver-General. 3. They adopted the non-consumption agreement as to India teas and appointed an inspection committee of fifteen, five to be a quorum, whose duty it was to be to find out all such persons as sell or consume so extravagant and unnecessary an article of luxury and post their names in some public place. The town also chose a committee of five to examine Rev. Ebenezer Morse, minister of the Second Parish, William Crawford and three others, all members of that parish, "as being suspected of Toryism." At an adjourned meeting the committee reported favorably as to the three others, but as to Rev. Ebenezer Morse, they said it appeared to them that he was not so friendly to the common cause as

they could wish, and as to William Crawford, it appeared to the committee that he was wholly unfriendly and inclined rather to take up arms for the King. Mr. Morse came before the town to answer for himself. He had prayed with much fervor in his pulpit for the King and royal family, and this was well known before to all the town. He now, in open town-meeting, declared himself a loyalist and reproved his fellow-townsmen for disloyalty. The town thereupon directed the committee to take away the arms, ammunition and warlike implements of both Mr. Morse and Crawford, and voted that said Morse do not pass over the lines of the Second Parish on any occasion whatever without a permit, and that said Crawford remain within the bounds of his own land except on Sabbath-days, and then not go out of his parish without a permit. There is nothing in the town records, nor has anything come down to our time by tradition to indicate that any other inhabitants of Shrewsbury were ever "suspected of Toryism," and it was doubtless due to Rev. Ebenezer Morse, of the Second Parish, who was a strong man and had previously possessed the entire confidence of his people, that there was any opposition in any part of the town to the prevailing spirit of resistance to the British Crown.

In the time of the Revolution, regiments in Massachusetts were territorial—so many towns to a regiment. The county of Worcester was divided into seven regiments, and Shrewsbury, Grafton, Northborough, Westborough and Southborough were the Sixth Worcester Regiment, Jonathan Ward, of Southborough, colonel. Artemas Ward, of Shrewsbury, formerly colonel of this regiment, was elected by the first Provincial Congress, of which he was a member, with two others, to organize and command the militia, and the next Congress issued to him a commission as commander-in-chief of all the forces of Massachusetts and the other colonies, and shortly afterwards he was appointed by the Continental Congress major-general and commander-in-chief. Meantime the war had begun, and Captain Job Cushing, of Shrewsbury, had marched with his company to Lexington. About ten o'clock in the forenoon of April 19, 1775, passed like a flash through Shrewsbury a white horse, bloody with spurring and dripping with sweat, bearing a post-rider shouting as he rode: "To arms! to arms! the war has begun!" I have often heard my grandfather, Nathan Howe, the younger of that name, tell the story. He was then a boy fourteen years old, at work in the field with his father plowing, the team being a pair of oxen and a horse. His father, Ensign Howe, of the last war, now lieutenant of Captain Cushing's company, immediately detached from the team and mounted his horse and set off to rally the company.

There was hurrying to and fro and mounting in hot haste. The younger Nathan wanted dreadfully to go, too, and cried because his father would not let him. Of course the company, like many others as remote, did not arrive in time to take part in the fight. Immediately after the Lexington alarm the principal occupation of able-bodied men in the province of Massachusetts Bay was organizing and drilling, and before the battle of Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775, a large body of troops was at Cambridge, under command of General Artemas Ward, of Shrewsbury. Captain Ezra Beaman and Captain Job Cushing, with three companies from Shrewsbury, were both there.

Who commanded at Bunker Hill? There was General Artemas Ward over at Cambridge, commander-in-chief—such was his sonorous title—but this was before his commission by the Continental Congress, and all his authority was subordinate to that of the Massachusetts Committee of Safety, nine in number, who occupied the same headquarters with him,[1] and "planned the battle." And there was Putnam, and Prescott, and Warren, and Pomeroy and Stark, each fighting the British on his own hook, and with very little regard to what others were doing. Plainly there was nobody in command—in the sense of giving direction to the battle as a whole—that is, to compare small things with large, as Meade and Lee commanded their respective forces at Gettysburg. If only there had been somebody in command—some competent body—who had ordered over from Cambridge Captain Beaman and Captain Cushing, with their companies, and put them where they could do the most good, the author of this history might have had something to say about the men of Shrewsbury at Bunker Hill. The reason why re-enforcements were not sent over from Cambridge is not far to seek. The Committee of Safety made a mistake in supposing the attack of the British at Charlestown was a mere feint, and held fast where they were, expecting that the real attack would be directly made at Cambridge. In his "History of Shrewsbury" Mr. Andrew H. Ward —evidently in defence of his ancestor from criticism —gives a prolix and not very satisfactory explanation, of which the substance seems to be that General Ward's order-book shows that Colonel Jonathan Ward, with his regiment, was sent over by way of Lechmere's Point to Charlestown during the battle. For some reason it never reached its destination. Captain Aaron Smith, of Shrewsbury, whom we met in the last war returning home sick from Crown Point, whom also we shall shortly meet again, and who, on the 17th of June, 1775, was a private in Captain Cushing's company, and ran away without orders from Cambridge over to Charlestown, and alone, of all the Shrewsbury men, actually fought at Bunker Hill, fighting on his own hook, as every body else did, is given as authority for the statement that Colonel Ward, on his march, was met and halted by Dr. Benjamin Church, a member of the Committee of Safety, who afterwards turned out to be a traitor.

[1] The house in our times known as the birth-place of the poet Holmes.

General Washington arrived at Cambridge July 2, 1775, having been promoted over General Ward, and took command of the American army—about twenty thousand men. General Ward continued in the service as a subaltern under Washington till the evacuation of Boston by the British, May 17, 1776, when he resigned. The position of the British in Boston had become untenable by Washington's occupation of Dorchester Heights. Here Nathan Howe, of Shrewsbury, commanding a company, performed a service of great value, of great hardship also, working nights and in the cold rains of the spring months of 1776, throwing up fortifications on the heights, and contracted a severe cold that gradually developed into pulmonary disease and finally resulted in his death. In the latter part of the year 1777 he came home to die, but directly sent his son and namesake, then sixteen years old, to serve as a private in his regiment.

The cause of General Artemas Ward's resignation was a painful disorder,[1] which rendered all active exercise, particularly horseback-riding, an excruciating torture. At the request of Washington, who, after the evacuation of Boston by the British, went with the greater part of the army to New York, General Ward remained in command of the Eastern Department till December 31, 1777, when his resignation was accepted by Congress. Notwithstanding the superhuman pinnacle now occupied by Washington in public esteem, certain it is that in his life-time he was quite human and not at all reticent in his correspondence of unworthy reflections upon the personal courage of the officer over whom, for reasons of public policy, he had been promoted, and between whom and himself he was obviously conscious of popular comparison. Some time afterwards, when Washington was President and Ward was a member of Congress, then sitting in New York, the latter having obtained one of Washington's letters containing offensive allusions to him, proceeded to the President's house and asked him if he was the author of the letter. Washington looked at it for some time without making any reply. While he was still looking at it, Ward impatiently said, "I should think the man that was base enough to write that would be base enough to deny it," and abruptly turning on his heel, left the house.[2]

Job Cushing, of Shrewsbury, was promoted from rank to rank in the Sixth Regiment till he became its colonel. This regiment was from time to time recruited partly from the towns where it was originally formed and partly elsewhere. I think most of the Shrewsbury soldiers served in this regiment. After the success of Burgoyne at Ticonderoga public alarm was at the highest pitch, and Colonel Cushing went with his regiment to reinforce General Schuyler and took part in the battles of Bennington, August 16th, and Saratoga, October 16, 1777, when Burgoyne surrendered to General Gates, who had superseded General Schuyler in command. Ezra Beaman, of Shrewsbury, was also present at Burgoyne's surrender (but in what rank I am unable to say), and probably also at Bennington. Colonel Job Cushing, of Shrewsbury, and his regiment were a part of the body of troops that General Benedict Arnold undertook to betray to Sir Henry Clinton at West Point. The materials for giving details of the service of Shrewsbury men in the Revolutionary War are as meagre as for the French Wars. Before the Government gave pensions, besides the many who had died or been killed in the service, many more had doubtless died in the course of nature. A list of pensioners, prepared by Nathan Howe, who for many years acted as agent for his comrades in the army in obtaining pensions, contains exactly forty names. Of course, it is a mere remnant of the whole number who were in the Continental service from Shrewsbury.

In the time of President Madison, when occurred the War of 1812, a large majority of the people of Shrewsbury were of the Federal party, and wholly disapproved of the war, and I cannot find that the town or any citizen thereof in any manner participated therein.

And the Mexican War was generally considered morally wrong by the people of the town, always very radical in their opposition to slavery. Not a single citizen of Shrewsbury volunteered to go to Mexico, and I think the views of Mr. Hosea Biglow as to the Mexican War and its recruiting service, then newly printed for him in the *Boston Courier*, were exactly coincident with those of the whole town.

CHAPTER CVI.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

SHOWING THE PART WHICH SHREWSBURY TOOK IN THE SHAYS' REBELLION.

DANIEL SHAYS had a strong following in Shrewsbury—in numbers. The regulators, as the Shays' men were called, controlled the action of the town with irresistible majorities; but its two most eminent citizens, Gen. Artemas Ward and Col. Job Cushing, were conspicuous by pronounced opposition, and had entered on the town-records, where one may read it to-day, their protest against the insurrectionary proceedings of the town adopted at a town-meeting in 1786. Wisdom may have been with the minority, but the men who took up arms with Shays were not unprincipled and aban-

[1] Gravel.

[2] This story, having been preserved only by tradition, and having passed for now four generations of men from one to another, has come to have slightly differing versions. The one above given is taken from "Reminiscences of Rev. George Allen, by F. P. Rice, 1883." Another, differing in some details, may be seen in "Drake's Historic Mansions and Fields of Middlesex," page 260.

doned wretches of the criminal class, and it was not for nothing that they took up arms. Shays himself, as well as Ward and Cushing, was a veteran of the Revolutionary War, and so also were every one of his captains, so far as I have been able to ascertain. Adam Wheeler, of Hubbardston, who in Shays' absence acted in this county as commander of the regulators, was a captain of the Continental Line and deacon of the Congregational Church in Hubbardston. He was born in Shrewsbury and was the great-great-grandson of the famous Captain Thomas Wheeler, of the Indian fight at Brookfield in 1675, and the great-grandson of Thomas Wheeler, the younger, also a hero of the same fight, who, himself severely wounded there, rescued his more severely wounded father from the Indians, who were about to dispatch him, threw him upon the horse of the slain Shadrach Hapgood, and with his father escaped by flight. Captain Wheeler, of the Shays' Rebellion, was also on his mother's side a great-grandson of the slain Shadrach, four of whose descendants settled in Shrewsbury.[1]

The leader of the Shrewsbury regulators was a brother-in-law of Wheeler, having married his sister, and a veteran whom we first met as a boy serving his apprenticeship as a soldier in the French War, and who fought for the independence of his country from Lexington to Yorktown—Captain Aaron Smith, and the company which he raised for Shays in Shrewsbury were his former companions-in-arms. They were the identical men who rallied to Lexington and Bunker Hill, Bennington and Saratoga. Their purpose was not to overthrow the government, but merely to restrain the courts temporarily from entering up judgments and issuing executions. The people of Shrewsbury were very poor. They had spent their little all for country. Acting under the advice of Governor Bowdoin and influenced by speculating Boston lobbyists, the General Court had laid an enormous tax with a view to pay off the public debt. Most of the public creditors were holders of State securities or soldiers' certificates purchased at less than twelve per cent. of their face value. Claims against the bankrupt citizens of the town were in the hands of lawyers and deputy-sheriffs, who held them under contracts for large percentages if collected. In the year 1784 and 1785 about four thousand suits were entered in the courts at Worcester. Lawyers' offices were thronged with suitors, and the neighborhood of them presented the appearance of a public fair. Real and personal property was sold on execution at ruinous prices, nobody having money to buy with at sales. And the jails were crowded with debtors. Only twelve years before exactly the same thing had been done at Worcester—with universal approval—which the regulators now attempted. In 1774 about five thousand men, mostly armed, had assembled at Worcester to prevent and did prevent the sitting of the courts, and no courts were held for two years. This then recent precedent suggested to the distressed people of Shrewsbury the means of relief from their distresses.

The first demonstration of the insurgents at Worcester, in September, was successful in preventing the sitting of the courts. It was upon this occasion that General Artemas Ward, of Shrewsbury, then chief justice of both the Courts of Sessions and Common Pleas, performed the act which will go to posterity as the crowning act of his life. Wheeler's company, which had marched into Worcester on Monday afternoon, September 4, 1786, the day before the courts were to sit, took up quarters in the court-house Monday night, so as to be sure to be in possession when the judges should arrive next morning. Smith's company marched in from Shrewsbury early Tuesday morning, and was deployed and posted as sentries on Court Hill and around the court-house. An immense crowd of people had assembled thereabouts. Approaching the court-house, the judges were challenged by an armed sentry at the foot of Court Hill. At the order of his old commander, now chief justice, the sentry recovered his musket, presented arms, and the judges proceeded past him to the court-house. There, upon the broad step at the south entrance, stood Captain Wheeler and Captain Smith, with drawn swords in their hands, and five soldiers with fixed bayonets. Right well did Artemas Ward know the men he had to deal with. Smith was his near neighbor, and lived on the opposite side to him of the Great Road through Shrewsbury. Wheeler, who was about Ward's age (nearly sixty years), had been his schoolmate in youth, and had formerly been a member of the same church. In his younger days, as a militia captain, Ward had drilled, in left foot and shoulder arms on Shrewsbury Common, the very men now in array against him. Smith and Wheeler had both served under Ward at Cambridge and at the siege of Boston, and long after his retirement as major-general he knew that they had, in humbler rank, endured the hardships of the Revolutionary War like good soldiers to its very close, and had been paid off in Continental paper. And he knew, too, that they were both poor, deeply involved in debt and harassed with suits.

Proceeding to mount the court-house steps, the further progress of the judges was, by order of Captain Wheeler, arrested by the soldiers, who brought their bayonets to bear directly on the chief justice's breast, so that their points even penetrated his clothes. After a parley, the officers consented to allow him to mount the steps and address the crowd. Though Artemas Ward, of Shrewsbury, had been much in public life, he was a man usually of slow and hesitating speech, had rarely taken part in debates and had never been accounted an orator. He was a graduate of Harvard College, but, though a judge, he was not a lawyer by profession. As soon as he had looked his audience in the face there

[1] See page 785.

seems to have come over him a sort of inspiration, and, with great fluency, fervor and eloquence, he forthwith proceeded to reason with the people, whose grievances he did not deny upon their mistaken method of relief. The newspaper man was not there to report, nor had the speaker in his pocket an extemporaneous manuscript to privately send to the press, and only by tradition has any word of what he said survived the more than hundred years since the event; but more than anything he did say or could say—more than anything the greatest of orators could have said—was the dauntless courage and dignity of his conduct as a magistrate,[1] of which to find a historical parallel you will have to make a far research—reminding one of Horace's "Just and determined man, unshaken in his firmness either by wrath of citizens commanding wrongful things or by tyrant's frown or raging seas or thunder-bolt of Jove, whom the ruins of a crumbling world would strike undismayed."—Carmina, III. 3. But Captain Wheeler was as unshaken as his old commander, and continued firm in his determination that the judges should not enter the court-house, and they did not. At the conclusion of the chief justice's speech, which had been interrupted by cries "Adjourn without day," the judges retired to the United States Arms, opened court there and adjourned.

In the last week of November following, Shrewsbury became the rendezvous of all the insurrectionary forces.

Rub a dub dub, Rub a dub dub,
The sojers are coming to town.

And what with the drumming and fifing, marching and countermarching, tented fields and the ear-splitting fife of morning reveille breaking slumber, you would have thought it a garrison town. Col. Cushing, chairman of the selectmen, had prudently removed the town's stock of gunpowder from the powder-house and concealed it. The regulators surrounded and searched his house, but found neither powder nor selectman. The purpose of this assembling of the Shays' men was to prevent the sitting of the courts at Worcester on the first Monday of December, and both courts were adjourned to January the 23d. The crisis and climax of the rebellion was a week of unprecedented snow-storms; without blankets, rations, quarters or money, in the public highways of Worcester, in the dead of winter, with the snow three feet deep under foot and more falling, what could the Shays' men do but disperse? It was the weather and the elements that put down the Shays' Rebellion, and not the distracted and inefficient Gov. Bowdoin and his militia, who, before the dispersement of his followers at Worcester, had shown their heels to Daniel Shays every time they caught so much as a glimpse of him.

The Governor crowed lustily over his victory, arrested great numbers of the rebels and had fourteen of them convicted of treason and sentenced to death. But the Shays men shortly had their innings—at the spring election of 1787, when Gov. Bowdoin and his party were overwhelmingly defeated by the popular vote. In the previous year James Bowdoin had received a large majority of the votes of Shrewsbury; this year his votes in that town bore the exact ratio of one to five to those for John Hancock, who, after taking his seat as Governor, pardoned all his predecessor's convicts.

Aaron Smith, of Shrewsbury, like Shays himself, and many of the more prominent of the rebels, went into exile in unknown parts—somewhere out of Massachusetts, doubtless—till after passage of the amnesty act, when he returned, and spent the remainder of his days (not a few) in Shrewsbury. He died May 9, 1825, aged eighty-nine years, and to his last expiring breath gloried in the part he took with Daniel Shays. Less than a year before his death he walked to Worcester to meet his old commander, the Marquis Lafayette, who immediately recognized and greeted him with kisses and embraces, bringing tears into the eyes of all who witnessed the fraternal salutation. None of the regulators that I ever heard of ever took the attitude of repentant rebels. Within the recollection of the writer a considerable number of them were still living, among the rest his grandfather Howe, who was no more ashamed of his part in the Shays Rebellion than he was of his part in the Revolutionary War, and God forbid that his grandson should offer apologies for him and his comrades or tell their story otherwise than he told it himself.

CHAPTER CVII.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

THE SLAVEHOLDERS' REBELLION.

THE news of Sumter taken came to Shrewsbury Saturday, April 12, 1861. Before the people of this town will feel such another shock as this news gave them, generations will come and go. Somehow or other the people of this town, until they heard this news, had never really believed that the slaveholders actually meant war. When, on the morning of the 19th of April, 1775, the post-rider just from Lexington Common, on his foaming steed, dashed through Shrewsbury and rallied her minute-men to arms, it was just what everybody expected,—just what the minute-men were for. But when the news of Sumter came to town there were no minute-men listening for rallying cry to arms. Nevertheless, as soon as the

[1] McMasters says he cursed and swore, but an examination of the authorities he cites only shows that in his parley with Captain Wheeler, before he mounted the steps and commenced his speech to the people, the judge said he did not care a damn for their bayonets. Hist. People of the U. S., Vol. I., p. 307.

news was duly authenticated, the people of Shrewsbury were just as resolved on what to do as their fathers had been eighty-six years before. And such a perfectly unanimous determination as there was! When one looked in his neighbor's face he saw fight in his eye before he had time to speak. And Shrewsbury, in this respect, probably did not much differ from other towns. But there is an aspect in which this town seems to me quite unique—different from other towns. In all the other towns that I know of, somebody, taking advantage of the war spirit so suddenly awakened, started round with an enlistment paper to raise a company and be captain of it. Here patriotic spirit was wholly unalloyed with any taint of self-seeking or personal ambition. Plenty of volunteers there were already to enlist as soon as they could find out how to do it and meet somebody willing to be an officer and take command of them.

May 2, 1861, was held in Shrewsbury a war-meeting, first of many. At this and subsequent meetings held during the four years of the war, money was appropriated to pay volunteers for drilling, to pay for uniforms, to support the families of volunteers, to pay bounties, to bring home the bodies of deceased soldiers, to refund money contributed by citizens for bounties, and for like purposes to the amount of about twenty-two thousand dollars. According to the "Record of our Soldiers," kept by the town clerk of Shrewsbury, pursuant to an act of the General Court of 1863 (ch. 65), this town furnished one hundred and forty-seven volunteers. No man was drafted in Shrewsbury during the war, the quotas demanded of the town being filled even before they were demanded, and at the close of the war it was found that the town had furnished twenty men above its requirement. The one hundred and forty-seven volunteers of Shrewsbury enlisted, a few in this regiment and a few in that, the earliest in the Thirteenth Massachusetts. They and their deeds are credited to companies raised in other towns and cities, largely to so-called Worcester companies, and the services of our soldiers reflect honor on our neighbors of Worcester and other places.

If the Shrewsbury volunteers had organized themselves into two companies and named six of their members for commissions as line officers, and one or two more for field or staff commissions, and insisted that they would only enter a regiment with these organizations and commissions, they would have done just what others did, and would have been gladly received and their requirements granted. Our soldiers might not have accomplished any more towards putting down the Rebellion then they did, and the town of Shrewsbury might not be entitled to any more credit or honor on their account than it now is. But what with the exploits of these companies, and their officers, and their promotions, and their record in published reports, letters and official documents, the writer of this history would have found better material for making a good showing for Shrewsbury in the war than he now can.

The early officers of the volunteers were mostly taken from the militia. Shrewsbury had no militia company. In 1861, as was natural, a little knowledge of the tactics, such as militia officers were supposed to have, was immensely overestimated. If one could say "Shoulder arms!" with the militia accent, he was accepted as a proper commander to lead a thousand men to an assault upon artillery. It was doubtless from an overestimate of the mystery of the tactics that none of the Shrewsbury volunteers sought positions as officers.[1] The writer himself, being a native of Shrewsbury, and though not, in 1861, a resident of the town, having inborn in him much of the native modesty of Shrewsbury men, declined a commission as captain. On entering the service in a lower rank, finding the army full of brigadiers not fit for second lieutenants, he plainly saw that he had been too modest. The real difference between the officers and men of the volunteer army of the War of the Rebellion was far less than has been commonly supposed. In 1861 two major-generals were wanted from Massachusetts, and two noted politicians, both Presidential aspirants, were appointed. They had both figured in the militia, and practiced the militia accent for the manual of arms at the dress parade of militia musters. Such was their preparation to cope with Lee and Jackson. When the President was looking for two men to trust with the fate of his country and the lives of his countrymen, he had much better have looked over those one hundred and forty-seven men from Shrewsbury and made his selection from them than to have looked where and selected what he did. I don't believe that Lee would have bottled one of them up with a great army at Bermuda Hundred, nor that Stonewall would have caught another napping and sent him skedaddling, pell-mell, helter-skelter, head over heels, panic-stricken, out of the Shenandoah Valley, nor that one would have been the hero of both Big Bethel and Fort Fisher, nor that the other would have both planned and executed the Red River campaign.

Twenty-nine soldiers of Shrewsbury gave their lives for their country in the War of the Rebellion, to whose memory the town has erected an enduring monument, with their names inscribed thereon, on the Common fronting close upon the public thoroughfare.

Several natives of Shrewsbury were officers of rank in the War of the Rebellion, and their services for their country reflect lustre on their native town, though their residence was elsewhere.

Calvin E. Pratt, of New York, who is the son of

[1] Since this statement, which was based upon examination of the published rolls of Massachusetts Volunteers, was in print I have learned that William E. Shaw, of Shrewsbury, served as a second lieutenant in the First North Carolina Volunteers, otherwise called the Thirty-sixth United States Colored Troops, Colonel Edward Beecher.

Mr. Edward A. Pratt, late of this town, was born here in 1827. A practicing lawyer in the city of New York in 1861, he laid aside his practice to recruit a regiment and had it all ready for muster in June. As colonel of this regiment, which was the Thirty-first New York Volunteers, he was commissioned June 20th to rank as of May 21st. With his command he took part in the first battle of Bull Run; with it also he served in the Peninsula campaign of 1862 and participated in the Seven Days' Fight before Richmond. At the battle of Gaines' Mills he was severely wounded. He was promoted brigadier-general September 13, 1862. General Pratt studied law in Worcester in the office of the late Judge Henry Chapin, was admitted to the bar in this county in 1853 and practiced his profession in Worcester till about a year before the war, when he removed to New York city. He has been for many years and still is a justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York.

John Baker Wyman, of Chicago, Ill., son of the late Seth Wyman, of Shrewsbury, was born here November 18, 1816. He had been engaged in railroad business for several years and was, at the breaking out of the Rebellion, superintendent of the Illinois Central Railway Company. With the Chicago Light Guard, a military organization of which he was commander, as the nucleus, in the spring of 1861 he recruited the Thirteenth Illinois Infantry and was mustered into the United States service with that regiment as its colonel May 24th of that year. After a series of the most gallant and meritorious services he was killed at the siege of Vicksburg.

Charles Edward Hapgood, born in Shrewsbury, December 11, 1830, and son of Captain Joab Hapgood, was at the breaking out of the war engaged in mercantile business at Amherst, N. H. He recruited a company for the Fifth New Hampshire Volunteers, and was mustered into service with it October 12, 1861. He served with his regiment till October 14, 1864, when, on account of severe wounds, he resigned, having been promoted lieutenant-colonel, December 14, 1862, and colonel July 3, 1864. The Fifth New Hampshire was one of the famous regiments of the army of the Potomac and did distinguished service. Its first commander, Colonel Cross, was killed at Gettysburg July 1, 1864.

Dr. Henry Putnam Stearns, son of the late Asa Stearns, and born in Shrewsbury in 1827, entered the service of the United States April 18, 1861, as surgeon of the First Connecticut volunteers, a three months regiment, and was mustered out August 1st of the same year, when he was appointed surgeon of volunteers and ordered to report to General Grant in the Department of the West. The next spring he was assigned to duty as Medical Director of the Right Wing of the Army of the Tennessee, was afterwards Inspector of Army Hospitals at St. Louis, also medical director of the general hospitals of the Northern Army of the Mississippi. He was afterwards in the same position at Nashville, Tenn., where he remained till the close of war when (August, 1865,) he was mustered out of service with rank of brevet lieutenant-colonel. Dr. Stearns graduated at Yale College in the class of 1853, studied his profession in the medical schools of Harvard and Yale, and also at Edinburg, Scotland, and received his degree as M.D. at Yale in 1855; practiced medicine in Marlborough, Mass., till 1860 when he removed to Hartford, Conn., where, with the exception of the period he was in the United States service, he practiced till January, 1874, when he was appointed superintendent of the Hartford Retreat for the Insane, which position he still holds. He has also been lecturer on insanity in the medical department of Yale College since 1877.

Charles Grosvenor Ward, who was the son of the venerable Thomas W. Ward, Esq., and born in Shrewsbury December 30, 1829; was mustered into the service of the United States September 2, 1861, as second lieutenant in the Twenty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteers, the favorite regiment of the city of Boston, where he had resided for some years previous. He was promoted first lieutenant June 27, 1863, and assigned to duty as adjutant of his regiment. After participating unharmed in sixteen of the great battles of the war and without having ever received any promotions at all commensurate with his long and meritorious service, he was killed in the battle of Drury's Bluff May 11, 1864. His name is on the soldiers' monument.

All the above, except Colonel Wyman, were about the writer's age and companions of his youth, and he takes pride in this opportunity for brief memorial here of their honorable and patriotic services. He will leave to others to recount his own humble efforts to save his country. He cannot claim to reflect honor upon his native town by high rank or great exploits, and it would be presumptuous to name himself in a list of natives of Shrewsbury who performed distinguished service.[1]

CHAPTER CVIII.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

AGRICULTURE—THE STAGE BUSINESS—THE TANNING AND CURRYING BUSINESS.

AGRICULTURE has always been the leading industry of the people of Shrewsbury. According to tradition, or, perhaps, it were better to say according to the best information that can be obtained from living men as to what their grandfathers told them,

[1] Major Harlow recruited a company in 1861, in Spencer, Mass., where he was then practicing law, for the Twenty-first Massachusetts Volunteers, with which he was mustered into the United States service, and participated with that regiment in its engagements at Roanoke Island, New Berne, Camden Court House, second Bull Run, Chantilly, South Mountain, Antietam, and Fredericksburg.—EDITOR.

which covers a period of more than one hundred years, most of the lands now in use for pasture and tillage was cleared of wood before the Revolutionary War and then used for pasture and tillage. In the earliest times all meadows which, without improvement or any kind of tilling, produced grass, though of the coarsest quality, were considered "valuable," and farmers often had a few acres of "valuable meadow" quite remote from their farms. These meadows, to begin with, were generally free from wood, or, at any rate, from large trees, and the quantity of natural meadow was much increased and a much better kind of hay produced by bringing water whenever it could be done, by ditches upon uplands. Down until within the memory of living men, farm products in Shrewsbury were chiefly consumed within the town. Families were large and home consumption was large. Nor was there any market to buy or sell in, nor much money in farmers' pockets to trade with. But early in the present century it was discovered by Shrewsbury farmers that, there was a market in Boston for butter, cheese, eggs, chickens, veal and pork, and for beef on the hoof in Brighton, and a class of middle men called drovers and market men, began to pass and repass back and forth from Shrewsbury and the market. From this time farming began to improve. Farmers were not so absolutely destitute of money. There were better tools, better methods of farming, better cattle and better crops, and with industry and economy it was possible for the Shrewsbury farmer to rise a little above the chill penury of the beginners. Rye, oats, Indian-corn and hay were the chief crops. Apple-trees were planted at the very outset, and, before 1776, nearly every farm had its orchard, and if good fruit was not abundant, there was no lack of cider. About 1820 market-wagons began to run regularly every week from Shrewsbury to Boston, and returning they hauled for the storekeepers the groceries and dry-goods that they dealt in. This continued till about 1845, when it was found that the town of Worcester was a better market than Boston as well as much nearer, and everybody could be his own market-man, and so put in his own pocket the commissions on sales. Before the use of coal became common in Worcester, the Shrewsbury farmer had a near and growing market for wood as fuel, and before the great forests of Canada and the west were connected by rail with the east, the demand of Worcester for Shrewsbury lumber was beyond the supply. But times in recent years, with the Shrewsbury farmer have greatly changed, and there is but one farm product in respect to which he is not obliged to compete with producers of remote States. On account of its quickly perishable nature, milk, which is in demand the year round, is in no danger of remote competition. It is to-day the chief product that goes to market from Shrewsbury farms. Except milk, and possibly apples, of which in alternate years the orchards of Shrewsbury produce a large quantity and of famous quality, I do not suppose there is any other farm product of sufficient amount to supply more than the home market.

In recent years the salable value of farm lands in Shrewsbury has been steadily diminishing, and, in fact, they cannot be sold at all. Nobody will buy and many want to sell. There is not, probably, a farm in the town that would sell for enough to pay the cost of the buildings and fences standing on it. The reasons are not far to seek. "To diversify industry" the manufactures of Massachusetts have been so favored at the expense of agriculture that the natives of Shrewsbury have been enticed away from the homes and occupations of their fathers to enter shops. The "home markets" which the cities and manufacturing centres of the State are reputed to furnish, are flooded with the farm products of other States, and the Shrewsbury farmer has to pay tribute not only to other occupations for every article of clothing he wears and every tool that he uses, but even for farm products to farmers of sunnier climes and more fertile soils than his own living within his own country. Not a pound of sugar or rice can he buy without paying the favored growers of these necessities of life double prices. Protection *for everybody else's* products and free trade *against* his have ground the Shrewsbury farmer like upper and nether millstones, and no wonder he wants to sell his farm and no wonder nobody wants to buy it.

In 1860 was formed in Shrewsbury a Farmers' Club, for the purpose of promoting the best methods of farming. The club holds occasional meetings in the winter season for discussion of agricultural topics, and its annual cattle shows, held in October, have become famous and the favorite resort of the people of neighboring towns. In 1815 was formed in Shrewsbury a like association, called the Agricultural Associates of Shrewsbury, and the next year another, with the name of the Agricultural Associates of Worcester, was formed in Worcester. In 1818 the two societies were merged in a county society and incorporated under the name of the Worcester Agricultural Society, which directly took and has ever since maintained a prominent position in the esteem, not only of the farmers, but of all the people of Worcester County of whatever occupation.

Of other branches of business, such as the manufacture of guns, of watches and of boots and shoes, which, to some extent never large, was formerly carried on here, the limits of this work do not admit of more specific mention. But I cannot omit some brief account of the famous stage business, whose founder and manager lived here, and with Shrewsbury as his headquarters, carried it on to places far remote; nor of the tanning and currying business which, begun here in an humble way more than a century ago, has grown to a very extensive business.

Captain Levi Pease, the founder of stage business

in this country, moved from Boston to Shrewsbury in 1793. He was a son of Nathaniel Pease, born at Enfield, Conn., in 1739, and was by trade a blacksmith. His father was a sailor, and reported to have been lost at sea. His mother married a second husband, named Parsons, after which her first husband returned. After one glance at the situation Nathaniel Pease went off to sea, and was never heard of at Enfield again. Levi's title as captain was earned in the Continental line. At the beginning of the Revolutionary War he was living at Blandford, Mass. He served with General Thomas in Canada, and later with General Wordsworth in the Commissary Department,—often employed in perilous enterprises, to bear dispatches and obtain supplies,—a resolute and tireless man, up early and down late. After the war he kept a tavern for some years at Somers, Conn. Afterwards he kept the Lamb in Boston, whence he removed to Shrewsbury, where he bought the tavern stand of Major John Farrar.

But more than ten years before Captain Pease came here, he had projected and was running a stage line from Boston to Hartford. Farrar's Tavern in Shrewsbury had been from the beginning a night stopping-place on the line, and after becoming familiar with his route, he selected it as the best point from which to operate his business. He took into partnership with him a young native of Somers named Reuben Sykes, who was also a blacksmith. No man of capital would invest a dollar with Pease and Sykes in their visionary stage line. Said a solid man of Boston to Captain Pease: "The time may come when a stage line to Hartford will pay, but not in your day." The partners commenced business with an outfit of eight horses and "two convenient wagons," and their first trip was performed October 20, 1783. Pease drove one wagon from the Lamb Tavern in Boston at six o'clock Monday morning, and reached Hartford on Thursday; and Sykes drove the other, leaving Hartford at the same time, and arriving also in Boston in four days. Two of the night stopping-places were Farrar's, in Shrewsbury, and Pease's, in Somers. The other—when Tuesday night they met—was at Rice's, in Brookfield. And they ran in fair weather and in foul, in mud and in snow, passengers or no passengers, punctual as the stars in their courses. In two years this stage line was a great success, and was extended to New York. In 1786 Pease and Sykes established a line of stages from Portsmouth to Savannah, and carried the mails. They also had, for several years, an exclusive contract with the government to carry the mails for all New England, re-letting to numerous others, who on branch lines collected and distributed the mails. It was Pease and Sykes that made punctual as the mail a proverb.

Captain Pease learned his punctuality in one lesson, and his teacher was George Washington, who, when he was at Cambridge in 1776, wanted to buy a pair of horses, and made an appointment with Pease who had a pair of horses to sell. Pease was a few minutes too late for the appointment, and Washington did not wait for him. It was the last time Levi Pease ever got left.

The founder of stage lines was also the first projector of turnpikes. Of all the many companies chartered in Massachusetts about the beginning of this century to build turnpikes, it was the First Massachusetts Turnpike Corporation whose charter (1796) was to Levi Pease and his associates, authorizing them to build a turnpike through Palmer and Western.[1] He put in his earnings and savings, and made a good road where there was a very bad one; but the turnpike never paid, and in consequence of his investments in its stock Captain Pease died a poor man. But he lived and ran his stages many years. His death took place in Shrewsbury January 28, 1824, and his age was eighty-four years. His honor and integrity, which were as famous as his punctuality, were inborn, and therein Washington himself could have taught him nothing. Often in the army, often in his business as tavern-keeper and stage-driver trusted with uncounted money, the trust was sacredly inviolate.

For many years four stages a day, two going east and two going west, passed through Shrewsbury on the Great Road. In 1806 the Worcester Turnpike Association was chartered to build a turnpike from Worcester to Roxbury. Its course was as straight as possible, and ran through the south part of Shrewsbury. After its completion in 1808, four stages—two each way also—ran daily on the turnpike. Another turnpike, having Shrewsbury for one of its termini, and Amherst for the other—the Sixth Massachusetts—sometimes called the Holden Turnpike—was built in 1800. A line of stages also ran daily on this turnpike. Both of these turnpikes were abandoned many years ago by the corporations that built them, and were laid out by the county commissioners as highways.

Col. Nymphas Pratt, whose father, Capt. Seth Pratt, was the founder of the tanning and currying business in Shrewsbury, was born April 5, 1786, in the old house owned by Henry Harlow, standing near the brick house in which he lives. The tannery was on the south side of the road opposite the houses, and was sold in 1796 with the old house then comparatively new, and about twenty-two acres of land, by Capt. Pratt to the writer's grandfather, Thomas Harlow, who came from Duxbury, when he was twenty-one years old, to buy it, and paid $1000 for it. Here was the place where, and Seth Pratt was the man by whom the tanning business was begun in Shrewsbury. After sale of his tannery he moved to Barre, dammed the Ware River, built woolen-mills and founded the vil-

[1] Changed to Warren.

lage of Barre Plains. Deacon Thomas Harlow, who was a farmer as well as tanner, carried on the tannery for nearly fifty years in connection with his farm, which he bought piece by piece of his neighbors.

Col. Pratt, Capt. Seth's son (military titles both derived from militia commissions), about the year 1810 built a new tannery in the Lower Village in Shrewsbury, where the business or the currying branch of it has been continued to the present day. Here Col. Pratt did the business, both tanning and currying, till from a small beginning it grew into a very large and prosperous one, and the owner of it became a man of great influence and was accounted to possess immense wealth. People said he was worth one hundred thousand dollars, which sounded bigger than a million does now. Col. Pratt was one of the principal founders of the Citizens' Bank in Worcester, incorporated in 1836 with a capital stock of $250,000, and was its first president. In 1839 he failed in business and this bank, which had discounted a large amount of his paper, was a heavy loser. But the failure of Col. Pratt was due not so much to his own business as a tanner and currier as to his courageous and honorable though rash attempt to sustain through such a financial crisis as that of 1837–40, the firm of S. H. Allen & Co., of which the partners were his son, William Pratt, who was a lawyer and lived in Worcester, and his son-in-law, Simon Hapgood Allen, who was the active manager of the firm business and lived in Shrewsbury. The business of this firm, which was formed in 1833 and carried on at the brick store in the Lower Village in Shrewsbury, was mainly the manufacture of ready-made clothing. Mr. Allen may be said to have been the founder of the ready-made clothing business. The firm employed a large force of tailors, who cut out the garments, which were taken home and sewed by women at their houses. Many of the sales of the firm were on credit at places far remote—in the South and West. In such a crisis as that of 1837 no wonder the firm failed. If Col. Pratt had allowed this firm to go down into its inevitable bankruptcy, probably he might have saved himself and his own proper business.

Upon the winding up of Col. Pratt's affairs in bankruptcy, Lucius H. Allen, who was his foreman, bought of his assignees the tanning business, and continued to carry it on till 1862, and Jonathan H. Nelson and Thomas Rice, who had learned the trade of curriers in Col. Pratt's shop, took the currying business. With no capital except their trade to begin business with, by industry, laboring untiringly with their own hands they, by degrees, built up a very large and profitable business. In 1862 Mr. Allen, who had also done a large and profitable business, sold out to Nelson & Rice his tannery. During the war the business of this firm became enormous and its profits immense—many times exceeding anything that Col. Pratt had ever done or dreamed of. Mr. Nelson died in 1872, leaving a large estate, and his partner, Mr. Rice, has recently died, leaving, doubtless, a much larger. The business is still carried on by Mr. Charles O. Green, who, after the death of Mr. Nelson, was associated with Mr. Rice as partner. Col. Pratt, Mr. Allen, Mr. Nelson and Mr. Rice were all men of public spirit, and deeply interested in all that concerned the town of Shrewsbury and the Congregational parish; and they were, all of them, honored with the public trusts of selectmen and representatives to the General Court. Mr. Rice was also, in 1869, a member of the Massachusetts Senate, and, having been for many years a director of the First National Bank of Worcester and president of the Northborough National Bank, he had an extensive acquaintance among business men.

CHAPTER CIX.

SHREWSBURY—(*Continued.*)

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION—GRADUATES OF COLLEGES—PUBLIC EDUCATION.

THE first physician in Shrewsbury was Dr. Joshua Smith, 1719–56, who practiced here from about 1840 till his death. He held the offices of town clerk, selectman and assessor for several years, and specimens of his elegant chirography are preserved in the town archives. But he set the example, followed by so many of his successors, of cavilling at sound doctrine, and Deacon Isaac Stone laid a complaint before the brethren of the church "that y^{e} sd. Smith was defective in y^{e} fundamental article of original sin." And therefore a committee of three Orthodox divines was appointed to discourse with him. Now, Dr. Smith was son-in-law of Rev. John Prentice, of Lancaster, and brother-in-law of Rev. Job Cushing, of Shrewsbury, and I strongly suspect that the ecclesiastical discipline of Dr. Smith was aimed less at him than at his kindred by marriage, whose defectiveness upon the Calvinistic fundamentals Deacon Stone did not choose to directly attack. All the same, to argue original sin against three learned divines all at once was nuts for "ye sd. Smith," who according to tradition, unhorsed his antagonists as completely as he had his neighbor, the deacon.

Dr. Zachariah Harvey, who lived in "Shrewsbury Leg," now a part of Sterling, practiced here from about 1740 to 1750, when he removed to Princeton, and was directly chosen there moderator, clerk, selectman, assessor and delegate to the General Court. He is said to have been the introducer of the Harvey apple.

Dr. Edward Flint, 1733–1818, came here from Concord about 1756, shortly after Dr. Smith's death. Besides his service in the French War, elsewhere mentioned, he also served as an army surgeon in the

Revolutionary War. He was a famous doctor, had a large practice, and lived where Mr. George H. Harlow and his wife, who is Dr. Flint's grand-daughter, now lives. He was several years town clerk and one of the selectmen. His son, Dr. Austin Flint, 1760–1850, born here, practiced in Leicester many years and rose to eminence in his profession. At the age of seventeen years he enlisted in the Revolutionary War, marched to Bennington and served till the close of the war. Dr. John Flint, 1779–1809, another son of Dr. Edward and a native of this town, practiced in Petersham.

Of Rev. Ebenezer Morse's practice as a physician mention has already been made. His son, Dr. Eliakim Morse, 1759–1840, also practiced in the North Parish.

Dr. Amariah Bigelow, born here 1757, also practiced in the North Parish.

Dr. Samuel Crosby, born here 1732, lived on "Boston Hill," in the southeast part of the town, and practiced here till the Revolutionary War, when he entered the Continental service as an army surgeon. After the war he removed to Winchendon.

Dr. Paul Dean came here from Franklin about 1790 with his father, Captain Ebenezer Dean, who settled in the southeast part of the town on the place afterwards known as the Balch Dean Place, so called after Captain Ebenezer's nephew, who lived and died there within the memory of the present generation. Here in 1792, when the small-pox appeared in town, Dr. Dean opened a hospital, where people resorted to be inoculated and treated for that malady. He was a musician, taught singing-schools and led the church choir. After practicing here some years he went South and never returned.

Dr. Silas Wheelock, 1769–1817, came here from Northbridge about 1800, and practiced till his death. He lived on the place now owned by Mr. Lewis E. Colton, whose wife was Dr. Wheelock's grand-daughter. He had the reputation of a skillful physician and surgeon.

Dr. Seth Knowlton, 1781–1832, a native of Shrewsbury whom we have seen leading the heretical revolt of 1821, practiced here about thirty years. He was a man of strong intellect and great influence in the town, and he was noted as much for his positive opinions and his ability to maintain them against all opposers as he was for his skill as a surgeon and physician. He built and lived in the house where his successor, Dr. Adolphus Brigham, afterwards lived.

Dr. William Workman (Harvard College, 1825), came to Shrewsbury about 1826, and continued in practice here till about 1830, when he removed to Worcester, where he became eminent in his profession and had a large practice.

Dr. Azor R. Phelps practiced here from about 1835, to 1843, when he died. He lived in the house now owned by Mr. Leander Ware. and was proprietor of Phelps' Arcanum, once a famous panacea.

Dr. Adolphus Brigham came here from Marlborough in 1827, lived in the house built by Dr. Knowlton, on Grafton Street, and succeeded to his practice. He was, in his time, "the Doctor of Shrewsbury," and his practice extended to adjoining towns. A good man, and well skilled, both as a surgeon and physician, he had the respect and confidence of all who knew him, and died much lamented.

Dr. Alonzo Smith came here from Vermont about 1834. In 1837 he returned to Vermont and died there.

Dr. John Heard came here in 1847, and remained about a year.

Dr. Joel B. Fay came from Northbridge about 1850, and practiced here till his death, in 1860. He lived in the house now the congregational parsonage.

Dr. Dean Towne practiced here from about 1840 to 1850, when he removed to Worcester.

Dr. Frederick A. Jewett, who moved from Abington to this town in 1859, practiced here till 1870, when he removed to Grafton.

Dr. John T. Wetherbee, a native of Marlborough, came here from California in 1860, and continued in practice till 1863, when he entered the United States naval service as acting assistant surgeon. He died after a brief term of service on board the United States ship "Currier," in the Gulf of Mexico, and his name is on the Soldiers' Monument.

Dr. Emerson Warner practiced here from 1863 to 1865, when he removed to Worcester, where he still lives and has a large practice.

Dr. Franklin Whiting Brigham, born here in 1841, and son of Dr. Adolphus, studied his profession at Harvard Medical School, and, after serving two years as acting assistant surgeon in the United States navy, settled here in 1865, and remains in practice. He lives in the same house, built by Calvin R. Stone, where his predecessor, Dr. Warner, lived.

Dr. Jeremiah C. Foster, who was an army surgeon in the United States volunteer service during the Rebellion, settled here in 1867. In 1873 he removed to Barre, and died there.

Dr. J. C. Coburn came here in 1878 and remained till 1880, when he removed to Brooklyn, Conn.

Dr. George L. Tobey practiced here from 1879 to 1880, when he removed to Lancaster.

Dr. Charles Sumner Pratt, a native of Shrewsbury, and son of the late Nathan Pratt, Jr., opened an office here in 1879 in the "Old Store Block," and remains in practice. He is a graduate of the Medical Department of Michigan University.

The following natives of Shrewsbury have been graduates of colleges:

Rev. Jacob Cushing, 1730–1809 (Harvard College, 1748), son of Rev. Job Cushing, was settled in Waltham. In 1807 Harvard conferred on him the degree of D.D.

Rev. John Cushing, 1737–1823 (Harvard College, 1764), another son of Rev. Job Cushing, was settled in Ashburnham. He also received (1822) the degree of D.D. from Harvard.

Rev. Lemuel Hedge, 1734–77 (Harvard College, 1759), son of Elisha Hedge, who came to this town from Boston about 1730, and built a mill-dam and grist-mill, called in later times Harlow's Mills, after a successive owner, and removed to Hardwick in 1738, was settled in Warwick. He was the father of Professor Levi Hedge, over thirty years an instructor in Harvard College, and grandfather of the eminent Rev. Dr. Frederick H. Hedge, of Cambridge.

Rev. Nehemiah Parker, 1742–1801 (Harvard College, 1763), son of Stephen Parker, who came here from Roxbury in 1740 or sooner, was the first settled minister in Hubbardston.

Rev. Isaac Stone, 1748–1837 (Harvard College, 1770), son of Deacon Jonas Stone, was settled in Douglas.

Rev. Frederick Parker, 1762–1802 (Harvard College, 1784), son of Amos Parker, who removed from Lexington to this town about 1753, was settled in Canterbury, N. H., where, in the midst of his services as minister on a Sunday, he fell dead in his pulpit.

Rev. Aaron Crosby, 1744–1824 (Harvard College, 1770), son of Samuel Crosby, who lived on "Boston Hill," and was one of the first comers to Shrewsbury, was settled in Dummerston, Vt. Before his settlement there he had spent several years as a missionary among the Indians.

Rev. Otis Crosby, 1766–95 (Dartmouth College, 1786), nephew of the preceding and son of Dr. Samuel Crosby, was called to settle at Gloucester, Me., but died before ordination.

Rev. Samuel Sumner, 1765–1836 (Dartmouth College, 1786), son of Rev. Dr. Joseph Sumner, was first settled in Southborough, and afterwards at Bakersfield, Vt.

Professor Benjamin Stone, 1756–1832 (Harvard College, 1776), son of Jasper Stone, was the first preceptor of Leicester Academy, subsequently also of Westford Academy. Later in life he returned to this town, and died here.

Colonel Benjamin Heywood, 1746–1816 (Harvard College, 1775), son of Phineas Heywood, who came here from Concord about 1739, and lived in the northwest corner of Shrewsbury, where some of his descendants still live, served through the Revolutionary War, in all ranks from captain to colonel, and was a justice of the Worcester County Court of Common Pleas, 1802–11. He was father of the late Dr. Benjamin F. Heywood, of Worcester.

Rev. Wilkes Allen, 1775–1845 (Harvard College, 1801), son of Elnathan Allen, was settled 1803 at Chelmsford, and dismissed, at his request, 1832; after which he removed to Andover, and died there.

Nathan Goddard, 1746–1795 (Harvard College, 1770), son of Benjamin Goddard, was a lawyer, and practiced his profession in Shrewsbury, Newbury, Vt., and Framingham.

Hon. Calvin Goddard, 1768–1842 (Dartmouth College, 1786),—and so classmate of Rev. Samuel Sumner and Rev. Otis Crosby, before mentioned,—was son of Daniel and grandson of Edward Goddard, went from this town to Connecticut to practice his profession, the law; settled first at Plainfield, but afterwards removed to Norwich, where he rose to eminence at the bar and in public office. He was seventeen years mayor of Norwich and twice (1801 and 1803) elected to Congress. And he was chosen by the Connecticut Legislature, and served as a delegate to the Hartford Convention, 1814. In 1815 he was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court. In 1818 resigned his office as judge to resume practice of the law.

General Artemas Ward, 1727–1800 (Harvard College, 1748), was son of Colonel Nahum Ward. Besides the high civil and military offices which he held (to which reference has been made elsewhere), he received from his fellow-townsmen almost every mark of trust and honor they had to bestow. He was sixteen times elected Representative to the General Court. In the year of the Shays' Rebellion, being defeated as a candidate for Representative by Captain Isaac Harrington, an ardent Shays' man, General Ward ever afterwards refused to be a candidate for any office in Shrewsbury, but he was next year and twice afterwards elected to Congress.

Hon. Artemas Ward, 1762–1746 (Harvard College, 1783), son of General Artemas, commenced practice of law in 1785 at Weston, but afterward removed to Charlestown, and while there was several times elected a member of the Governor's Council. He next removed to Boston, and was thence elected to Congress. In 1820, on organization of the Court of Common Pleas as a State Court, he was appointed chief justice, and held the office till 1839, when he resigned it.

Henry D. Ward, 1768–1817 (Harvard College, 1791), another son of Gen. Artemas, settled in practice of the law at Charleston, S. C. He died at Middletown, Conn.

Andrew H. Ward, 1784–1857 (Harvard College, 1808), grandson of Gen. Artemas and son of Thomas W. Ward, who was about twenty years sheriff of Worcester County, practiced law at Shrewsbury from 1811 to 1829, when he removed to Boston. He afterward removed to Newton and died there. In 1826 he published in the *Worcester Magazine* a "History of Shrewsbury." But this is not the work commonly known as Ward's History, which, published in 1847 by Mr. Ward, is chiefly valuable for its family register.

Rev. Henry Dana Ward, 1797–1885 (Harvard College, 1816), was another son of Sheriff Ward. After his graduation he remained some time at Cambridge as scholar of the house, but was not settled as a minister till 1845, when he was ordained over the Episcopal Church in Portsmouth, Va. It was he whom we met before in connection with the dismissal of

Rev. George Allen and the law-suit that followed it. Mr. Ward was buried with his ancestors in the family lot in this town.

David Brighham, 1786–1843 (Harvard College, 1810), son of David Brigham, Sr., was a lawyer and practiced in New Braintree, Leicester, Greenfield, Shrewsbury and Fitchburg. From the latter place he removed to Iowa and died there.

David T. Brigham, 1806–69 (Amherst College, 1828), son of Edmund T. Brigham and nephew of the preceding, practiced law in Worcester a short time. He removed to St. Louis, Mo., and thence removed to Keokuk, Iowa, where he died.

Jubal Harrington, 1803–77 (Brown University, 1825), son of Fortunatus Harrington, practiced law in Worcester. He was an ardent partisan of President Jackson, who appointed him postmaster of Worcester. He left Worcester in the phrase of the times "between two days," and was next heard of in Texas. He died in Columbia, Cal.

William Pratt, 1806–39 (Brown University, 1825), son of Col. Nymphas Pratt, commenced the practice of law in Shrewsbury. In 1835 he removed to Worcester and formed a professional connection with Judge Pliny Merrick.

Francis Dean, 1804–85 (Brown University, 1826), son of Francis Dean, Sr., commenced the practice of the law at Southborough in 1830. He afterwards removed to Uxbridge, and again to Worcester, where he died.

Rev. William Addison Houghton (Yale College, 1840), came here in his youth from Berlin, and went to college from this town. He was first ordained and settled at Northborough. He afterwards was installed at Berlin, where he still resides.

Samuel B. Ingersoll Goddard, born here in 1821 (Amherst College, 1840), son of Perley Goddard, was admitted to the bar in 1848, and has practiced law in Worcester ever since.

William Taylor Harlow, born here in 1828, son of Gideon Harlow (Yale College, 1851), has practiced law[1] at Spencer, Red Bluff, Cal., and Worcester; was in the United States Volunteer service, 1861–63; an officer of the United States Internal Revenue about eight years, and since 1877 has held the office of assistant clerk of the courts for the county of Worcester.

For notice of Dr. Henry P. Stearns (Yale College, 1853), see page 802.

Rev. Edward Henry Pratt, 1826–78 (Amherst College, 1853), son of Nathan Pratt, Jr., began to preach at East Woodstock, Conn., and was ordained there in 1857. In 1867 he was appointed secretary of The Connecticut Temperance Union, and devoted the remainder of his life with unsparing self-sacrifice to the cause of temperance. He was brother of Dr. Charles S. Pratt of this town; brother also of Rev. George Harlow Pratt, now of Barnstable, born here in 1839, who left Amherst College in 1862, when he was a student in the Sophomore Class, to enter the United States service,[2] and who was first settled in the ministry in the town of Harvard; brother also of William G. Pratt, of New Haven, editor of the *New Haven Journal and Courier*.

Rev. Franklin Charles Flint, 1836–76 (Tuft's College, 1861), son of Henry H. Flint, was first settled in the ministry at Chatham, next at Southbridge, and again at Attleborough, where he died.

Rev. Benjamin Angier Dean, born here in 1840 (Amherst College, 1862), son of James Dean, after spending several years on the Western frontier in the Home Missionary service, is now preaching at Sanbornton, N. H.

Hollis W. Cobb, 1856 (Yale College, 1878), son of Albert Cobb, lives in Shrewsbury, but keeps an office and practices his profession as a lawyer at Worcester. He is one of the special Justices of the Central District Court of Worcester.

Florence H. Reed, daughter of Le Roy S. Reed, graduated at Wellesley College in 1885, and died in 1887, at Pasadena, Cal., where she had gone in vain pursuit of health.

Michael Edward Kelley, son of —— Kelley, graduated at Harvard College 1888.

Thomas Rice, son of Aaron B. Rice, graduated, 1888, at the Massachusetts Agricultural College.

In recent years the number of college graduates has been less than in former times. Without attempting to enumerate all the reasons therefor, probably the greatly improved opportunities afforded by the excellent schools of the town for education may be one, and doubtless the higher requirement of American Colleges for admission is another. In the day of Rev. Job Cushing there was no Shrewsbury High School where he could send his sons to be fitted for college, and probably Jacob and John, who both bore off the honors of Harvard, were prepared for admission by their father.

The original grant to the Shrewsbury proprietors provided for a lot for the school as well as one for the ministry, but the school lot, No. 20, laid out at Rocky Pond, was a worthless parcel of land which nobody wanted, and appears to have been assigned to the school for that very reason. And truth to tell, there can be little doubt that our fathers of the first generation, here in their poverty, and with many burdens resting heavily upon them, did discharge their duties as regards public education in rather a perfunctory way—not that they underrated the value of education to their children. Other parents, as well as Mr. Cushing, probably instructed their own children at home, and if they could not, like him, teach the classical tongues, they were mas-

[1] With such favor of his jealous mistress as she is wont to bestow on her votaries who *per intervalla interque alia* pursue her.

[2] In 1872 Amherst gave him the honorary degree of A.M.

J. H. Nelson

Thomas Bice

ters of the three Rs., and competent to transmit to posterity, reading, writing and arithmetic.

In the second generation, about the time of partition of the town into two parishes, the whole town was districted—divided into squadrons, as the districts were at first called, and public schools have ever since been maintained. For more than one hundred years, with only slight interruptions, a summer term for the younger children was kept by a female teacher, and a winter term for the older ones by a "master." These terms varied in duration from six weeks or less, to ten or more. Down until within the memory of people still living, young men and women frequently attended the winter term after they were twenty-one years old. It required an able man to keep a winter school in Shrewsbury in the olden time, and many a man who might have made a good mayor of a city or Governor of a State, failed in the attempt. A successful teacher bore the title of Master for life. The last bearer of the title in this town, Master Nathan Pratt, reputed to have been a model school teacher, both as regards government and instruction, died in 1847, in his eighty-eighth year. He was grandfather of Rev. Edward H. Pratt and his brothers before-mentioned. I well remember him—a venerable man of very benevolent aspect, much interested in and very kind to children.

But in later days the schools of Shrewsbury have undergone considerable changes. The common schools are now taught entirely by female teachers, and with necessary vacations, are kept throughout the year. In respect to appropriations for its schools, to rate of wages paid its teachers and regularity of its scholars' attendance, Shrewsbury ranks high among the towns of the State in the reports of the secretary of the Board of Education. For more than thirty years the town has supported a High School, though not required by law so to do, having never had even the minimum number of families (five hundred), upon which the legal obligation of towns to support such a school rests. In 1883 the town built a handsome and commodious building for its High School. The only fund or source of income which the town has for support of its schools other than an annual tax, is a legacy of one thousand dollars, given by the late Amasa Howe. The "dog fund," so-called, which cannot legally be used for other than for educational purposes, has been for many years applied by a vote of the town to a town library, which contains about one thousand two hundred volumes, and is an important educational force in Shrewsbury.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

JONATHAN H. NELSON.

Jonathan H. Nelson, son of Captain Jonathan Nelson, was born in Shrewsbury April 26, 1812. He died May 20, 1872, aged sixty years and twenty-four days. In person he was square built, thick set, with black hair and eyes, of full face and of firm and elastic step. From early years he was a lad of industry, of perseverance and high resolve. Fortified against manifold dangers and temptations by the counsel and care of one of the best of mothers, he began his life as an apprentice at the tanner's trade. He and his late partner, the Hon. Thomas Rice, were fellow-apprentices in the establishment of Colonel Nymphas Pratt, whose counsels and example proved of great value to their riper years.

Working more than the hours required, each of these young men accumulated a few hundred dollars. By diligence, industry, economy, prudence, perseverance and strict attention to business, these young men won the respect and confidence of the community. Mr. Nelson and his partner became at length the proprietors of the establishment in which they had been apprentices together, under the firm name of Nelson & Rice.

Endowed with remarkable energy and business tact, vigorous health and strong constitution, and devoting himself to personal labor daily, as many hours as required of any of their employees, prosperity crowned the establishment.

Mr. Nelson was a man of truthfulness, of sterling integrity and every way reliable as a manufacturer and a man. Having no children, and being strictly temperate and prudent in his habits, his means increased, his business expanded, and from time to time the manufactory was enlarged. From the commencement of the copartnership of the firm, in 1839, his wealth continued to increase, till, several years before his death, he was acknowledged to be the wealthiest man in Shrewsbury.

It is highly creditable to the firm of which he was the senior partner, that they had been associated in business for a period of forty-two years in all, with the utmost harmony. It is true, when, in 1839, their late copartnership was formed, they entered on a business already established. It is true, as already stated in public, that the business experience and judicious counsel and advice of Colonel Pratt were to them of inestimable value. On some men these would have been lost.

Something more, however, than the wisdom and counsel of the sagest adviser was requisite to enable these men to carry on successfully a business so extensive as to require, in various stations and services, the daily employment of one hundred and twenty-five men, and yet to maintain such promptness in the payment of all bills, that no bill, during the whole copartnership, was ever presented at their office a second time. Yet such, we learn, are the facts.

With all his devotion to business, Mr. Nelson was eminently a social, genial, condescending man. He was liberal and humane, accommodating, benevolent and kind. He was a constant attendant on the Sab-

bath services of the sanctuary, a liberal supporter of the Gospel and a generous contributor to the various objects presented for benevolent or charitable aid.

He made the following public bequests: To the Congregational Society, in Shrewsbury, $5000; Massachusetts Bible Society, $2000; Home Missionary Society, $2000; Society for the Promotion of Collegiate Theological Education at the West, $1000; American Missionary Association, New York, $1000.

HON. THOMAS RICE

was born in Marlboro', Mass., and came to this town when a young man and served as an apprentice to Colonel Pratt, who carried on the business of tanner and currier. Colonel Pratt failed in 1839, and Mr. L. H. Allen purchased of the assignees the tanning department of the business, and about the same time Mr. Rice, in company with Jonathan H. Nelson, bought out the currying department. For a period of twenty years Mr. Rice and Mr. Nelson carried on a fine growing business, and during the war it increased largely. After the death of Mr. Nelson, in 1872, Mr. Charles O. Green, for several years book-keeper of the concern, was admitted as a partner; the firm-name being Thomas Rice & Co., Mr. Rice remaining head of the firm until his death, which occurred May 29, 1888. Mr. Rice was always a public-spirited man; his town honored him with many offices of trust—such as selectman, representative—and he was a member of the State Senate in 1869. For more than half a century the interests of the town were his interests. His time, his money, his counsel were always available for the advancement of the public good. Progress in every direction, education, morality and religion found in him an earnest and steadfast supporter. Of a genial disposition he was ever on the watch to do a kindly act or speak a helpful word. He was for many years a director in the Northboro' Bank and the First National Bank of Worcester, and president of the former at the time of his death; also a director in many other well-known financial institutions.

As his business and wealth increased he grew in popularity. He built a fine residence where he dispensed a generous hospitality.

Mr. Rice was twice married: for his first wife Caroline P. daughter of Liberty Allen, of this town; for his second wife he married Ellen A. Lawrence, daughter of the late David B. Lawrence, of Brimfield, Mass. By this union there are two children—Edwin L. and Edith A.

CHAPTER CX.

GARDNER.

BY REV. WILLIAM S. HEYWOOD.

SITUATION, TOPOGRAPHY, SETTLEMENT, INCORPORATION, ETC.

THE town of Gardner, which has recently (1885) completed the first century of its corporate existence and duly celebrated the memorable event with appropriate exercises and festivities, is one of the most enterprising and prosperous of all those in the county whose annals these pages record. Taking its place in the retinue of Massachusetts municipalities soon after the struggle for American independence, it was characterized at the outset by the spirit that gave birth to the rising republic, and, under the influence of the same spirit, has kept abreast of the advancing civilization of the land down to the present day. During the earlier part of its career, its growth in wealth, population and social standing, in industrial, commercial and political importance, though slow and uneventful, was yet sturdy and healthful. But in later years new life and greatly increased vigor have entered into and stimulated its various interests and activities, resulting in a rapid and notable development of its resources, and a highly honorable and gratifying progress in every department of responsibility and effort within its borders. Its advance for the last decade has been truly remarkable in many aspects of it, and reflects great credit upon those of every class and degree who have in any way contributed to it. Hardly to be reckoned, at this time, as one of the foremost towns of Worcester County in those things which appear to advantage in statistical tables, it yet is excelled, even if it is equaled, by few in general thrift, in durable prosperity, in the tokens of comfort and happiness that abound on every hand, in the neatness, order and security of its homes, in the harmonious relations which characterize industrial and social life, in means and opportunities of intellectual, moral and religious culture, in public spirit, in the integrity, honor, virtue and happiness of all classes of its population. To sketch the history of such a town, to enter into the details of its genesis and growth, to search out the hidden springs of its unfolding and ever-rising life—to take account of the industry, the self-reliance, the persevering zeal, the unfaltering courage, the high resolve and all the worthy, grand qualities of mind and heart and character to which the existence and prosperous fortunes of such a town bear witness and of which it is the organic and living product and representative,—is a task fruitful not only of instruction, but of satisfaction and delight. To a task like this, the considerate attention of whomsoever it may concern is herein invited.

The town of Gardner is situated in the northerly part of the county of Worcester, and belongs to what may be termed the second range or tier of townships, counting from the extreme limits of the county in that direction—the line separating the States of New Hampshire and Massachusetts. It is bounded on the north by Winchendon and Ashburnham, on the east by Ashburnham and Westminster, on the south by Westminster, Hubbardston and Templeton, and on the west by Hubbardston, Templeton and Winchendon; or, in a simpler way, northwest by Winchendon, northeast by Ashburnham, southeast by Westminster, and southwest by Hubbardston and Templeton. The latitude of its Town Hall is 42° 35′ north and the longitude 71° 59½′ west from Greenwich, or 6° ½′ east from Washington. Its distance from Boston, in a W. N. W. direction, by direct line, is not far from 52 miles, and 65 miles by the Fitchburg Railroad; and from Worcester, in a N. N. W. direction, it is about 23 miles by direct line, and 26 miles by railroad. It includes within its boundaries an area of about 14,000 acres, or 21⅞ square miles, of which some 180 acres are covered by its several natural lakes and ponds, and probably a larger number by artificial bodies of water. Its highest altitude above the level of the sea (Reservoir Hill) is estimated at 1294 feet, and its lowest (where Otter River crosses its western boundary) at 890 feet.

Glancing at the natural or physical characteristics of the town, it is to be noted that the surface of its territory is uneven and considerably diversified. Between its lowest and highest points of elevation above sea-level, measuring over 400 feet, an almost unlimited variety of hill and dale, meadow and upland, lake, river and streamlet, is to be found. At the present day, after more than a hundred years of change and improvement that have transpired since the primeval wilderness prevailed in all the region round about, the town, with its existing proportion of forest and field; with its well-tilled farms and accordant farm-houses and out-buildings; with its several villages, neat and orderly; with its many clustering or scattered homes, and the gardens or orchards thereto belonging, some of them costly and elegant, few of them weather-worn, dilapidated and unsightly; with its manifold manufactories, the hives of productive and remunerative industry; with all the evidences of competency, thrift and contentment that greet the eye of the observer, presents, from any one of the commanding heights within its borders, a scene of unusual beauty and attractiveness. From such a point of vision, one may journey long and far to look upon a more picturesque and lovely sight than there reveals itself to the eye and mind, turn him whichsoever way he may. All about, near at hand and reaching to the utmost borders of the town and far beyond, are there pictures of surpassing beauty and enchantment; while in the distance, at the northwest and southeast, rise in silent majesty, cleaving the sky and lending grandeur and glory to the view, Monadnock and Wachusett,

> "Those mountains that like giants stand,
> To sentinel enchanted land."

HILLS.—The natural scenery of the town of Gardner is characterized by that constant and continuous variety of surface which relieves it of all tiresome monotony and renders it especially attractive and delightful. Scattered over all the length and breadth of its territory are there considerable elevations of land, which contribute largely to the beauty of the view and satisfy the demands of the artistic sense. The highest of these rise to an altitude of several hundred feet above the general level, not by abrupt and broken ascents, but by gradual slopes, making them capable of culture and even available for residential uses to the very summit. Indeed, some of them are already dotted with dwellings in every part and others are likely to become so at an early day. These hills took their names originally from their owners or from persons living near them, though in many instances those names have in later years been changed, either by change of ownership or by some other circumstance connected with their history. Their respective altitudes have been ascertained by a series of calculations made under the supervision of Mr. Aaron Greenwood, a skillful and accurate surveyor of the place, who assumed as the basis of such calculations the correctness of the figures indicating the elevation of the railroad at given points along the line as fixed by its chief engineer. A few of the more prominent of these natural formations are deemed worthy of mention.

Glazier Hill is the highest eminence in the town, rising to an altitude of one thousand two hundred and ninety-four feet above sea level and overlooking all the more thickly populated portions of its territory. It stands a little to the northeast of the Central Village, now almost within its borders, the growth of the place within the last few years having caused the erection of dwellings far up its westerly and southerly sides. Its summit is now occupied by the distributing reservoir of the Gardner Water Company, from which fact it is sometimes called "Reservoir Hill."

Bickford Hill or Parker Hill, as it is more recently designated, because owned and occupied for many years by the late Dr. David Parker, is located half a mile southeast of the one just spoken of, in full view from the town Common and quite near the junction of Elm and Temple Streets. It is one thousand two hundred and seventy-seven feet in height, and, like Glazier Hill, commands a fine view of the several villages of the town. It has no buildings upon it and is used for tillage and grazing purposes.

Howe Hill, rising one thousand two hundred and fifty-six feet above tide-water, is about a mile north of the Common on the easterly side of Kelton Street,

in the midst of a district wholly rural and sparsely populated.

Barber Hill, one thousand two hundred and thirty-nine feet high, is in the southeast part of the town, a little north of the residence of the late Thomas Greenwood. On its easterly slope, one of the earliest settlers of the place—Mr. David Nichols, from Reading—located, clearing up and cultivating what proved to be one of the best farms in the vicinity.

Temple Hill stands a short distance southeast of Bickford or Parker Hill, and is one thousand two hundred and twenty-four feet high, while Ray and Gates Hills, in the easterly parts of the town, rise respectively to an altitude of one thousand two hundred and seventeen and one thousand two hundred and fifteen feet. Near the summit of the first of these two are a farm-house and out-buildings, long the residence of Mr. Asa Ray, and a sort of beacon or landmark to a wide region round about.

Peabody Hill, originally known as Pork Hill, and for a long time as Lynde Hill, from Mr. Wm. S. Lynde, its owner for many years, occupies what is now almost the centre of the more northerly part of the thickly-settled portions of the town. It is one thousand one hundred and seventy-six feet above the level of the sea, and is for the most part covered with commodious and tasteful private residences, which have sprung up with marvelous rapidity during the past few years.

Besides these more noticeable and commanding hights, there are Greenwood Hill, in the southwesterly part of Gardner, at the rear of the house of Mr. Edward Greenwood, one thousand one hundred and seventy feet in altitude; Kendall Hill, on the western borders of the South village, originally named Jackson Hill, after Capt. Elisha Jackson, one of the first settlers and one of the most notable and influential of the early citizens of the town, who located on its southerly side near the top, 1130 feet above sea-level; Prospect Hill, on the southern side of the same village, formerly known as Wright's Hill, taking its name from Mr. Joseph Wright, who came from Sterling and settled upon it, 1129 feet high. Attention is called also to the B. F. Kendall Hill, in the south section of the town, now being used for dwellings; Cooledge and Beaman Hills, in the north part; Martin and Brooks Hills, in the west, and Bancroft Hill, near to Crystal Lake, on the southwest, the easterly side of which was taken up and settled upon by Mr. Jonathan Bancroft, whose name it has perpetuated to this day.

Lakes and Ponds.—There are in Gardner but few natural bodies of water—those "eyes of the landscape," as Goethe is reputed to have called them—though there are numerous artificial ones, which give variety and charm to the scenery. Of the former, the one lying to the northwest of the Common is largest and most worthy of notice. In the early records it was called Wells' Pond, though for what reason has not been ascertained. For a long time it was known simply as Gardner Pond. A few years ago, however, it was christened Crystal Lake by vote of the town—a name peculiarly appropriate and significant on account of the purity and clearness of its waters and the mirror-like tranquillity of their surface. Its greatest length is not far from a mile, while its extreme width scarcely exceeds half a mile, giving it an estimated area of one hundred and fifty-two acres. It is variously bordered with cultured fields, untamed pastures and groves of maple, oak and pine, sloping gently down to where its murmuring ripples kiss the solid earth, giving it a setting which makes of it a picture of exceeding loveliness and of bewitching charm to every lover of nature and of nature's fairest scenes. The modern cemetery, which is located upon its westerly side, with its granite and marble monuments, its exquisitely chiseled memorials of departed loved and honored ones, glittering in the sunlight, while, in a certain way, subduing and chastening the scene, yet, on the whole, gives it a more tender and sacred interest and significance. This lake, so accessible from all directions, is in the summer-time a somewhat favorite resort for the disciples of Isaac Walton residing in the vicinity, its waters having been originally well-stored with various kinds of native fish, and more recently stocked with those of foreign extraction; and for country swains and damsels or others fond of boating in one or another of its various forms. In the winter its icy surface attracts those who enjoy the pleasant and health-imparting exercise of out-door skating, and the airs of the neighborhood are often, on sunny days and moonlit nights, made vocal with the merry voices of converse, laughter and song, breathing forth from those who relieve the tiresome round of study, toil and care, or fill the fleeting hours with sports and pleasures which, while they exhilarate and thrill both body and mind, giving added zest to life, yet leave no sting behind. A delightful grove on the western margin, made attractive by the hand both of nature and of man, having been cleared of all rocks and underbrush and fitted up with numerous devices and appliances for the convenience and gratification of pleasure-seekers, and moreover being readily reached by railroad as well as by private conveyance, has become within a few years a frequent rendezvous for Sabbath-school, Grand Army and other parties, seeking rest and recreation amid the beauty and glory of the material world. With its pleasing surroundings and multiform attractions of a various sort, this lake merits the encomium given it by the local historian, when he characterizes it as "the pride of Gardner, 'a thing of beauty and a joy forever.'"

In the southwest part of the town is another natural body of water called sometimes Widow Wood's Pond and sometimes Kendall's Pond, from persons living near at different dates, but its location and surroundings are such as to give it little attractive-

ness or interest except to sportsmen who sometimes are well repaid for tempting with well-baited hook and line the finny denizen of its waters. In days gone by it was deemed good fishing-ground, but in later years it has lost its reputation in that respect. Its surface measures about twenty-two acres, and lies scarcely above the level of Otter River, near by, into which its contents flow by a sluggish stream.

In the same general locality, and not far away, is Snake Pond, crossed by the Templeton line, only a few acres of which are in Gardner. It is much like the last named in its general features, though more inaccessible by reason of the low, marshy grounds which surround it.

Quag Pond, in the easterly section of the town, is one of the sources of Pew Brook, and covers an area of about an acre. It is set in a bed of moss of varying width, but many feet in depth, resting upon a substratum of soft mud.

Of the artificial bodies of water mention will be made in connection with the manufacturing interests of the town to which they are tributary as conservatories of power for mechanical purposes. They are at present few in number in comparison with what have existed in days gone by. Several mill privileges in the outlying districts having been abandoned, the ponds, whence their motive-power was derived, have disappeared, while those formed successively by the stream flowing out of Crystal Lake, and used to run the several shops along the valley, have, since the establishment of the Public Water-works, been almost wholly given up, the need they served being now supplied by the introduction of steam-power.

STREAMS.—The situation of Gardner at the very summit of the highlands which divide the water-basin of the Merrimac River on the east from that of the Connecticut on the west, forbids the existence of water-courses within its borders, of any considerable size or importance. The only one that rises in any sense to the dignity of a river is that which enters its territory at the southwesterly side from Templeton, and flowing by a serpentine course in a general northwesterly direction some four or five miles, forming the greater part of that distance the boundary of the town, passes thence onward through the north part of Templeton into Winchendon, where it falls into Miller's River, a branch of the Connecticut. This stream bears the name of Otter River, presumably from the fact that the otter once inhabited its waters. Its descent through the town is very slight, and its movement consequently sluggish, except that in the last part of its course there is sufficient fall to enable it to be utilized by two or three manufacturing establishments located on the Templeton side.

Aside from Otter River the streams of Gardner are quite insignificant. And yet they have been an important factor in the development of the industries of the town and in the promotion of its prosperity. In a certain way they have made the town what it is today. They not only furnished power for the production of lumber for building purposes in the earlier stages of its history, but they supplied an essential need of the same sort in the evolution of its leading manufacturing interests at a period when, but for such supply, that interest would have been compelled to seek other localities in order to obtain the means and facilities necessary to its growth and perfecting. As an intermediate link between hand or foot power—the power of human muscle—and steam-power in the making of chairs, the principal and distinguishing product of the town, and the one which has given it reputation, prestige and success, the comparatively convenient and inexpensive power furnished by these small streams was not simply useful, but indispensable. But for this, so far as human vision can see, the fortunes of the town would have been entirely changed, its thrift and growth coming to an early and perpetual end.

Chiefest of these small but most valuable water courses was Pond Brook, so-called, the outlet of Crystal Lake, flowing into Otter River, scarcely two miles from its source. The relation of this little stream to the business interests of the community and the growth of the place cannot be over-estimated. Though its former channel is now essentially dry, the waters which otherwise would fill it being diverted to important uses in other directions, yet, historically, it has been a stream of the highest importance and of incalculable value.

Scarcely less worthy of notice and commendation is the stream flowing through the village of South Gardner, sometimes called Gardner Brook. In some respects, it stands at the head of the list of water-courses in the town. It began to serve the need of the public at an earlier day than any other, and more than any other at this date contributes to the business interest and prosperity of the town, as it promises to do for years and generations to come. It enters Gardner near the southern corner, from Westminster, and flowing northwesterly through the village, thence southwesterly a distance of two and one-half or three miles in all, increased in volume and in value by several tributaries on the way, it finally falls into Otter River, near the line of Templeton. Nine manufacturing establishments are in operation along its course, the motive-power of which is derived mostly from its waters.

Pew Brook is formed by several streamlets in the easterly part of the town, some of which come from Westminster, and running southwest and west, empties into Gardner Brook, near the eastern extremity of South Gardner Village, below the lumber-mills of Lewis A. Wright & Co. It furnishes power for one chair-factory.

Foster Brook rises in the easterly central portion of the town, and flowing southerly and westerly, discharges its waters into the South Gardner stream, just above where the Worcester Railroad crosses it.

Kneeland Brook has several sources in the northerly district, and by a southwesterly course finds an outlet in Otter River, near where the Fitchburg Railroad goes over it. Formerly several mills were run by power from this brook, but only one at the present time.

Wilder Brook is a branch of the last named, and is located to the west of it.

Bailey Brook, still farther west, rises in Winchendon, and flowing southwesterly, empties into Otter River, just above where that stream passes beyond the limits of the town.

Several small streams in the northeast part of the town constitute the head-waters of one branch of the Nashua River, flowing northwesterly through the so-called Nashua Reservoir into Ashburnham, and two or three others in a more easterly direction flow into Westminster. On two of these streams, one in the northeast and one in the east, mills formerly stood, but both have passed away.

SOIL.—The geological basis of the territory of Gardner, like that of most of the towns of the county, is ferruginous gneiss, an azoic formation which, according to Dr. Hitchcock, antedates all other deposits on the face of the globe. Gneiss is a somewhat demoralized form of granite, combining quartz, feldspar and mica in varying proportions, and tending to stratification. Into this combination, in the case before us, a tincture or element of iron enters, which gives it a rusty appearance, and renders it easy of oxidation and consequent decomposition. These primordial deposits occasionally come to the surface in ledges and broken rock, as they are also sometimes unearthed by excavation, as in the construction of the railroads through the town. Upon them, in the order of geologic progress from untold ages past, there rest strata of secondary and tertiary formations composed of sand, pebbles and clay, the latter of which is to be found in exceptional quantities in the south part of the town, where it has been utilized to a very considerable and profitable extent, as will hereafter appear. Still later in the order of nature are there drift and alluvial stores brought from foreign localities by ice or water or other means, which, mingling with the decomposed products of older periods and of later vegetable growths going on from the beginning, constitute what is called the loam or soil, of which the surface of the earth in this instance is composed, and in which are to be found the various chemical elements that give it native fertility and luxuriance and render it under proper culture capable of serving, by its productiveness, the needs of all animal life, and of ministering in manifold ways to human comfort and happiness.

The town of Gardner, considered with reference to the nature and quality of its soil, cannot be regarded as particularly adapted to purposes of agriculture. Occupying a position upon the very crest of the range of hills which separate two of the great water-systems of the State, its lands sloping and its waters running both east and west, it is constantly losing, by the operation of nature's forces, many of those elements which serve the husbandman's need as fertilizing agents in the earth he cultivates; while for the same reason it is subject to bleak and chilly winds, which tend to diminish the productiveness of its fields and to retard and jeopardize the growth and ripening of whatever may be planted or sown in them. Naturally, therefore, the land is gravelly, cold and sterile, and, next to the production of wood and timber, is better adapted to grazing purposes than to the cultivation of fruit and cereal crops. There are, moreover, scattered through the town numerous cold, marshy swamp lands, saturated with sour waters, and producing a sort of wiry grass which is neither palatable nor nutritious, and of little value in any respect.

Nevertheless, there are portions of the territory of the town which, by long and faithful husbandry, have been made to yield abundant returns for the labor expended upon them. On the slopes of some of the hills and in the intervening valleys the soil is deep and pliable and strong, and only needs thorough culture to make it produce satisfactory harvests. There are, indeed, a goodly number of fine farms in the outlying districts, whose commodious, well-kept buildings, broad fields of grass and grain, large herds and flocks, bespeak not only enterprise, good habits and general thrift, but competency and independence. Besides these, every householder almost and every owner of a little homestead has his or her garden or plot of land devoted to the growth of both the larger and smaller fruits, different kinds of edible vegetables and usually also to a pleasing variety of flowers and foliage plants, which speaks well for the kindly character of the soil and of what may come from it by proper care and nursing—by that sort of management which usually distinguishes a yeoman of New England.

CLIMATE.—The climate of Gardner, situated high above the level of the sea and far away from the modifying influence of oceanic breezes and currents, is exceedingly inconstant and often disagreeable, being subject to sudden changes and great extremes of heat and cold, which determine to a large extent the annual fall of rain and snow, and also the general dryness and humidity of the atmosphere, with its attendant sanitary qualities, tendencies and effects. The winters are long and severe, characterized as they are by high winds and heavy storms, which cause a large accumulation of snow and ice and seriously try the powers of endurance in the human constitution. But the physical conditions and circumstances which subject the place to many of the harsher moods of the winter-time have their compensation in the fresh, cool breezes of the summer season, which moderate the otherwise excessive heat, and make that part of the year more invigorating and agreeable. On the whole, the geographical situa-

tion of the town and its climatic conditions are favorable to both bodily and mental health and energy, indirectly, too, of moral soundness and force of character. As a result, the town is an unusually healthful one, and cases of pulmonary or malarial diseases are of rare occurrence among its native-born population. So that among the factors which have entered into the problem of the growth and prosperity of Gardner, the influence of its climate is not to be overlooked or underestimated.

"While tropic airs may tropic needs supply,
Brave souls are nurtured 'neath a sterner sky."

FLORA.—Of the one hundred and fifty thousand species of plants distributed over the surface of the globe, only a very small proportion can be indigenous to so limited an area as the territory of such a town as Gardner. And what are found within its borders are so like what grow throughout the county that even to name them would be needless repetition. It is not known that, in the matter of forest or fruit-trees, of berry-producing or flowering shrubs or plants of any sort, Gardner has a single specimen which would distinguish it from other towns in the vicinity, though of each and all of these it has a proportionate supply. Enough of wood and timber lots still remain to give pleasing variety to the landscape, to impart salubrity to the air, to soften the fierceness of wintry blasts and break the violence of summer tempests, and to aid in keeping up the supply of nature's water-fountains, to which the existence of forests so largely contribute, while shrubs of many a kind and name cover many an untilled acre more or less densely, and wild flowers of rich and varied hues in great diversity lend grace and beauty in all directions to the view. Moreover, the introduction of a liberal supply of exotics, especially in the departments of fruit trees and flowering plants, as witnessed in the orchards, gardens and conservatories so often seen, has enlarged and enriched very materially this feature of the natural history of the town.

FAUNA.—There is little to be said of the representatives of the animal kingdom, either native or imported, in addition to what may appear elsewhere in the pages of this work. The same kinds of wild animals originally prevailed here as in other parts of the county, only a few of the smaller and more prolific of which continue to this day, to vex the fields and gardens of the husbandmen or tempt the hunter through the still existing woods. Of the game birds scarcely one save the partridge remains, though the same winged songsters of the grove and field still make the air vocal with their melody in the spring and early summer as cheered and blessed the solitary way of the early settlers in these then wilderness retreats. Various other wild birds, with less of music in their voices, are found at the proper season in plentiful numbers, some of them hardly to be desired by reason of their mischievous habits in respect to the early sown or planted grain and corn. Most of these are migratory in their mode of life, coming and going with the warmer portions of the year, though a few remain the twelve-month through, fearless alike of winter's cold and of summer's heat. Of the finny tribes, dwellers in the waters of the town, the original stock still prevails to some extent, though in considerably diminished numbers. The handsome trout still glides up and down the gurgling brook, finding rest only in its most secluded places, where it would seem to hide away from the ardent fisherman, or, if pursuing, he seeks his wily victim, tantalizes him with the rareness of a bite. The pride of the olden time in this respect—the pickerel—and its companion residents of the ponds bearing various names, which served the fathers and mothers so well in place of flesh and fowl less easily obtained, have been much reduced in these later days, partly because of the greater search for them and partly by reason of the introduction of foreign fish, some of which appear to be the natural born enemies of the native denizens of our New England waters, making war upon them and pursuing them with disastrous results, sometimes even to extinction. The experiment of bringing in these new tenants of our inland lakes and ponds, though greatly commended a few years ago by certain classes of pisciculturists as of immense advantage to the fish-loving public, may be regarded, when judged by the test of experience, as of doubtful utility, even if it be not brought into utter condemnation. At any rate, the promises made in its behalf have rarely, if ever, been satisfactorily fulfilled. To let well enough alone is sometimes the highest wisdom.

EARLY HISTORY.—Having made a somewhat detailed presentation of the natural features of the town of Gardner, it now seems proper to take up the thread of its history as a distinct body corporate, possessing and exercising municipal rights, powers and privileges under the jurisdiction and sovereignty of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. In doing so, it is not needful to go back of the movement initiated for the purpose of securing the formation and legal existence of the new township any further than to set forth the conditions and circumstances under which that movement was inaugurated and the prevailing reasons therefor.

Origin.—Unlike most of the older towns of Worcester County, Gardner was not carved out of the primeval forest nor did its territorial possessions come from any of the unappropriated lands of the Province or State of Massachusetts, but from contiguous portions of the four neighboring towns. Of these Westminster contributed, in round numbers, six thousand acres; Ashburnham, twenty-eight hundred acres; Winchendon, forty-five hundred acres; and Templeton, seven hundred acres, making in the aggregate the fourteen thousand acres already given as the extent of the town's surface. The early history of those several

towns is therefore in part the history of Gardner previous to its incorporation, for the essential facts and incidents of which the reader is referred to the sketches of those towns respectively on other pages of this work, only a few of the more important of them being mentioned in this connection. The townships named were first occupied by the present race of inhabitants at a date sufficiently indicated by the year 1740. As they gradually increased in population, portions of them far removed from their established centres, their area being very large, were in due time taken up and appropriated to purposes of permanent residence.

As this process of extension and settlement went on, it came to pass at length that about sixty families were established within the limits of what subsequently was assigned to the town of Gardner. Separated by long distances from the majority of their fellow-citizens and also from the recognized seat of public activity in their respective municipalities, the heads of these families began after a time to feel that it would be for their common convenience, interest and general welfare to sever the connection which had hitherto existed between them and their colleague townsmen, and unite in the formation of a new township more compact, so far as they were themselves concerned, than those to which they belonged, the so-called centre of which—where the meeting-house should be built, where trade should be set up, where public business should be transacted and public gatherings of whatever sort held—would be nearer at hand and the recognized duties of which, as a corporate body, could be more easily and readily performed.

The desirableness of a change like that outlined, by reason of the many advantages which would naturally accrue to all parties concerned, became very soon so apparent and so urgent that as early as 1781 a movement was started looking to its consummation. It does not appear, however, that any united and mutually concurrent action in relation to the subject was taken until the year 1784 or 1785, when the several towns liable to dismemberment were petitioned by the portion of their inhabitants favorably interested for leave to be set off with their families and estates, in order that they might join with others in neighboring towns, similarly situated and similarly minded, in the formation of a new town. The prayer of the petitioners seemed so reasonable to their fellow-citizens that, with very little opposition or delay, indeed, with remarkable unanimity and cordiality, it was in every instance granted. Ashburnham led off in a vote favoring the measure and granting the request passed September 3, 1774; Templeton followed in a vote to the same effect April 6, 1775; Winchendon May 16th, and Westminster May 17th of the same year. The generous and honorable spirit which animated the several towns involved in this movement is duly represented in a report of a committee of the town of Winchendon, to which the subject was referred, wherein the following passage occurs: "Considering the situation of the petitioners, we think it reasonable a part of said town should be set off when those towns concerned have determined the respective boundaries of the district to be so formed as that the same may be properly accommodated." The report was duly "accepted and adopted."

The consent of the towns having been obtained as stated, a petition signed by Mr. John Glazier, then of Westminster and about thirty others, was sent to the Legislature of the State at what was called its May Session, in 1785, praying that certain specified portions of the towns of Winchendon, Ashburnham, Westminster and Templeton, with the inhabitants thereof and their estates, might be set off from those towns respectively and erected into a new township bearing the name of Gardner. An appropriate map indicating the changes proposed accompanied the petition, and is still preserved among the State archives at Boston, though the petition itself is nowhere to be found. The result of this appeal to the Legislature is clearly attested by its action, which culminated, on the 27th of June, in the passage of an "Act of Incorporation," of which the following, with the omission of the boundary lines, is a copy:

An act for erecting the westerly part of Westminster, the southwesterly part of Ashburnham, the southeasterly part of Winchendon and the easterly part of Templeton in the county of Worcester, into a town by the name of Gardner.

Whereas, the inhabitants of the westerly part of the town of Westminster, the southwesterly part of the town of Ashburnham, the southeasterly part of the town of Winchendon and the easterly part of the town of Templeton in the county of Worcester, have represented to this court the difficulties they labor under in their present situation and request that they may be incorporated into a separate town, and it appearing to this court proper to comply with their request:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled and by the authority of the same: That the westerly part of the town of Westminster, southwesterly part of the town of Ashburnham, southeasterly part of the town of Winchendon and easterly part of the town of Templeton in the county of Worcester (bounds omitted) be, and they hereby are, erected into a town by the name of Gardner, and the inhabitants thereof hereby are invested with all the powers, privileges and immunities which the inhabitants of other towns within this Commonwealth do or may enjoy.

And be it further enacted: That where the lots that are now settled are cut by the above lines, every owner of such lot shall be holden to pay taxes for the whole of such lot to the town in which his house now stands. *Provided, nevertheless*, If any owner of such lot shall return a certificate into the secretary's office within six months after the passing of this act, expressing his desire to belong with his said lot to the other town, such lot and the owner thereof shall forever afterwards be holden to pay taxes to the other town accordingly.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid: That the inhabitants of the said town shall pay their proportion of all taxes already granted to be raised in the several towns from which they were respectively taken.

And be it further enacted: That Nicholas Dyke, Esq., be, and hereby is, empowered to issue his warrant directed to some principal inhabitant, requiring him to warn and give notice to the inhabitants of the said town to assemble and meet at some suitable time and place in said town to choose all such officers as towns by law are required to choose at their annual town-meeting in the month of March.

SAMUEL PHILLIPS, JR., *Prest. of the Senate.*
NATHANIEL GORHAM, *Speaker of the House.*

Approved by the Governor,
JAMES BOWDOIN.

Agreeably to the provision contained in the last clause of the above enactment, Nicholas Dyke, of Westminster, a justice of the peace, did, on the 3d day of August following, issue his warrant in proper form to Mr. Peter Goodale, one of the inhabitants of the town of Gardner, requiring him

to warn all the inhabitants of said town to meet at the house of Mr. John Glazier in said town, on Monday, the fifteenth day of August present, at nine o'clock forenoon, to act on the following articles, viz.:

1st. To choose a moderator to govern said meeting.

2d. To choose all town officers as the law directs at annual March meetings.

3d. To know the mind of the town whether they will grant money to defray town charges.

4th. To see what method the town will come into to collect taxes or to transact any matter or business as they think necessary.

Pursuant to the requirements of this warrant, the inhabitants of Gardner came together and were called to order for the transaction of business by Justice Dyke, who was present.

Captain Elisha Jackson was chosen moderator of the meeting, and the following-named gentlemen were elected as the first officers of the town, respectively: Clerk, Seth Heywood; Selectmen, Elisha Jackson, Samuel Stone, John White, Simon Gates, John Glazier, who were instructed to act as assessors; Treasurer, Seth Heywood; Collector, Elijah Wilder, who agreed to collect the taxes for four pence on the pound and give satisfactory bonds for the faithful discharge of his duty. Subordinate officers were chosen in due form, and the oath of office, where required, was administered by Esquire Dyke. No other business was done and the meeting dissolved.

The town of Gardner was now legally organized agreeably to the provisions of its act of incorporation, and had entered upon its career as one of those primary little republics which go to make up the good old Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Before proceeding to sketch the details of that career, however, it seems to be desirable to dwell somewhat at length upon the conditions and circumstances attending the town's birth and its first starting into life.

It may be of some interest and importance, both to the general public and to the present inhabitants of the town, to have indicated those portions of the territory which were taken from the towns contributing thereto, and where the boundary lines of such towns originally ran. The northwesterly line of Westminster formerly extended from the present northeast corner of Gardner, nearly a mile southeast of Ashburnham Junction, in a southwesterly direction, crossing Glazier Hill just south of the reservoir, thence in a direct course through the central village, cutting the town-house lot into two nearly equal parts, and so along the southerly bounds of Lynde Street straight on to the westerly corner of Gardner near the old hotel below East Templeton, which was, in the old time, the westerly corner of Westminster. All the territory south of that line originally belonged to that town. The line between Ashburnham and Winchendon, running straight from the northward along Stone Street, passed between Green Street and Crystal Lake, and met the Westminster boundary a little east of the junction of School and Lynde Streets. The lands to the eastward of this line were from Ashburnham, those to the westward from Winchendon. Those derived from Templeton lay west of a line extending from a point in the original Westminster boundary near where the railroad crosses it, northwesterly till it met the present northernmost boundary between Gardner and Templeton, of which it was the continuation. It will thus be seen that the first meeting-house site, (now occupied by the First Congregational Church), the old burying-ground and the public common were on the Ashburnham territory, together with the north part of the central village, while Crystal Lake and the north part of West Gardner are on that coming from Winchendon. All of South Gardner village, the principal railroad stations and the southern part of the other villages are on territory originally belonging to Westminster.

At whose suggestion or by whose means the name Gardner was given to the town cannot be ascertained, but it was in honor of one of the most gallant and heroic patriots of ante-Revolutionary times, who fell a martyr to his country's liberties at the battle of Bunker Hill. Thomas Gardner was son of Richard of Cambridge and a descendant of the fourth generation from Thomas of Roxbury, the first of the name in the country, who died in 1633. He was born in 1724, and early in life began to display those traits of character which in later years won for him the confidence and high regard of his fellow-citizens and qualified him for the important part he was to play in the stirring events of his time. He was of strong mind, of great practical judgment and unusual executive ability, a natural adviser of men and leader in public affairs. He was called to fill important civil offices in his native town, and entering military life, rose rapidly to a station of honor and command. As colonel of the First Middlesex Regiment he was at the battle of Lexington, but did no effectual service by reason of the unsoldierly conduct of his men. Greatly chagrined thereat, he resolved to retrieve himself from disgrace at the first opportunity. Enlisting in a regiment of the Continental Army, he was commissioned colonel June 2, 1775. On the morning of June 17th he was ordered from his station on Prospect Hill to Charlestown Neck as a reserve in the expected battle, and about noon advanced to Bunker Hill, where, by command of Gen. Putnam, he with his men was engaged in throwing up earthworks for the protection of the patriot forces in case they should be driven from their intrenchments in front of the enemy. Twice had the British made attack and twice had they been repulsed with great slaughter. On the third advance, the ammunition of the Colonial troops giving out, Gen. Putnam rode in hot haste back to Col. Gardner and ordered him to the scene of conflict. Obeying, he hur-

ried forward, but before reaching the place of action was struck by a musket-ball which felled him to the earth. Being raised from the ground, he shouted to his men, "Conquer or die," and was carried from the field. He lingered till July 3d, the day when Washington took command of the army, one of whose first orders, issued the following day, was: "Col. Gardner is to be buried to-morrow at three o'clock P.M., with the military honors due to so brave and gallant an officer, who fought, bled and died in the cause of his country and of mankind." Such was the man whose name the town of Gardner perpetuates. May her children keep his memory green to many generations by emulating his spirit of self-forgetting, patriotic devotion to the principles of civil and religious liberty and to the inborn rights of man.

It is to be regretted that no complete list of the families resident in the town at the date of its incorporation is to be found among the generally well-preserved records of the time. But by referring to the histories and records of the several towns, from which its territory was taken previous to that period, and to the books of the town clerk of Gardner, relating to what transpired immediately after, a table of such resident families has been prepared, which may be regarded as substantially correct. As nothing of the kind has ever been put in print before, it is herewith presented in full, to wit:

Adams, John.
Bacon, Joseph.
Baker, George.
Baker, John.
Baldwin, Josiah.
Bancroft, Jonathan.
Beard, Andrew.
Bickford, William.
Bolton, Ebenezer.
Boyden, Joseph.
Brown, Jonathan.
Childs, Daniel.
Clark, Benjamin.
Clark, Joseph.
Comee, David.
Conant, Josiah.
Cooledge, James.
Eaton, Ebenezer.
Eaton, John.
Eaton, Jonathan.
Edgell, Samuel.
Fairbanks, Levi.
Fisher, Gideon.
Fisher, William
Foster, David.
Foster, Samuel.
Gates, Simon.
Glazier, John.
Goodale, Peter.
Goss, William
Graves, ——.
Green, Israel.
Green, Nathan.
Greenwood, Jonathan.
Hadley, Joseph.
Haynes, Reuben.
Heywood, Seth.
Hill, Asa.
Hill, Bezaleel.
Hill, Jesse.
Hill, Maverick.
Hill, Moses.
Holland, Joseph.
Howe, Ebenezer.
Jackson, Caleb.
Jackson, Elisha.
Kelton, Edward.
Kelton, Samuel.
Kendall, Benjamin.
Keyes, Ebenezer.
Kneeland, Timothy.
Matthews, John.
Merriam, Nathan.
Moore, Ezra.
Nichols, David.
Parker, ——.
Partridge, Jabez.
Payson, Joseph.
Perley, Allen.
Pratt, Ephraim.
Priest, Joseph.
Priest, ——.
Putnam, John.
Rice, ——.
Richardson, Jonas.
Sanderson, Samuel.
Samson, ——.
Sawyer, Jude.
Simonds, Elijah.
Stone, Samuel.
Temple, Ephraim.
Upton, Oliver.
Wheeler, Joel.
Wheeler, Josiah.
Whitcomb, Jonathan.
Whitcomb, Jonathan P.
White, John.
Whitney, Joshua.
Wilder, Elijah.
Wilder, Josiah.
Wood, Elijah.
Wright, Joseph.

The above, with rare exceptions, are old New England names, and suggest those substantial and exalted qualities of mind and heart and character which distinguished the founders of New England and that great class of people in the mother country whence they sprang, of whom the eminent and brilliant Lord Macaulay said they were "the most remarkable, perhaps, the world ever produced." By a study of those names through their ancestral lines the interested inquirer will notice how directly the town of Gardner stands connected in the order of historical continuity with the Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay settlements, and how closely related were her early citizens to the Pilgrim and Puritan immigrants to these shores. Such a study will show, moreover, how naturally it occurred that what are recognized and honored as New England ideas and principles characterized the earlier life of Gardner and helped to shape, in a large degree, its whole subsequent history. The distinctive type of civilization which was brought from beyond the sea in the "Mayflower" and "Isabella" was the type that presided like a good genius over the birth of all the older settlements of this whole region of country, finding expression alike in the character and habits of the people at large and in the social, civil, educational and religious institutions they established and sought to make perpetual. The town of Gardner was no exception to the general rule in this regard. In its most striking features, in what is most creditable and honorable in its career, it is but the outgrowth of the influences that prevailed at the beginning of its existence, the product of the seed sown by the hands of those brave, devoted men and women who first cleared the forests, tilled the fields, built the homes, and lighted the altar-fires within its borders.

In portraying the earlier history of the town, for the purpose of bringing into notice some of the prominent characteristics of its original inhabitants, together with the difficulties which they encountered at the outset, it is proper to call attention to the limited resources then available for the varied uses of life. What goes by the general name of property, or material possessions, consisted almost wholly of real-estate farm stock and the implements and utensils required for domestic and agricultural purposes, with a few tools and appliances for the simpler and more indispensable forms of mechanical handicraft. Very little money, of any sort, was in circulation, and what there was, being in the shape of Continental or Colonial scrip, was of uncertain value at the best and often wholly worthless. Government bonds, railroad stocks and other securities were not in those days at the command of the sturdy pioneers, whose available funds were chiefly the bones and sinews of their physical systems, subject to the control of a resolute and unconquerable will. It was at times impossible for them to obtain sufficient current funds with which to pay their taxes, and the town was frequently placed under the necessity of receiving various farm products as an equivalent therefor, the price of which was determined by public vote. Butter seems to have

been the most common substitute for money, probably because it was most convenient to handle and most sure of a ready market. The precise form of the town's action in this matter shows the then existing condition of things and also what a wise economy required in the management of public affairs. Under date of June 6, 1787, it was voted "that the collector take butter of the persons that are in his rates, provided that they bring the butter by the first of July next, at seven pence per pound, and the collector to provide firkins to put said butter in and to deliver butter to the committee that are to provide nails for the meeting-house when called for. It is expected that the collector put the butter into firkins, well salted, and the butter to be good butter." The provision in this vote for having the butter received for taxes delivered to the committee who were to procure nails for the meeting house, then in process of erection, indicates the extent to which what was called "barter," the exchange of one article of traffic for another, entered into the commercial transactions of those days when money was scarce and of doubtful worth—a practice which, in country towns especially, continued until within the memory of persons now living.

No data are known to exist by which to determine the actual amount of property in Gardner at the time of incorporation. The tax-lists of that day are not to be found, and whatever statistics may have been prepared, if there were any, have disappeared. The earliest available authority relating to this point is the general United States tax-lists made up in the year 1798 by order of the Federal Government, representing the assessments laid upon the entire country for the purpose of meeting the demands upon the national treasury. From a copy of those lists preserved in the library of the New England Historic-Genealogical Society, Boston, interesting and trustworthy particulars have been gleaned, some of which in a condensed form are herewith submitted.

At the date named, 1798, there were one hundred and fifty-five tax-paying residents in the town owning or occupying real estate, the appraised value of whose property in the aggregate was about $124,000, or a trifle over $800 each. Seven persons were worth $22,759 or an average of $3,251, ranging as follows: Elisha Jackson, $6,105; William Bickford, $4,710; James Cooledge, $2,634; Ebenezer Howe, $2,538; Seth Heywood, $2,325; Simon Gates, $2,274; William Whitney, $2,171. Forty-three persons had between $1000 and $2000 each, aggregating $57,979. The remaining $43,456 was distributed among one hundred and five persons, giving each one about $415. Several lots whose owners were unknown were valued at $186. The actual taxable property of the town, which excluded all public buildings and common lands, and also the estate of Rev. Jonathan Osgood, was $124,380. No one was taxed for money on hand or at interest, nor for plate or securities of any kind. Of the one hundred and fifty-five tax-payers in 1798 there were, as far as can be ascertained, thirty-five not living in town, whose aggregate property was $6,283, which would make the actual amount of taxable property held by residents, exclusive of Rev. Mr. Osgood, $118,097.

Of the citizens of Gardner at the date named, forty-nine with their families occupied dwellings, each of which, with a lot of one-quarter of an acre, was valued at more than $100, or at an average of $260. William Bickford owned the best one, doubtless the brick dwelling now standing at the South Village, which was appraised at $920. Other houses ranged as follows: Elisha Jackson's, built two years before, $720; James Cooledge's, $550; Jonathan Bancroft, Seth Heywood and Ezra Moore, $500 each; Joel Matthews and Joseph Simonds lived in dwellings taxed for $10 each. One hundred and six dwellings, the whole number then standing in the town and deemed of sufficient value to be taxed, were appraised at $16,099, an average of $151.87. There were probably a few other rude structures occupied at the time, but of no ratable worth.

The largest landholder in town in 1798 was William Whitney, who had three hundred and sixty-eight acres. He was followed by Elisha Jackson with three hundred and sixty-four acres; Wm. Bickford, three hundred and twelve acres; Josiah Wilder and James Cooledge, two hundred and fifty acres each. Thirty-four persons had between one and two hundred acres each. Twelve thousand two hundred and twenty acres of land, exclusive of house-lots, were taxed for $104,595, or for less than nine dollars per acre, the average valuation of land in the town generally. The estimated value of land in the village at that date may be learned from the fact that Jonathan Prescott, the first merchant in the place, residing on the site occupied for many years by the late Francis Richardson, Esq., was taxed for three hundred and forty-one dollars on an acre and a half of land, presumably attached to his house-lot, or at the rate of two hundred and twenty-seven dollars per acre.

Taking now the appraisal of the property in Gardner in 1798, thirteen years after it was incorporated, and making due allowance for the probable increase of population and wealth, it can be easily seen, without attempting to give the precise figures, with what meagre pecuniary capital the original inhabitants of the town began their municipal life. Their brain and muscle were, in large degree, their capital—their principal stock in trade and pledge of ultimate success. Their enterprise and perseverance, their resolute purpose and readiness to labor and endure,

> "The indomitable will and courage never to submit or yield;"

these qualities, under the circumstances, gave them strength of character and a sort of moral persistence and invincibleness which were full of promise for the

years ahead, which made an impress upon the public mind and heart, and became a force in the community not yet exhausted or overcome, the augury still of prosperous fortunes and happy destinies.

In what has thus far been offered to the reader as the opening chapter of this historical sketch of the town of Gardner, he will find a sufficiently detailed presentation of its situation, topography, settlement and incorporation, together with a brief portraiture of its early inhabitants and of the conditions and circumstances under which they started out in their municipal career. He will also find an account of the first town-meeting, at which the town, as a corporate body, was legally organized, its officers chosen, and its complex machinery made ready for active service. The line of historic development and progress will be taken up at that point in subsequent chapters and traced down to the present day by a separate consideration of several leading public interests in such order as may seem most convenient and appropriate.

CHAPTER CXI.

GARDNER—(*Continued.*)

TOWN AND COUNTY ROADS—FIFTH MASSACHUSETTS TURNPIKE—RAILWAYS.

PREVIOUS to the time of the incorporation of Gardner two county roads had been laid across its territory—one as early as 1754, extending from Lancaster to Quopoage (Athol), and the other in 1759 from Winchendon to Worcester. The first of these crossed the town-line about half a mile east of the Lewis A. Wright lumber-mill, and followed essentially the line of High, South Main and Kendall Streets to the junction of the latter with Broadway, thence by a varying course, still partially traceable, not far at any point from the present highway, to the Templeton boundary. This was the principal thoroughfare through the place from Boston and other lower towns westward for nearly half a century, or until the construction of the Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike in 1799 or 1800. The other road, built by order of the county authorities, entered the limits of the town near where Chapel Street now strikes them, half a mile east of Ray Hill, and followed the course of said street for the most part till it reached what is now Pearl Street, thence cutting across the intervening country in a northwesterly direction to Winchendon Street, and continuing along that street past the present town-farm buildings to Winchendon line. In addition to these, the several towns from which the territory of Gardner was received had caused a few highways to be made for the convenience of the inhabitants in getting to and from the centres of those towns respectively, and for freer communication with each other, but they were little more or better than cart-paths through the wilderness, quite unlike the well-graded streets of the present day. Aside from these, there were, no doubt, such other ways opened in different localities as might serve the temporary necessities of the settlers, without any formal survey or regard to permanent use.

About the time of the incorporation of the town a third county road was laid and ordered to be built from Royalston to Gardner. As far as can be ascertained, it ran along the line of Clark Street from the northwest till it reached the Jonathan Bancroft place, continuing thence, as seems probable, down the valley of the Crystal Lake outlet in a southerly direction, and along the general course of Mechanic Street to the Lancaster and Athol Road (now Broadway). The location of this road was not satisfactory to the people of Gardner, especially to those living at or near what had been fixed upon as the centre of the town. Hence at the second town-meeting, held September 6, 1785, it was, pursuant to an article in the warrant calling the same, "Voted, that it is the opinion of the town that the county road ought to go through the centre of the town," and a petition, in accordance with that vote, was prepared and ordered to be sent "to the Court of Quarter Sessions now sitting in Worcester," stating that the road "as it is now laid will not convene this town nor the public so well as if it was laid through the centre of the town," and praying that it might extend from near Jonathan Bancroft's "through our centre and come into the county road that leads from Winchendon to Westminster Meeting-house," near Josiah Wheeler's, or where it will best serve the public. The court seemed to accede to the request of the petition and changed the location of the road accordingly. It ran substantially from the original Bancroft place along the course of what are now Park, Central, Pearl and Smith Streets to Chapel Street, near the present residence of Asa F. Smith, and was known, for many years, as the Westminster and Royalston Road.

No other action appears to have been taken by the town in the matter of roads during that year except to vote, November 7th, to have them, when laid out, three rods wide, and then a week later to reconsider that vote and fix their width at two and a half rods. At the annual meeting in March, 1786, however, the subject of highways was taken up in earnest. The selectmen, who evidently had not been idle since their appointment to office, reported in detail the laying out of thirteen highways in different parts of the town, all of which were accepted and ordered to be built at an adjourned meeting held the following week. At the same meeting sixty pounds (about two hundred dollars) were voted for mending and making highways "this present year." By this action the inhabitants of the town were, for the most part, brought into ready communication with each other, with the Center, and with those larger thoroughfares by which access could be had to the neighboring towns to Worcester, the county seat, and to Boston,

the capital of the Commonwealth. Thus early in the town's history were laid the first meshes of that complex net-work of streets and highways which afterwards spread over its whole territory, and which has been extended from time to time down to the present day, as the demands of business or the comfort and convenience of the people at large might seem to require.

An interesting circumstance connected with the locating of roads in the early days of the town may be referred to at this point, not for its own sake alone, but because it illustrates somewhat the limited financial resources of the town at the time, the motives oftentimes influencing men in their action upon questions of public policy and the peculiar notions then entertained of what the public good would call for in coming years. In view of what has transpired since that date, the account of it is pleasant and suggestive reading. In the year 1793 some alterations were made in the County Road, running through the south part of the town, the principal of which was the straightening of it from near the head of Sawyer Street to a point near the present hotel site. By this change, travel would be diverted from the hilly, circuitous route past the Capt. Jackson place to the direct and comparatively level course across the lowlands south of the Bickford Mill, where the turnpike was afterward located. The new part running across the meadow was difficult and costly to build, which fact somewhat embarrassed the town, and it moreover was calculated to affect unfavorably the custom of the tavern at the summit of the hill by taking the principal part of the travel away from it.

Although the road had been so far completed as to be opened for use, yet the town voted, March 25, 1794, to ask for its discontinuance or re-location elsewhere. A petition corresponding to that vote was prepared and ordered to be sent to the County Court. In urging the discontinuance of the piece of road in question, which was the result aimed at, the petitioners represented that it had been laid "to the great damage of the town and individuals in said town, and we cannot see that the traveler can receive any real advantage by the same, and a great number of them seem to choose the old road, rather than the new one, as it is a good road and has been travelled upwards of forty years," etc. "It will also be of great damage on account of having mills being put up at the lower end of the meadow [where the Bent Brothers' chair-factory now is], which we shall stand in great need of, for the mill at the upper end of the meadow [on the site of the shop of James Sawyer] in some seasons cannot grind for one-half of the town, now it is small, and when we come to have three times our [present] number, and lands cleared up, which will much shorten the water, it will make a wide odds, and we shall have to travel five, six, seven and eight miles for grinding, which will be a very great grievance; it also takes it [travel] from a public-house that has been occupied for that service upwards of twenty years, and of late has been at great expense for buildings to serve the public; and as we have three county roads through this little town, and almost all our roads are new and very bad to make, and but a little while since our incorporation, and have had a meeting-house to build, and of late a minister to settle, and have school-houses to build, before we can reap any great advantage by schooling, We, therefore, pray your honors to take our case into your wise consideration and discontinue the new laid road, . . . and to keep the old road as it is now travelled, which is but two tallies further than the new one, which, had there been a full bench, we cannot think would have been accepted." Nevertheless, the County Court did not see good reason for reversing their previous action, but re-affirmed it, and the road was in due time finished to the satisfaction of that body. Almost a hundred years of experience in the use of this piece of highway, whose value at the outset was so stoutly questioned, have vindicated the action of the parties in authority in this matter beyond all doubt or peradventure. Few roads in all the town have rendered more important service to the general public, or contributed more to the convenience and needs of the community.

Space will not permit a detailed statement concerning the different highways and streets that have been constructed since the opening of the present century. They have multiplied with the growth of the town until they number, at this present date, over one hundred, without taking into account numerous alleys and by-ways, opened for public or private convenience.

In 1870 the town instituted measures for causing the different roads and streets throughout its territory to be designated by name, which resulted in the accomplishment of the end sought before the expiration of the year, and in directing the selectmen "to cause sign-boards to be put up at the termini of each street in town," which was accordingly done. More recently considerable has been brought to pass in the way of having side-walks laid along the more frequented streets of the different villages, partly by public and partly by private funds, the town for several years appropriating a thousand dollars or more for that purpose. These are of great convenience to pedestrians, while the carriage-ways generally, not only at the business centres, but in the suburbs, are kept in excellent repair, rendering them suitable both for the heavier kinds of transportation and for the ordinary purposes of journeying or pleasure-driving. The annual expenditure of the town for highways and bridges is about seven thousand five hundred dollars.

The Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike.—Towards the close of the last century the custom of forming private companies for the construction of important thoroughfares arose in the State of Massa-

chusetts, and prevailed quite extensively for a score or more of years, or until public roads became so common and so good that the others failed of necessary support, and so had to be abandoned or transferred to public management.

These companies operated under an act of incorporation received from the Legislature of the Commonwealth, which act fixed for them the location of their roads, and gave them power to establish tax or toll-houses at given distances along their routes, whereat to demand and receive tribute, at fixed rates, of the traveling and teaming public for the construction and maintenance of the same. Such roads received the general name of turnpikes from the turning-bar or gate, set up at the toll-houses to stop those desiring to pass until the stipulated fee was paid.

Among those receiving a charter at the date named or thereabouts was what was called the Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike, its name indicating the place it occupied in the series, running through the South Village of Gardner. Its eastern terminus was Jonas Kendall's tavern, Leominster, whence it extended "through Westminster, Gardner, Templeton, Phillipston, Athol, Orange and Warwick, to Capt. Elisha Hunt's, in Northfield," with a branch "from Athol, through Montague, to Calvin Munn's tavern, Greenfield."

The corporation, under whose auspices this road was built, was composed of gentlemen of influence and property along the line, who obtained authority in the matter by an act of the Legislature passed March 1, 1799. It provided for the construction of a road "four rods wide, the path to be travelled not less than eighteen feet wide in any place," and for "the erection of five turnpike gates convenient for collecting the toll." One of these gates was located in Gardner, near the line of Westminster, but changed afterward to the Elijah Foster place, and finally to South Gardner Village. This road was a great improvement on what had previously existed, being very straight and well-graded, and for many years it formed the principal thoroughfare from Brattleboro', Greenfield and Albany to Boston, the amount of passenger and freight traffic over it being very large. This corporation continued till 1832, when it transferred its franchise to the county of Worcester, and dissolved.

RAILWAYS.—As time went on, the common highway and the old means of travel and transportation became insufficient to meet the increasing demands of business and trade, in this section of country as elsewhere. The railway system came in to supply the existing and growing need. It had been tried in different localities with satisfactory results. Several lines in the State were in successful operation. The "Fitchburg Road" had been chartered, and was approaching completion, when the project was started looking to its extension westward to the valley of the Connecticut. It took form, with Brattleboro' for a terminus in that direction, under the name of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad, and was duly chartered March 15, 1844, though it was not built and opened for through traffic till 1850.

This road, so far as Gardner is concerned, has a unique and interesting history. The prime mover in its behalf was Hon. Alvah Crocker, a prominent citizen of Fitchburg, largely associated with the industrial development of that place, somewhat known to the general public, and afterward a member of Congress from his Representative District. To him, no doubt, its construction at the time was due. Thoroughly interested in the enterprise, he enlisted some of his responsible fellow-townsmen as co-workers with him, and visited most of the towns along the proposed route, holding public meetings and interviewing leading citizens for the purpose of calling attention to the matter, awakening interest and securing at last subscriptions to the capital stock required. All this was done under the assumption that the road was to go through the towns where encouragement was solicited, to their very great advantage, and that the route was entirely feasible and suitable to the end in view. Gardner, which was at that time beginning to be animated with new life, and to give promise of future growth and prosperity, was strongly appealed to on the grounds named, and responded liberally. Of course, this was done with the full understanding and expectation that the road would run through Gardner in such a way that it would greatly benefit the rapidly-growing manufacturing interest of the community by furnishing more convenient as well as greatly increased facilities for transportation. It was greatly to the surprise and indignation of those more immediately concerned, therefore, to learn, some time after they had pledged their co-operation, that Mr. Crocker and others acting with him were laying plans to have the road laid through Winchendon instead of Gardner, thereby depriving the latter place of the chief benefit hoped for and promised by its construction. So determined were the parties interested in these plans of turning the road away from Gardner, that before the Legislature of the State was called upon to grant an act of incorporation authorizing the building of the same, they had caused to be located and graded at their own expense what was called the eleventh section, lying between Ashburnham Junction and Winchendon village, apparently for the purpose of influencing the members of the General Court in their behalf. But they were doomed to disappointment. By the intervention of influential gentlemen in Gardner and Templeton, for Templeton was also to be cut off from railroad facilities by the devices referred to, the original bill for the chartering of the road, drawn in accordance with the wishes of Mr. Crocker and his friends, was so far amended as to locate it "through the north part of the town of Gardner to Otter River, thence down Otter River to the village of Baldwinsville, in the north part of

Templeton." Mr. Crocker, dissatisfied with this result, petitioned to have Baldwinsville taken out of the charter, and appealed to the County Commissioners, who had authority to act in the matter, to change the location of the road in accordance with his wishes. The citizens of Gardner were now thoroughly aroused to a sense of the danger that threatened them, and at a town-meeting held July 22, 1845, chose Levi Heywood, Samuel S. Howe and Edwin E. Glazier a committee to contest the appeal of Mr. Crocker before the commissioners, and to oppose the proposed alteration of the charter before the General Court, with power to employ counsel if deemed necessary. This committee, acting in hearty co-operation with gentlemen representing Templeton in the matter, succeeded in thwarting the designs of their opponents, and in preventing a change of the charter in the interest of those opponents. Finding themselves defeated, the managers of the corporation, with Mr. Crocker at their head, resolved to secure by indirect means what they had lost in open and fair fight. They asked for and obtained an extension of the time for building the road, apparently with the hope that something might transpire, or that some new way might be found, whereby their cherished purpose might be realized. But such hope, if it existed, proved delusive.

A proposition for a branch road to Gardner from Ashburnham was rejected with emphatic protest, and an accompanying declaration, that if a branch could be laid to Gardner, the main line could as well go there. And on the basis of the survey for the branch road, the Gardner committee and their allies convinced the Legislature of 1846 that their claim for the main line was reasonable and right, which resulted in the passage of an act on the 16th of April, re-locating the road in accordance with their wishes as follows: "Commencing at some convenient point in Westminster westward of Whitman's Village, or in Gardner, or in Ashburnham, and thence through the town of Gardner to the valley of Otter River, and thence, by such a line as shall be found most feasible, through Templeton to a point in their chartered line between Gibson's mill and the village of South Royalston." This was substantially where the road now runs and where the interest and convenience of the community are well served. But, although signally defeated by the skill, energy and tireless vigilance of those whom the town appointed to care for its interests in the affair and secure justice to the town and to those individuals who in good faith had, under the original representations, subscribed to the funds of the corporation, yet it would seem as if even then the opposition did not entirely abandon their former purpose of running the main road through Winchendon and of making the Gardner line ultimately a subordinate branch. No other supposition has been suggested to account for the adoption of what the author of the "History of Gardner" calls "that bewildering anomaly in railroad traveling"—the reversal of the engine and the turning of the seats of the passengers at South Ashburnham, which was in vogue for many years. The change in that regard enabling the trains to run by direct movement there as elsewhere, settles finally and forever the question of the permanent location of the road, and secures to Gardner for all time to come, no doubt, those railroad facilities eastward and westward which it not only needed, but was justly entitled to by every consideration of equity and the public welfare.

This railroad beyond all question has contributed largely to the development of the resources of the town and to the building up of its various manufacturing establishments, as the town in turn has done much by its rapidly increasing traffic to promote the prosperity of the road. The advantages derived from it have been greatly increased since it came into the hands of the "Fitchburg" corporation, and its service in every department is constantly becoming more effective and satisfactory. The recent abolition of several grade-crossings in the town has conduced to the common safety in a way which might be wisely applied to other places of danger, especially in the more densely populated localities. A spur-track up the valley of the Crystal Lake stream, built in 1881, adds materially to the convenience and value of the manufactories which line the route. In the construction of this spur, the interested parties were at the expense of the grading, while the railroad company laid the rails and furnished the rolling-stock. Under the present management of the road increased facilities and accommodations are supplied to meet the requirements of the business public and to minister to the comfort of travelers. A new Union Station, already in contemplation, will be another step in the right direction, and will secure the appreciation and grateful approval of the public.

But, although the construction of the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad was of great service to the town of Gardner, yet it did not meet all the demands of the community in the matter of convenient and rapid transportation. An outlet southward became, after a while, an important consideration, not only for the advantage it would be to the business interests of the place, but as opening easy and ready communication with Worcester, the shire-town of the county, with which its people were somewhat intimately associated in many ways and becoming more and more so every passing year.

To satisfy this growing want, some of the leading citizens of Gardner united with those of other towns along the route in petitioning for a new railroad, to be called the Boston, Barre and Gardner Road. Some time previous to this movement, in April, 1847, a charter had been granted for a road from Worcester to Barre, to be called the Worcester and Barre Railroad. It provided for a main line between the termini named and for a branch therefrom to some

convenient point on the Vermont and Massachusetts Railroad in Gardner. The following year the name was changed to the Boston, Barre and Gardner Railroad. For good reasons nothing was done towards building this road for twenty years, the time for its construction being extended at different dates and some changes in its location made by special legislative enactment.

At length, in July, 1869, certain Worcester gentlemen, becoming deeply interested in the undertaking, authority was obtained from the General Court for the city of Worcester and towns along the line of the road to take stock in it, which gave new heart to its friends and new impetus toward its construction. Worcester subscribed liberally, as did Gardner and other towns, and private capitalists also helped in a similar way. By this action success was assured to the road, and measures were at once taken to carry the desires of those concerned in it into effect. Hence, on the 15th of the following September, the directors of the corporation voted to put that portion of the road lying between Worcester and Gardner under contract for construction at the earliest possible date, and two months later, terms were concluded with Messrs. Cook & Co., of Canada, in accordance therewith. Work was at once begun and pushed forward with energy and zeal under the general supervision of the efficient president, Colonel Ivers Phillips, of Worcester. On the 26th of April following, that gentleman drove the first spike in the laying of the rails at Gardner, and on the 4th of July of the same year (1870), an excursion train from Worcester to Gardner passed over the road, though it was not until several weeks afterward that it was formally opened for regular traffic. It proved to be of great convenience and value to the town, but, like roads similarly situated elsewhere, was obliged to struggle on by varying fortunes for many years, on account of financial limitations and other unpropitious circumstances.

Meanwhile the fact that immense quantities of lumber for manufacturing purposes were brought into town from the still extensive forest regions of New Hampshire, Vermont and Canada, created a need for better means of transportation in that direction, which the public recognized more and more, as the industrial interests of the community increased. Consequently a project was started in 1868 or '69—even before the opening of the Worcester road—looking to the extension of that road to Winchendon, which would give the facilities required. In furtherance of that project, a petition was forwarded to the General Court asking for such an extension under the name of the Gardner & Winchendon Railroad. Inasmuch as the enterprising citizens of the two towns interested had already pledged funds for the building of the road, it was confidently anticipated that a charter, in response to the prayer of the petitioners, would be granted without delay. But much to the surprise, annoyance and indignation of all interested parties, a vast amount of opposition to the enterprise was developed, in which the Vermont and Massachusetts, the Boston, Clinton and Fitchburg, the Nashua and Worcester and the Worcester and Providence Corporations were notably active, using all possible monetary and other influence to prevent the accomplishment of the object desired. This opposition prevailed temporarily, necessitating a vigorous fight of three years' duration, when, as in the case of the Vermont and Massachusetts road twenty years before, Gardner conquered and the act of incorporation asked for was granted by the Legislature in February, 1872. In due time the location of the road was fixed and a contract for its construction was made with Mr. B. N. Farren, of Greenfield, who began work upon it in December following. In less than a year the last rail connecting the Boston, Barre & Gardner road with the Cheshire was laid, and on Thanksgiving Day, November 27, 1873, a train from Worcester, conveying the officers of the corporation and the mayor and other gentlemen of that city to Winchendon, arrived there in season for a substantial dinner at the American House. The road was opened for regular business two months afterward, February 2, 1874. Thus, in spite of all opposition, was consummated an undertaking which was of vast importance, both to the Boston, Barre & Gardner Railroad corporation and to the industrial prosperity of Gardner for all time to come. The road as completed was made especially conducive to the town's welfare, by furnishing the leading manufactory of the place with direct facilities for transportation, and, by laying spurs of track, for the accommodation of other establishments. Struggling on for a series of years under difficulties already referred to, it was at length delivered from its many embarrassments by an arrangement with the Fitchburg corporation, according to the terms of which its entire management was tranferred to that body, which had previously secured control of the Vermont and Massachusetts road, so that at the present time all the railroad interests of Gardner are under the management of the Fitchburg Company, in which the citizens of the town are well represented. The present railroad system of the place, reaching out to the four cardinal points of the compass, and furnishing ready and easy communication with all parts of the country, and with all the markets of the world, seems to meet the essential needs of the people at large, and is highly satisfactory. A common station for both roads at the point of crossing, commodious and attractive, suited to the size of the town, the extent of business done and the style of public and private buildings in the place is an already existing need, and one which will undoubtedly be met at an early day.

CHAPTER CXII.

GARDNER—(*Continued.*)

INDUSTRIAL INTERESTS.

AT the outset the inhabitants of Gardner were, by the very necessities of the case, tillers of the soil. Indeed, one of the leading objects in locating upon its territory was to obtain a livelihood—an adequate supply of the necessaries of life for themselves and their households. And this was to be done by none of the modern methods of the industrial and business world, but by making levies, in good, primitive fashion, upon the products of the earth, to be obtained by earnest, honest and persevering work. It was each man's business, after making a clearing in the wilderness, and providing some sort of shelter for himself and his dependents, to break the sod and plant the seed of hoped-for harvests. So it was the town entered upon its career, beginning at the bottom and building up by slow but sure processes to larger and to better things.

Most of these early settlers, in addition to their knowledge of agriculture, which was, of course, crude and limited, knew something of the use of such tools as were employed in the more essential trades, and were able to build their own rude dwellings, the cabin or log-house, and also whatever other structures they might need, together with many of the implements of husbandry. Time and necessity developed latent skill in various kinds of useful handicraft; and some there were who, to their acquirements and toil as husbandmen, added, for their own and their neighbors' benefit, some special trade or branch of industry. Joseph Bacon, for instance, was a leading carpenter, and Andrew Beard and Timothy Kneeland pursued to some extent the same useful avocation. Seth Heywood, David Nichols and Jude Sawyer were blacksmiths; Jonathan Bancroft was a shoemaker, and no doubt "whipped the cat," as did others of that craft since that day. Gideon Fisher had the reputation of being "a mighty hunter," though to what profit to himself or others does not appear; and John Glazier, Jonathan Greenwood and Captain Elisha Jackson each kept an "ordinary," or public-house. Moreover, the first minister of the town, Rev. Jonathan Osgood, was a tanner by trade, though he probably never pursued that calling after coming to Gardner, except in a metaphorical sense. Albeit, like many another clergyman of days gone by, he was something of a farmer, and, moreover, a physician of acknowledged ability—withal, a man of many gifts.

For full fifty years farming was the principal occupation of the people of Gardner. Fathers trained their sons to the arts of the husbandman, and the sons, true to their training, succeeded to their father's calling and estate, each man's landed property usually going to his children. Mothers trained their daughters to be farmers' wives, and farmers' wives they usually became. By this honorable and honest vocation two generations of the first settlers of the town not only gained an adequate livelihood, but secured for themselves a competency, with provision, with rare exceptions, for misfortune and advancing years. Though the soil cannot be regarded as specially favorable to agricultural pursuits, yet it has always yielded fair returns for wise investments made, supplying many a household with the more substantial necessaries of life from the beginning and furnishing something for the growing home and outside markets with the flight of time. And while the farming interest of the town has relatively declined during the last half-century, yet it still, under the shadow of the more prosperous and imposing manufacturing and commercial activities, maintains a respectable place in the catalogue of industries, some of the more substantial and thrifty citizens being followers of the plow and keepers of flocks and herds. The demand which the constantly increasing population engaged in various kinds of manufacturing makes upon the tiller of the soil for all sorts of fresh produce is an ever-present stimulus to the farmer, and that he is by no means indifferent to it is sufficiently attested by the improvements continually going on in his department of the general industrial hive. To show what is being accomplished in his behalf, a few quotations are made from the last census reports sent to the Secretary of State, according to the requirements of the statutes of the Commonwealth. They relate to the year 1885, and are as follows, to wit: Number of farm-houses in Gardner, 72; number of farm barns, 77; other farm buildings, 27. Estimated value of property invested in farming, $378,948. Valuation of land devoted to farming, $223,618; of buildings, $102,670; of tools and machinery, $13,893; of domestic animals, $33,499; of fruit trees, $5,268. Value of agricultural productions for the year, $92,476. Eighty-nine farms are owned by the men who work them and one is hired. The whole number of men engaged in farming is one hundred and eighty-five.

COOPERING.—A considerable number of the people in Gardner at an early day supplemented their farming operations by the manufacture of tubs, barrels, pails and other kinds of wooden-ware of the same general sort, engaging in such work in the winter-time and at other seasons of the year when the weather was unsuitable for out door labor. After awhile this came to be in some instances the leading or perhaps the sole occupation, the call for such goods increasing as the town and country round about became more densely settled and householders more able to supply themselves with these conveniences of domestic life, or as the demands of the general market multiplied. Among those who carried on a considerable business in this line of production fifty or seventy-five years ago were Liberty Partridge, George Baker, Alvin

Greenwood, Robert Powers, Benjamin Kendall, Lewis Glazier, Smyrna Glazier, John Dyer, Hubbard Dunster, Walter Greenwood and others. The work was all performed by manual labor without the aid of any machinery, save only perhaps some very simple kinds that could be propelled by hand or foot-power. With the invention of mechanical devices, by which the same kind of goods could be produced much more easily and rapidly by water or other power, first introduced some sixty years ago, this sort of craft fell into disuse, and "coopering," as it was termed, existed only as a memery of bygone days.

POTASH-MAKING.—In clearing up the lands of the new settlements of this region of country considerable quantities of wood, which otherwise would have been of no account, were utilized and made a source of income by the manufacture of potash, for which there seems to have been a considerable demand at the time. A shop in which this article of commerce was produced once stood upon ground now covered by the extensive chair factory of the late S. K. Pierce & Co., owned and probably carried on by the William Bickfords—father and son—who had large tracts of the primitive forest in their possession. A similar establishment also occupied the site of the First National Bank. By whom this was conducted has not been definitely ascertained, but it seems likely to have been built and owned by John Glazier, who resided in the house which is now the dwelling of William Austin, and who was a large land-holder in his day. There were, without doubt, others in the early times, but no memorials of them have been found.

TANNERIES.—About the beginning of the present century there was a tan-yard located on the flat land directly below the lumber-mill of Lewis A. Wright & Co., owned by John and Isaac Nichols, sons of David Nichols, one of the first settlers on the Gardner territory. It passed from their hands into that of their brother, Asa, who sold it in 1811 to Joseph Sweetser, of Watertown, and he, in turn, to George Scott. Mr. Scott was the last one engaged in the business in that locality, and is remembered by the older inhabitants. A tannery once existed directly below the old Bickford Mill (now James Sawyer's), the vats of which could be recognized not many years since, but by whom it was run has not been ascertained. At a more recent date a Mr. Blaney carried on the same business on the west side of Green Street, just above the Elijah Brick place, the location of the vats being still plainly marked and readily recognized.

NAIL-MAKING.—In the year 1808 Abram G. Parker, of Westminster, and Francis Hill and David Perley, of Gardner, formed a co-partnership for the purpose of manufacturing nails and doing other kinds of iron work. They purchased the mill privilege now occupied by Wright & Read, built a dam and erected a factory, in which they placed machinery suited to their purpose, carrying on the business for several years. After some changes in the management, the property was disposed of, and the building was converted into a fulling and carding-mill, as will presently appear. Allusion has already been made to several blacksmiths in town during the first years of its history. It is proper to note the fact that at that period the making of nails was an important department of that trade, little or no machinery having been introduced or invented even for the production of that highly useful article.

THE MANUFACTURE OF CLOTH.—A very important industry of the first half-century of the history of Gardner, and one deserving a place in this review, was the production of cloth for domestic uses and to meet to a limited extent such demands as might come from the neighborhood and the community at large. Most of the goods from which the clothing of both men and women, as well as children, was cut, were not only home *spun*, but home-*woven*, as the garments themselves were home-*made*. The farmers, as a rule, kept sheep, and grew their own wool, at least enough for the needs of the family, which was in time carded, spun and woven by members of the household, and made ready for any service to which it might be devoted. The cardboards, the spinning-wheel and the loom were as essential articles of household furniture and implements of household use as were the plough, the hoe and the scythe for the proper equipment of the farm and tillage of the soil. And the wives and daughters were as familiar with the former and as skillful in operating them as were the fathers and sons the latter. Little time for idle hands, either within or without the dwelling, was there in those days, when the grandparents of the present generation were doing their best to keep the wolf from the door, to provide shelter, food and raiment for themselves and their children, and to guarantee themselves and theirs against any and every contingency of coming need,—laying in that way the foundations of a prosperity for their town, in which those coming after them to their latest posterity might rejoice.

FULLING AND CARDING-MILLS.—After the abandonment of the iron-works mentioned above, the building in which they were carried on was fitted up with machinery for cleansing and finishing the cloth produced in the homes round about, giving it, by what was termed the process of "fulling," greater compactness of texture, which rendered it more serviceable and more pleasing to the eye. After a time also a machine for carding wool was introduced, which greatly facilitated the process and relieved the household of a large amount of difficult and tiresome work. This mill was run until about the year 1829 by Colonel Ephraim Williams, who then disposed of his interest in it, and the building was converted into a shop for the manufacture of pine furniture, as will be duly set forth hereafter. In 1822 John Merriam having purchased the Caleb Jackson farm, lying on both sides of

what is Winter Street, with the adjacent mill privilege, now utilized by S. Bent, Bros. & Co., erected a mill for fulling purposes, which he afterwards enlarged sufficiently to enable him to put in a carding-machine to run in connection with the other business. The mill was used for the purposes indicated for about a dozen years, when Mr. Merriam left town. In 1836 it was purchased by Sullivan Sawin and has been devoted to the manufacture of chairs from that date.

CARD-BOARD MAKING.—The business of getting out boards to which cards were applied for purposes of hand-carding was carried on to quite an extent for a time in the history of the town. A shop devoted to this use belonging to Josiah Wilder, Jr., situated on the Knowlton place, in the north part of the town, was destroyed by fire in 1813. One Aaron Conant had a manufactory in the east part of the town. And as an adjunct to this industry Joseph Wright was engaged for awhile in getting out handles for such boards. The articles produced were readily disposed of at Leicester, where they were finished and made ready for the market.

PINE FURNITURE.—The building standing on the site now occupied by Wright & Reed's chair factory, and used for many years as a fulling and clothing shop, was afterwards bought by Daniel J. Goodspeed, who began the manufacture of toilet tables and wash-stands, with other articles of pine furniture. In 1846 the factory was burned, but immediately rebuilt and work resumed. Afterward Mr. Goodspeed left this locality and engaged in chair-making at the Henry Whitney Mill, the site of which is now occupied by the Howe Bros.' grist-mill, where he, some years later, was again burned out. Meanwhile a Mr. Baker associated with himself Lewis H. Bradford and the making of pine furniture was continued at the old stand, the firm bearing the name of Bradford & Baker. They went on for a few years, when the business was given up altogether.

TUBS AND PAILS.—One of the oldest existing industries of the town, and one which has been prosecuted with the fewest changes of any sort, is the manufacture of tubs and pails, now going on under the direction of Alfred Wyman, step-son of the late Amasa Bancroft, by whom it was represented for more than a half a century. It was established about the year 1832 by R. Heywood Sawin and his brother-in-law, John Damon, who had been previously engaged in getting out chair stock and in chair-making at the old Joshua Whitney Mill site, known in later years as the Pail Factory. A saw-mill was erected at this spot soon after the town was incorporated, or possibly before, by Mr. Whitney, who settled near by in 1778, or thereabouts, and who owned considerable land in the vicinity. From Joshua Whitney it passed into the hands of his son Joseph, who, in the year 1822 or 1823, sold it to his brother-in-law, Luke Sawin. In 1824, Luke sold to his kinsman, Sullivan Sawin, of Westminster, who in the year 1826 disposed of one-third of it to his son, Reuben Heywood Sawin, and one-third to his son-in-law, John Damon, retaining the remainder to himself. An addition was soon after put up, circular saws and turning lathes were introduced, and a large business was done in getting out chair stock, the rapidly increasing manufacture of chairs in the vicinity creating a great demand for that kind of production. A few years later, about 1831, a new shop was erected and chair-making was introduced, carried on in part by Sullivan Sawin, Jr., and also by the before-mentioned parties under the firm-name of "Sawin & Damon." But the then recent invention of machinery for the turning of pails and kindred ware, together with the abundance of timber near at hand suitable for the manufacture of such goods, induced the latter to go into that business, and they accordingly did so, associating with themselves Jonas Child, Moses Wood and a Mr. Vail, the last two of whom were located in Providence, and attended to the selling of what was made as part of the business of a general furniture house which they had established. This arrangement continued till 1836, when Sawin & Damon, having purchased a large tract of timber land in Fitzwilliam and erected a mill upon it, desired to dispose of their Gardner interests that they might devote themselves exclusively to the new enterprise in which they had enlisted. It was finally decided to dispose of the entire pail manufacturing business, which had been carried on under the style of the Gardner Pail Factory Co., and this was accordingly done. The purchasing parties were Amasa Bancroft, Jared Taylor, Frederick Parker and Joel Baker, the firm being known by the name of Taylor, Bancroft & Co. In 1840, Mr. Bancroft bought out his partners and continued the business alone for twenty-five years, when he associated with himself his son-in-law, John C. Bryant, who remained with Mr. Bancroft till his death in 1882, the name of the partnership being Amasa Bancroft & Co. About a year after the death of Mr. Bryant, Mr. Bancroft received his step-son, Alfred Wyman, as associate in the business under the former name, and this relation continued till the decease of the original member of the firm early in 1888, who had the reputation of being the oldest tub and pail manufacturer in the country. The business has always been carefully managed, without any effort to increase it to gigantic proportions, and has been attended with satisfactory results. For many years it has employed an average of eighteen men, and has turned out, annually, goods amounting to the value of about $25,000.

THE MANUFACTURE OF CHAIRS.

The leading industry of Gardner, overshadowing all others and contributing more than all others to the prosperity and wealth of the town, is chair manufacturing. It is this which distinguishes it above all other towns in the county, and has given it a name and an honorable fame far and wide throughout the length and

breadth of the land, and even in foreign realms. So important a factor in the development of the material, social and civil interests of the community, in shaping its fortunes and determining its history, deserves a somewhat detailed and careful statement of its growth from humble and unpretending beginnings through the various stages of expansion and progress up to the grand and imposing proportions which it has, at the present writing, attained. And to such a statement the attention of the reader is hereby invited.

It is generally understood and believed that the father and founder of the chair-making business in Gardner was James M. Comee, son of David Comee, who came from Lexington some ten or twelve years before the incorporation of the town, and settled near the junction of Pearl and Chapel Streets, in the east part. David was the son of David, who was the son of John Comee, the first of the family in the country, as is supposed, a resident of "Cambridge Farms," afterwards Lexington, at the time of its organization as a precinct in 1693. He is said to have served in the battles of Lexington, Bunker Hill and Bennington. He married (1) Christiana Maltman, also of Lexington, by whom he had seven children; and (2) Hannah Maltman, the mother of eight more. Of these fifteen children James M. was the second, born April 18, 1777. He married Sarah Putnam, and located at the top of the hill on what is now Pearl Street about the year 1800, upon the estate now owned and improved by Webster Gates, who married his grand-daughter, Mary F. Jaquith. In the year 1805, so far as can be learned, he began the making of chairs, in a very small way, in one of the rooms of his dwelling-house, doing most of the work at the outset with his own hands. Finding the business profitable, Mr. Comee soon called in some of the lads or young men of the neighborhood to assist him as apprentices. Among those thus employed at an early date were Enoch, Elijah and Jonas Brick, while, later on, were Isaac Jaquith, Elijah Putnam, Luke Fairbanks, Joseph Jackson and others. Several of these men afterwards started the same business on their own account and prosecuted it for a longer or shorter term of years, more or less successfully.

The chairs first made by Mr. Comee were undoubtedly constructed wholly of wood, the seats being of solid plank, either in one piece or in several pieces, firmly glued together. Rocking-chairs constituted a considerable portion of the goods produced; some having a seat entirely flat, except it may have been hollowed out somewhat with an adze; and others, more easy and tasteful, having what was called the *raised* seat. Not many years transpired, however, before a new style of seat came into vogue, known as the *flag* seat, which proved to be very acceptable and salable, and which was in good demand for a quarter of a century, or until superseded by the more modern and more artistic rattan or cane-seat. This seat was manufactured from a plant often found in this locality, growing in marshy places and along the borders of sluggish streams, known to botanists as a form of the genus *Typha Latifolia*, and to people at large as the cat-tail flag. Being of a tough, fibrous nature, with considerable thickness of structure and of sufficient length, it was well adapted to the use designated. The leaves were wound around the four sides of a seat-frame, and, when carefully twisted and woven by a skillful hand in four compartments, whose intertwining lines converged from the corners to a common centre, presented a neat and attractive appearance. It was much more pleasing to the eye and more comfortable than the hard, stiff wooden seat which it largely supplanted, and was deemed a decided improvement upon it in many respects. Few, if any, chairs of this sort are now made, though specimens of them may be found in the dwellings of most of the older New England families.

In the early period of chair manufacture, the work was done mostly by hand, even to the getting out of the stock, only a small turning-lathe, propelled by foot-power, being used for preparing the round stuff. What machinery was used was very simple and the tools were very few, so that the need of other than the force resident in the human muscle had not then been made manifest. Hence, for some years, chairs were made in the simple, slow, laborious way designated. The industry was in the elementary, formative period of its development, feeling its way along towards better methods and a well-assured success. An advance was made and a positive advantage gained when horse-power was introduced to facilitate the turning of stock and the doing of some of the more tiresome parts of the work, for which some simple mechanical apparatus had been invented.

The chairs made by Mr. Comee were, for many years, taken to Worcester, Lowell, Springfield and Boston, with teams of one or more horses, driven by himself or by persons in his employ, who sold them in small quantities, as opportunity offered,—sometimes even disposing of them from house to house, in the more sparsely-settled towns. In such a small way did Mr. Comee begin this important manufacture, and by such unpretending methods did he prosecute the work by which he earned for himself a name long to be remembered in his native town and wherever the business he did so much to make a permanent interest in the community is pursued.

Probably the first of Mr. Comee's apprentices to establish a business on his own account, and carry it on successfully for a long series of years, becoming thereby the second permanent chair-maker in Gardner, was Elijah Brick. He went to his trade in 1806, when fourteen years of age, and served in good old-fashioned style till he was twenty-one. Continuing with Mr. Comee as journeyman for a year, he bought, in 1814, a place half a mile north of the Common, on which he settled, built a small shop and commenced the making of flag-seat chairs. He em-

ployed his brother Enoch to assist him about the wood-work, and female help to make the seats. Later on, Benjamin Howe was in his service, and others, afterward, as his business increased. For many years he marketed his goods himself, carting them, with his own team, to Boston, Salem, Providence and elsewhere. About 1840 he extended his operations and commenced making cane-seat chairs, which had then become somewhat popular, and were rapidly rising into favor, with the trade and with the general public.

During the ten years following the date of Mr. Brick's setting up the making of chairs there were other persons who did the same thing, but their undertakings were small or of very brief continuance, and did but little towards building up the manufacture into a permanent and commanding position in the place. Among these was Jonas Brick, who began in a shop near the Wright saw-mill in 1818, the first of the trade, so far as is known, in the south part of the town. He was in business, however, but a short time, and at an early date left the town.

The chair-making era of Gardner history may be divided into two parts: the first covering a period of about twenty-five or thirty years, the second of fifty-five or sixty years. The former passed over or gave way to the latter with the introduction of machinery into chair-shops, to be run by water or other power, and also with the introduction of the use of rattan as an important element or constituent part of the material for the production of chairs. The transition from one to the other of these divisions may be regarded as having taken place substantially between the years 1830 and 1835, during which period the germs of most of the existing large chair establishments were first planted and began their process of growth and development, as will hereafter appear.

Recognizing the distinctive characteristics of the chair-manufacturing industry which marked the change alluded to, and looking over the list of those who were active and instrumental in bringing that result to pass, it is eminently just and proper to make special mention of the part taken in the matter by Mr. Elijah Putnam. Disappointed, as no doubt he was, in many of his plans and expectations, and not to be counted among the successful manufacturers of the town, he yet was, for a long series of years, connected with the chair business, and perhaps contributed as much, in his way, to the development of this branch of production and to the new departure which ushered in the better day of chair-making, as any other individual. Fertile in inventive resources, he yet was not gifted with that practical judgment and executive ability which were needful to use those resources to the best advantage, and make them productive of the most profitable and satisfactory results. Full of new ideas in regard to the manufacture of chairs, and abounding in designs and devices of a mechanical nature, he lacked the power of embodying his ideas in a feasible working system, and of applying his contrivances in an effectual way to the attainment of the ends proposed. Nevertheless, he rendered essential service to his calling and to the community by his suggestions, by his hints at improvements or his imperfect conceptions of tools and machines, which he could not of himself work out to successful issues, but which others, of a more practical turn of mind, getting possession of, could easily put to efficient and remunerative service. And it is believed that some of the more valuable kinds of chair-making machinery and various improvements in the business, which first came into use and rendered important aid in advancing to its present commanding position the chief industrial interest of the town, originated in the prolific brain of this man, who, himself, derived but little pecuniary advantage from them, but to whom credit for them in due degree should be assigned, even though others were instrumental in giving form to the ideas and principles involved, and in putting them into successful operation.

Mr. Putnam was one of the apprenticed workmen of James M. Comee. After closing his apprenticeship and perhaps working as journeyman for a time, he married, and settled upon the estate opposite the Common, where Charles Scollay now resides, going into business for himself about the year 1825. He possibly began in one of the rooms of his dwelling-house, but soon erected a shop in which to carry on his trade. He employed numerous workmen as time went on, some of the oldest and best known chair-makers of the town having served more or less under him. The usual foot-lathe was the only machinery he had at the beginning; but following the bent of his genius, he afterwards made use of a steam-engine of his own invention, which, however, did not prove a success. He then constructed and put up a windmill, as some still living remember, but this also failed to serve the purpose intended and was removed. He finally introduced horse-power, which supplied his needs till 1838, when he bought the mill privilege, now occupied by John A. Dunn, of William S. Lynde, built a dam and removed his shop thither, continuing the business for seven years, when he sold out to Cowee, Collester & Co., from whose hands the property passed, after several changes, to its present ownership. Mr. Putnam also carried on business awhile on the site to which Conant, Ball & Co. have recently removed, but his shop was burned in 1839 and the privilege was transferred after a time to L. H. Sawin, the predecessor of those now in possession of it.

To Mr. Putnam, moreover, belongs, with but little doubt, whatever credit is due for the introduction of the cane-seat to the chair manufacturing fraternity of Gardner and for making the rattan business an important branch of the predominating industry of the community. It was, so far as can be ascertained by

extensive and painstaking inquiry, under his auspices that the first cane-seating was done in the town; it was by his agency that imported rattan was first brought to the place, split, shaven and made fit for use; and it was under his management and in his name that cane-seat chairs were first actually produced here and put upon the market, as will be more fully set forth in subsequent pages.

Recurring once more to the date at which Mr. Putnam began his career and when several others also were looking to the same calling as a means of livelihood and of worldly prosperity, it may be stated that the increased and increasing demand for chair stock occasioned thereby suggested the use of water-power, of which there was considerable not yet improved in town, as an easily available agency for meeting that demand. Mr. Ezra Baker seemed to be the first to turn the suggestion to practical account and appreciate the opportunity offered for a new and promising industrial pursuit. A plan of action presented itself to him, which he very soon proceeded to carry into effect. He purchased a small mill privilege on Kneeland Brook, situated half a mile northwest of the northern extremity of Crystal Lake, constructed a dam, erected a shop and put in one or more lathes for the turning of posts and stretchers and other parts of chair material. At that time the timber used was bought of the farmers round-about, who prepared it for the lathe by cutting it the required length, splitting it and taking off the corners, as it was not then deemed possible to turn a square stick. The circular-saw had not come into use. But its day was at hand, and it was not long before Mr. Baker purchased one, put it into his shop and prepared his own lumber for the lathe. This was the first saw of the kind in town. In 1828, the business of Mr. Baker increasing on his hands, he purchased the Fairbanks grist-mill, afterwards sold to Elijah Putnam as stated, and transferred his machinery there, where he operated for several years. Previous to this change on the part of Mr. Baker, Asa Perley erected a shop of considerable size on the same stream, near where Clark Street crosses it, and fitted it up for the same kind of work. It was not long after this that Sawin & Damon engaged in the same business at the Pail Factory site, and about the same time Merrick Wallace, who married the daughter of Ezra Baker, bought of Deacon Fairbanks the small privilege above his grist-mill, where the main factory of Heywood Bros. & Co. now is located, built a shop and went into the business of getting out chair-stuff there. Similar enterprises were started elsewhere in town and went on with a varying success, until the demand was more than met, or until chair-makers came to see that it was for their advantage to prepare their own material, when the work of getting out stock as a separate and independent calling was given up and became an integral part of the general business of chair manufacture. This was another feature of the transition from the earlier to the later period of the chair-making era—from the old to the new system of ways, means and methods of chair production.

A sketch of the existing chair establishments of Gardner, such as is proposed, will involve a still further consideration of the change alluded to, since some of them date back to the time when it occurred, and since some of their founders were more or less active in bringing it about. But before going on to present such a sketch, it seems proper to submit as briefly as may be an account of the introduction and use of rattan as an important adjunct or component part of the manufacture in its more modern aspects and achievements. Constituting as it does a distinct branch of the general industry under notice, and possessing characteristics peculiar to itself, it may be considered under the specific name of

THE RATTAN BUSINESS.—Rattan is a species of the palm tree bearing the scientific name of *Calamus Rotang* and a product of the forests of the East Indian Islands, especially of Sumatra and Borneo, and of the Malayan Peninsula. It is a slender plant, scarcely ever exceeding an inch in diameter and of great length. It is sometimes supported by the larger trees among which it grows and sometimes runs along the ground forming a tangled web, through which it is impossible to pass. The peculiarities which render it valuable for a great variety of uses, and which give it commercial importance, are its remarkable flexibility and strength, its extreme length combined with uniformity of size, its capability of being split into small strips and the hard, silicious glazing with which it is coated. It is gathered by the natives of the region where it is produced, and prepared for shipping at very little expense, and then sent to different parts of the world. The eastern nations of Asia have for a long time known its value and have used it in making various articles of furniture, baskets, sieves, mats, and even hats and shoes. Large quantities of it are employed in China as bands for tea-chests, to secure them against the perils of transportation. It was probably in this way that it first became known to Western Europe and to America, where its properties are now so well understood, and where it is at the present day so largely utilized in the production of many kinds of house furnishing goods, children's carriages, and numerous styles of fancy articles; also for decorative purposes, being easily made to assume unique and newly-devised forms, pleasing to the eye and taste. Its adaptability to an indefinite but ever-increasing number of uses has given it in these later years a wide distribution and an unbounded popularity throughout the civilized world.

At what date rattan was first used as a part of chair construction in this country has not been determined, nor in what locality, nor by whom it was thus originally employed on these shores. It was first brought to the notice of the people of Gardner and vicinity in that connection about the year 1830, at which time

chair-seats were being made of it in or near the City of New York, whence they were sent in different directions and put into chairs by those already engaged in chair manufacturing. It does not appear that any of the trade in Gardner made use of any of these New York seats in their business previous to the date at which what are called cane-seats were actually produced within its borders, though it is quite certain that they were purchased and used to some extent in neighboring towns about that time. The work of putting the rattan, or cane as it was more familiarly called, into these New York seats was done in part, at least, by the inmates of the penitentiary of the State of Connecticut, and it was by that avenue that the "seating" of chairs and the making of cane-seat chairs first found its way into this town.

It was in the year 1832 or 1833 that John Cowee, an employé of Mr. Elijah Putnam, visited the Connecticut State Prison, and, by going through the department where the inmates were engaged in "seating" chairs and carefully watching their movements, obtained an idea of the way in which the work was done. Whether he did this on his own motion, or at the suggestion of Mr. Putnam, is not known. After leaving the prison he purchased a seat and also some cane made ready for use and returned home, bringing the articles with him. Going to the shop of Mr. Putnam, he carefully took the cane from the seat, studying the process closely, and then went to work with the prepared cane, putting the seat in again and so producing the first seat of the kind that was actually "seated" in town. This point gained, it was not difficult to go on to the construction of a cane-seat chair in all its parts from beginning to end. And this Mr. Putnam proceeded at once to do. Making the frames by facilities easily obtained, he engaged women to come to his house, where they were taught the mystery of seating, and where they were employed for a time in doing that part of the work, one of the rooms of his dwelling being devoted to that use. These seats he put into chairs which, when finished, were sold with other articles of his production, and the cane-seat chair business was fairly inaugurated in the community where it was in after-years to attain undreamed-of proportions and achieve a most wonderful success. The "seating" continued to be done on Mr. Putnam's premises until it was found that the demand for the chairs could not be met unless the seats could be produced more rapidly than was possible in that small way, when the practice of "putting out" seating was inaugurated—that is, of distributing the frames and cane in families in the neighborhood, by the members of which the interweaving process was carried on. As the cane-seat chair grew in popular favor and the business of manufacturing it increased, this work of "seating" was enlarged proportionally, expanding and extending itself until it became an important industry on its own account, affording employment to the inmates of hundreds and thousands of homes in the region round-about and contributing, as a source of income, largely to the comfort, prosperity and happiness of multitudes of people.

To begin with, the cane put into the seats was obtained from outside, probably from New York, prepared for use. Very soon, however, in 1833, Mr. Warren Sargent, from Dummerston, Vt., and a little later his brother, John R. Sargent, came to the place and went to work getting out cane, as it was termed, in Mr. Putnam's shop, and, most likely, under his auspices, where they carried on business for a time, inducting others into it and establishing it upon a permanent basis. Leaving town after a few years, they were succeeded by Benjamin H. Rugg, a skillful and successful cane-worker, for a long while at the Heywood shop and at his own residence on Green Street; Robert G. Reed, who worked first at Mr. Putnam's and afterward at James M. Comee's; Edmond Newton, at South Gardner; Asher Shattuck, who was first employed at Putnam's in 1838 and, after serving at several places, finally in the cane department at the Heywood establishment in the West Village, and perhaps others. Probably Mr. Shattuck is the oldest living cane-worker in Gardner, and the one who has been longest connected with that special industry.

For twenty years or more the work of getting out cane was done by hand. It was a slow, difficult, laborious process, requiring care, skill and quickness of motion for its successful prosecution. Numerous steps intervened between the taking of the material in hand by the worker and the leaving it ready for the hand of the seater. It was received, as it is now, just as it was shipped from its native shores, just as it was taken from its native forests, indeed, except that the leaves crowning its top and the spines grown at its several joints had been removed, after which it had been put into bundles of one hundred stalks each, about sixteen feet long, doubled in the middle and compactly tied together. The first thing done with it was to straighten it, so that it could be easily handled and conveniently worked. Each stalk was then passed through the hand from end to end and every joint was taken off or pared down with a common knife, so as not to interfere with the further working of it, or with the drawing in of the strands when woven by the usual method into a seat. This was termed cleaning the cane. When this was accomplished the act of splitting or slabbing took place, which consisted, in the case of the smaller rods or stalks, in quartering them from end to end, and when they were larger, in taking off from the several sides enough to make two strands, with the exception of the last one, perhaps, which would sometimes make but one. This was also done with a common knife and required special care and skill to prevent waste. Each strip thus produced was afterwards ploughed or passed under a sharp-edged tool, shaped like the letter V, being held in place by proper appliances,

which would cut away most of the core or woody portion of the strip, and at the same time so nearly split it into two equal parts as that they could be readily separated. Each of these parts was then drawn between two properly adjusted cutters, which reduced it to a uniform width and was termed gauging the cane. It was afterward planed or brought to a uniform thickness by passing it over another cutter set into a block of wood, likening it to the carpenter's tool from which this step of the process derived its name. This concluded the mechanical part of the work. The cane thus prepared was then parceled out into lots of one thousand feet in length in the aggregate, neatly tied in bunches of convenient size, and after being sufficiently bleached, was deemed ready for use. In this, the original method of getting out cane, each part of the work was distinct and separate from all others, and the power employed was that resident in the bones and sinews of the workmen, small pincers being used for holding the strands in the drawing processes and whenever the fingers could not conveniently and successfully serve the end desired.

But this slow method was destined to be superseded. The invention of machinery and the use of water or other power for the purpose of preparing rattan for the various kinds of service to which it was applied, was only a question of time, and the time came many years ago. In the year 1849, Mr. Sullivan Sawyer, then of Templeton, but now of Fitchburg, secured letters patent on a machine "for splitting and dressing rattan," and also on one for cutting rattan, in 1851. These are the first inventions connected with the business mentioned in the reports of the Patent Office of the United States, but for ten years from the date of the first of these they averaged one annually. A third patent was issued to Mr. Sawyer for a cane-working machine in 1854, and a fourth in 1855. In 1852 one was granted to Joseph Sawyer, of Royalston, and another in 1854, as also one in the same year to Mr. A. M. Sawyer, Templeton. In 1855 Mr. C. C. Reed, of Philadelphia, was similarly honored; also Mr. C. C. Hull, of Charlestown. In 1858, George S. Colburn, then of South Reading, but for many years a resident of Gardner, and the manager of the cane department of the Heywood Manufactory until a recent date, took out his first patent for a rattan-machine, as he has also received several since that period. Some of these machines were of only experimental service, not standing the test of practical use; but they were helps to that more perfect system of mechanisms and devices by which cane is now prepared for the multiform uses to which it is applied. As a matter of fact, out of these several inventions there were evolved two or three machines, differing from each other in some respects, which were put to effectual use, and for a time supplied very largely the needs of the cane-seat chair-making public. At what date these went into successful operation it is difficult to determine. Indeed, they were being experimented with and improved for several years, and turned out much imperfect work before they gave reasonable satisfaction, a result which was achieved about the year 1858 or, it may be, a little earlier; but it was not far from that time that the problem of getting out cane by machinery was regarded as solved, and that a new era had opened to that branch of business. For some years succeeding that period but little cane was worked in Gardner, that which was consumed in the town being prepared for the most part at Boston or Fitchburg, where large companies, organized for the purpose, had control of that department of the chair-making industry, and supplied the demand existing in this vicinity. Later on, however, arrangements were entered into by the parties concerned, under which the business of getting out cane was resumed in this place about the year 1875, where it has been continued under different and varying auspices to the present time. Numerous improvements have been made in cane-working machinery as the business has gone on, and many new inventions have been brought forward, some of which have proved valueless, while others have been of great service. Of these (produced mostly in the shops where the work is carried on) but few have been protected by United States patents, and so do not appear in any public record. One of the most important of these later machines, however, it may be stated, was the fruit of the practical sagacity of Mr. George S. Colburn, for which he received letters in recognition of its originality and merit from the United States Patent Office, bearing date November 18, 1879. It is substantially the machine now in operation in the only cane-producing establishment in Gardner, one of the largest in the world, and one from which all the cane used in the vicinity is now received, though it has been subjected since it was first started to sundry modifications and improvements, whereby its work is rendered more perfect and satisfactory.

But not only have there been great improvements in the methods of getting out cane or of preparing it for use, but also in the ways and means of working it after it is so prepared, as well as in the styles or forms it is made to assume, when it is finally adjusted and finished for the market. Originally the only seat produced was what has been called the Chinese pattern, whether because it was devised in China and brought thence to this country or not is not known, but probably for that reason. It consisted in arranging the strands of cane passing from one side to the other of the frame and from front to back, in pairs, crossing each other at right angles; each strand so interwoven with the others as that it passed first above and then below one running transversely, in regular order, all being attached to the frame by putting them in their proper place through holes made for the purpose. These pairs were adjusted according to the

distance between the holes, usually about half an inch apart, causing square openings of a corresponding measurement to be made. Through these openings other strands were interwoven diagonally in two directions, thus cutting off their corners and making them octagonal in form. This produced a firm, substantial piece of work, which when well executed was strong, durable and pleasing to the eye. A binding around the edge covering the holes in the frame gave it proper finish. This style of seat was the only one made for many years, and the same pattern of weaving was put into backs when cane-back chairs came into vogue. The work in it was always performed by hand, an adroit use of the fingers being necessary to a rapid execution of the different interlacing processes. This is the kind of seating substantially which was distributed far and wide throughout the community and furnished remunerative employment to a multitude of families for a long series of years. After a time some variations from it were introduced, gratifying to the popular taste, but not changing materially the character or method of the work.

It can be at once seen that seating according to this method was at best but a slow process, and so one not likely to satisfy the demands of this hurrying, fast-driving age. Seats must be made at a more rapid rate than was possible under the old, long-prevailing system. To meet the exigencies of the trade and of the times, a loom for weaving cane into a continuous web by the use of power was invented—the production of the mechanical skill of Mr. Gardner A. Watkins, formerly of Proctorsville, Vt., but at the time and since a resident of Gardner, whose ingenuity in this department of manufacture was repeatedly recognized and honored by the United States Patent Office during the years 1867–69. Other looms have been invented by other parties since that period, and numerous improvements have been made upon the original designs. The product of the looms first brought into use and run to much profit was what may be termed the solid web, similar to that of the simpler kinds of woolen and cotton cloth. It made a strong, durable seat, but had no artistic merits, and hence, was not suited to the higher, nicer grades of goods. Changes have been going on. New appliances have been added and different patterns of webbing have been devised, but everything thus far brought out as the result of the introduction of the loom has been open to the same objection. No invention for weaving cane, so far as is known, has yet been able to make the Chinese seat pattern or anything nearly equal to it in artistic excellence and attractiveness. Yet a loom, or a device, has been invented by the use of which the production of that precise pattern has been greatly facilitated. It admits of such an arrangement of certain parts of its mechanism as that the several pairs of transverse strands which enter into the construction of the ordinary seat, constituting what is often termed warping and checking, can be woven together in proper form to receive the oblique or diagonal strands. Moreover, an ingenious contrivance has been devised, by the use of which these diagonal strands can be interwoven with wonderful ease and dispatch. It consists of a large needle, long enough to reach in an oblique direction from one side to the other of a web of cane prepared as just stated, having a revolving point which works its way through the proper openings by the turning of a small crank on the part of the operator, carrying with it as it advances a single strand of cane which it leaves in its rightful place, when it is itself withdrawn. By the use of these two inventions in connection with each other, the work of making seats of the original Chinese pattern at an immense saving of both time and labor is accomplished, and their introduction is likely to affect very seriously the old practice of hand-seating, even if it does not eventually bring it to an end. Moreover, that practice is threatened in another direction. There is a machine in process of construction, passing through its experimental stages, and promising success, which, while it may not produce the Chinese pattern exactly, will fabricate something so much like it that the casual observer would scarcely notice the difference, and hence can readily be substituted for it in many if not in all the nicer kinds of cane-chair manufacture. And, besides, this machine, when perfected according to the plan of those engaged in developing it, as it is quite likely to be, will do not one style of weaving alone, but an indefinite variety of styles in form and figure, by simply changing some of its constituent parts relatively to each other, or some of its multiform and intricate movements. In view of what has already been accomplished and will probably soon be accomplished, the whole matter of making even the better classes of cane-seats is very likely to undergo entire reconstruction at an early day.

The invention of the loom, whereby a continuous web of the woven cane was rendered possible, necessitated the designing of some method of splicing the strands in some sure and effectual way. This necessity was met by Mr. Watkins, in the evolution of a machine or series of machines, about the year 1870, by the operation of which, in proper order, the ends of strands proposed to be united could be scarfed so as to exactly match each other, and then, the corresponding scarfed parts being duly charged with cement, be brought together and subjected to pressure in such a way as to cause them to adhere firmly without perceptibly enlarging the size of the strand at the point of juncture. The several devices by which this result is secured are exceedingly ingenious, and reflect much credit upon the inventor. The work is done so thoroughly and neatly that an inexpert eye will scarcely detect the place where the splicing is done, even in the strand, and much less when in the

finished articles of production. Another method of splicing, evincing considerable inventive skill, which has been widely employed, is that of bringing the squared ends of the strands to be united together in line, and then bending about the two a little band or clasp of thin metal with serrated edges, which, when pressed closely into the substance of the cane, holds the parts securely together. This, though much used, does not make so neat a piece of work as the other method, and is not likely to be so durable or satisfactory to the chair-using public.

The use of the loom-woven seat, or of a seat made independently of the frame to which it was to be finally attached, also made it necessary to originate some plan of effecting that attachment, instead of the old one of passing the strands through holes bored for the purpose, which had to be abandoned. Two new ones have been employed with fairly satisfactory results. One of these is to turn the edges of the seat, cut to a proper size, down inside the frame and fastening them by a thin strip of wood on each side, firmly kept in place by screws. When carefully adjusted, these strips would hold the seat securely, as in a vise, and being underneath, would not be seen to disadvantage. Another plan is that of making a groove or channel continuously on the four sides of the frame, then cutting the web or seat exactly large enough to have its edges pressed into this groove without protruding on the outer side, and made secure by a strip of wood or spline prepared for the purpose, and forced into place after a suitable application of glue, to render everything firm and sure. A contrivance for beading the spline, and also for embossing the frame around it, operating in connection with the other processes, gives the whole a neat finish when completed. Every part of this work is done by machinery, the fruit of the inventive faculty of different persons, some of it being very ingenious, complex and heavy and of immense power. It is capable of being worked with such rapidity that, operating in connection with the loom continuously, only four minutes are required to make an entire seat, reckoning from the time when the cane is in the strand ready to be woven, to the time when the work is completed ready to be put into the chair for the market.

It is a noteworthy fact in this matter of the use of rattan as an element of chair and other manufacture, that a much larger portion of it is now made serviceable than was formerly the case. For a long time after it was introduced it was believed that only the external parts were of any practical value, which must be put into the goods in such a way as that the wear would come altogether upon the smooth, silicated surface. It has been found, however, that what remained after the outer portions are removed may be utilized in a great variety of ways. And much of the reed and rattan work of the present day, so pleasing to the taste and so deservedly popular in the form of chairs and other furniture, children's carriages, baskets, etc., is composed of these portions once deemed of no account and consigned to the flames. These same portions are also split into strands and, after being properly dressed and made smooth, are put into seats and other parts of the chair, just as those strands are which have the silicated surface. Goods thus fabricated have a presentable appearance, are durable and acceptable to the trade. In the ways indicated, almost the entire substance of the rattan is now turned to some profitable account, the actual waste being exceedingly small.

Before proceeding to give an account of the several chair manufacturing establishments of Gardner, the history of which will present further details touching the development of this interesting and important industry, it seems desirable to offer a few general observations upon the business under notice. And it may be remarked, to begin with, that the practice of using labor-saving machinery, which was first resorted to fifty-five or sixty years ago, and which was one of the principal features of the change from the old to the new methods of production, has become essentially universal. Invention has kept pace with the ever-growing demand for goods and with the multiplication of styles, supplying every department of manufacture with mechanical devices suited to the ends it was designed to secure. Space will not admit of a description of any of these devices, even of the most wonderful and valuable of them, nor yet of the simplest statement of the special use to which they are respectively put. It must suffice to say that they are multitudinous in variety, ingenious in design, thorough and complete in construction, wonderful in operation and in the execution of their appropriate work, many of them seemingly gifted with almost human instinct and practical sagacity. So completely do they supply the needs of the chair manufacturer, that nearly all of what is termed hand-work—that is, work done by human strength—is that of feeding the machines and of putting the different parts together after they have been prepared as indicated.

It seems needful also to state that much of the work of getting out stock, by which is meant cutting it from the original stick or log, and making it ready for the machine which shall put it into its final shape, is done in or near the lumber regions of New Hampshire, Vermont and Canada, or of more western localities, what is thus prepared being sent in bulk to the factories for further manipulation and use. Tracts of wood-land are sometimes owned by the manufacturers themselves, as are also the mills employed in connection with them, so that the entire process, or series of processes, required in the production of chairs, from the time of the felling of the tree whence comes the material that enters into their construction to the time when they are finally put upon the market, is under one and the same general management. But usually the stock is brought

to the factories "in the rough," having been purchased of parties who make a distinct business of preparing it and supplying the demand which exists for it in that form.

Manufacturers usually finish their own goods,—that is, they not only put them into proper shape as complete articles of furniture, but they paint and varnish them and make them ready for final use in the dwelling of the consumer. It is not unfrequently the case, however, that in putting chairs together, they are left unglued, so that, after they have been finished, they may be taken to pieces and closely boxed for convenience of transportation to distant places, where they may be "set up" and made ready for sale. Sometimes, too, they are shipped "in the wood," without having been put together or painted at all, to be completed and put upon the market at the place to which they may be consigned. All the larger chair establishments at this day have a repair department, well equipped with the fixtures and appurtenances of a machine-shop, in which not only is the necessary repairing done, but new machines, or parts of machines, constructed, and where any new invention brought out in any establishment may be put into proper form, tested, experimented with and, if proved to be of practical value, made ready for service.

It is now in order to present as briefly as may be a sketch of the several establishments which are in successful operation in the town, and which, with their antecedents, to be incidentally noticed, may be regarded as fairly representing the industry under consideration during the more memorable part of its existence. They will be introduced substantially in the order of their historic and commercial importance.

Heywood Bros. & Co.—The history of this firm and of the business which it represents runs back more than half a century, to the early days of chair-making, and of those other activities in the community which have been closely related to it. During all this period the family name has been identified with this industry, and has occupied a prominent place in everything pertaining to its expansion and prosperity. As early as 1826 Walter Heywood, third son of Benjamin Heywood, whose father was one of the first residents of the town, having then but recently attained his majority, began the work of making chairs in a little shop standing in the yard attached to his father's house, which occupied the site of the present Town Hall building. At this date his older brothers, Levi and Benjamin Franklin, were engaged in running an old-fashioned country store near by, although it is probable that both of them worked more or less at chairs in the way of learning the trade. Not long after, a new shop was erected by Walter on the spot where now stands the dwelling of Asher Shattuck, at the corner of Central Street and Woodland Avenue, in which the business was carried on till 1834, when it was burned. Meanwhile, Mr. Heywood associated with himself his brothers B. F. and William, younger than himself, also Moses Wood, of Gardner, and James W. Gates, of Boston, and in May, 1831, bought the privilege and shop of Merrick Wallace, where the principal factory of the present firm stands, and at once enlarged the facilities so as to accommodate them to their plans of increasing business. About the same time Levi Heywood, who, with his brother Benjamin F., had previously given up the store, went to Boston, where he opened a warehouse for the sale of chairs on his own account. In 1835 he returned to town and entered the firm just referred to, which was operating under the name of B. F. Heywood & Co. In 1837 the partnership was dissolved, the business being assumed by the Heywood Brothers, residing in town. A few years later Levi Heywood, who seemed to be more enterprising and progressive than his associates, especially in regard to the introduction of machinery, bought out their interest and went on for a while sole owner and manager of the concern. Subsequently, about the year 1844, he formed a co-partnership with Moses Wood, then of Providence, a member of the original firm, and his youngest brother, Seth, the firm name being Heywood & Wood. This arrangement went on till 1847, when Mr. Wood retired and Calvin Heywood, son of Levi, and Henry C. Hill, for some years manager of the painting department of the establishment, came in to fill the vacant place; the style of the new partnership being Levi Heywood & Co. Four years after this the firm resolved itself into a joint stock association, to which employés were admitted upon subscription to the invested capital, constituting what was known as the Heywood Chair Manufacturing Company. This new plan continued in operation for about ten years. In 1861 the shops of the company were consumed by fire, when the joint stock experiment was abandoned.

As a result of the burning of the shops and the consequent relinquishment of the joint stock experiment, a new firm was formed the following year, consisting of Levi and Seth Heywood, Charles Heywood, son of Levi, and Henry C. Hill, assuming the style of Heywood Brothers & Co., which has been retained to the present time. Early in 1868 Charles Heywood and Henry C. Hill withdrew from the concern, and Henry and George Heywood, sons of Seth, entered it. Subsequently, Alvin M. Greenwood, son-in-law of Levi Heywood, was admitted, and still later, Amos Morrill, who married the daughter of Benjamin F. Heywood, long before deceased. In 1876 Charles Heywood re-entered the partnership, and remained in it till his death, in June, 1882. Before the year expired, his father, Levi Heywood, who had been connected with the establishment half a century, and to whose insight, energy, business ability and untiring persistency its success was chiefly due, as was in large degree the industrial prosperity of the whole town, also passed away. Seth soon retired, disposing of his interest to his sons, while Mr. Mor-

rill bought Charles' share and part of that of Levi, which reduced the firm to four members at the opening of 1883, each having an equal interest under the re-adjustment. Four years later George, son of Seth Heywood, left, and George H., son of Henry, purchased an interest and become a partner with the remaining members, the charge of the Boston warehouse, then recently opened, being assigned to him. During the present year (1888) an interest in the business has been purchased by Calvin H. Hill, a clerk in the Gardner office, and also by John H. Welch, of the New York house. The firm at this writing consists of Henry Heywood, Amos Morrill, Alvin M. Greenwood, George H. Heywood, Calvin H. Hill and John H. Welch, and retains the name of Heywood Brothers & Co., which has distinguished it for twenty-seven years and by which it is known and honored throughout the land, and in realms beyond the sea.

This company confined itself to the production of the line of goods usual in chair manufactories till the year 1874, when they started the business of making reed and rattan chairs and furniture, as a branch of their regular work. This department has proved a valuable adjunct to the establishment, having increased in extent and in variety of style and workmanship from the beginning, incorporating with it a few years since the making of children's carriages in every conceivable diversity of design and elegance, and attaining at length wonderful proportions and unexpected importance. It is carried on in a building three hundred feet long, sixty feet wide and four stories high, well supplied with machinery, run by a Corliss engine of eighty horse-power. The firm have had a large establishment for the manufacture of the same kind of goods in San Francisco for some years, and this very season have erected a building for the same purpose in Chicago, three hundred and sixty feet long, fifty feet wide and four stories high, in which some four or five hundred hands are to be employed.

The business done by this immense establishment in the town of Gardner for the year ending August 31, 1888, was upwards of $700,000, while its entire business for that period exceeded two and a half million dollars. Employment is given in the Gardner shops to about thirteen hundred persons, whose monthly pay-roll is not far from fifty thousand dollars, or six hundred thousand dollars per year. The extent of floorage in these shops is three hundred and forty thousand square feet, or a little less than eight acres. The several engines used to run the works amount, in the aggregate, to three hundred and twenty horse-power, while the boilers are capable of producing five hundred and sixty horse-power. The concern, including all its departments, is undoubtedly the largest of its kind in the country, and probably in the world.

PHILANDER DERBY & CO.—The site occupied by the extensive manufactory of this enterprising and prosperous firm experienced varying fortunes during the first half of its history. It was originally purchased of William S. Lynde, in November, 1834, by Benjamin F. Heywood & Company, who built a dam and erected a saw-mill for the purpose of getting out lumber for use, probably in their chair factory already in operation on the stream above. The building was afterwards enlarged, furnished with machinery and used in part for the manufacture of chairs. At a later date it was sold to Martin Dunster, who removed to it the business of making boxes and various articles of wooden-ware which he had previously carried on in a shop located on what is now Broadway, near Otter River. A portion of it was let to Colonel Ephraim Williams, who established there a machine shop for making repairs and doing incidental iron work. In 1844 the whole establishment was destroyed by fire, and the property was purchased by several gentlemen, the principal of whom were John Edgell and the late Charles W. Bush, who, under the name of Edgell, Bush & Company, rebuilt and began the manufacture of boxes, chairs, settees and house-finishing material. After running a few years, they sold to Nichols & Baker, who used the premises for a grist-mill and for carrying on a general flour and grain business. That being given up, the estate was bought at auction, in 1863, by Philander Derby and Augustus Knowlton, who had been making chairs at the present shop of A. & H. C. Knowlton & Company, under the firm-name of Derby & Knowlton. They fitted it up as a chair factory and run it in connection with their other establishment. Two years later, Henry C. Knowlton, brother of Augustus, entered the firm, and the name was changed to Derby, Knowlton & Company. Under this management business increased rapidly, necessitating new buildings and new machinery, which were supplied from time to time as the case required. In 1868 Mr. Derby and the Knowlton brothers separated, the former retaining this shop and continuing business on his own account for eleven years, when he received, as partners with himself, his son, Arthur P. Derby, and his sons-in-law George Hodgman and George W. Cann, who have gone on together to the present time under the style of Philander Derby & Company. From small beginnings this establishment, under the general supervision of the senior member of the firm, who has displayed great enterprise, business sagacity and untiring persistence in the pursuit of purposed ends, aided latterly by his younger associates, has grown to immense proportions, enlarging its facilities from year to year, and increasing its production until it holds a place second only in importance to that of any other concern in town. The firm has warehouses in Boston and New York, and a half-interest in a house in Chicago, one of the largest of its kind in the great West. The amount of business done in Gardner the last year was about two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, which employed from one

hundred and twenty-five to one hundred and fifty men, while the entire business of the firm has reached in the aggregate nearly a million dollars a year. The commodious shops of the company are filled with a good supply of the best machinery used in the manufacture of chairs, some of the most ingenious and serviceable portions of which were devised, constructed and perfected on the premises, especially those pertaining to the rattan department, which is an interesting and important feature of the establishment.

S. K. Pierce & Co.—The extensive manufactory with which the familiar name of S. K. Pierce, recently deceased, was identified for more than forty years, occupies the site where long ago stood the old potash works belonging to the estate of Captain Wm. Bickford, a large land-holder of his time in the village of South Gardner. It was purchased about the year 1830 by Stephen Taylor, a *protégé*, it is said, of the Pierce family, who had been doing a small chair-making business for a brief period in the fulling-mill of John Merriam, located on the site of the present establishment of S. Bent & Bros. He fitted it up for a chair-shop, and began the manufacture under the old system, all the work being done by hand. The business soon outgrew its narrow accommodations, when the old building was removed and a new, more commodious and more convenient one took its place. A dam was built across the stream near by and water-power was introduced, with which to run the simple forms of machinery that were put in. Here Mr. Taylor, by industry, economy and careful management, built up a large and prosperous business, rendering it necessary for him to secure additional facilities in order that he might meet the increasing demand for his goods—a demand created by the excellent quality of his work and by the reputation he had acquired for integrity, trustworthiness and honor in all his dealings with his fellow-men. Desiring at length to relinquish business, he sold out to Mr. S. K. Pierce, who had learned the trade of making chairs when a youth, and who, after working at different places, had entered the employ of Mr. Taylor a year before. Mr. Pierce formed a partnership with his brother, Jonas Pierce, and the two went on together for three years, when the relation was terminated by limitation. During that period a one-story building, sixty feet by thirty, served the purposes of the firm, in which eight men were employed, besides the proprietors, who themselves performed their regular day's labor with the others. The chairs produced, which met with ready sales, were carried to Boston by the then existing methods of transportation, a single team of two horses doing all the work at first, though at the end of the three years of partnership the business had grown so much as to require two teams of four horses each to meet its requirements in that regard. After continuing alone for some time Mr. Pierce associated with himself Philander Derby, one of his workmen, who remained a partner only two years, when Mr. Pierce assumed once more the sole control of affairs, going on prosperously as before. With the rapid growth of business, additions were made as seemed desirable to the shop included in the original purchase, until in 1858 it was deemed wise to begin a thorough readjustment of the entire establishment, with its fixtures and appurtenances. Accordingly, some of the old buildings were removed to make room for the first part of the present spacious structure, whose full proportions and complete equipment were reached nine or ten years afterward. Since that time additional buildings have been erected for work-shops or store-houses as the interests of the business required. The main factory, as it now stands, is ninety feet long by forty-five wide, four stories high above the basement, with an addition of the same height fifty-six by thirty feet. Numerous other buildings devoted to purposes incident to the business added to this, complete the outfit in the respect under notice of this great concern. The mechanical equipment now in use is of the most approved kinds and patterns, and is operated by a water-wheel of forty-five horse-power, with an accompanying steam-engine for supplementary purposes of seventy-five horse-power. Over a hundred men are employed in this establishment, and a business is done amounting to about $175,000 annually. Some six years ago Mr. Pierce associated with himself his son, Frank J. Pierce, who had grown up in the manufacture and was well acquainted with its details, and who was therefore qualified to share with his father the responsibility of its management. By a sad fatality the senior member of the firm was stricken with pneumonia in the latter part of the winter of 1887–88, and died after an illness of only five days. Arrangements have been made between the several parties financially interested in this establishment, whereby it is now going on as hitherto, under the name of S. K. Pierce & Son, Mr. Frank J. Pierce being manager.

John A. Dunn.—The business of chair-making was commenced on the location where now stands the large and busy factory of John A. Dunn, in 1838, when Elijah Putnam bought the water privilege of Wm. S. Lynde, and, having constructed a dam, moved his shop there, and supplying it with machinery, put himself and his men to work. Seven years after, Mr. Putnam sold out to Thorley Collester, Ruel G. Cowee and Benjamin H. Rugg, who continued the business under the firm-name of Cowee, Collester & Co. for a short time, when Maro Collester and Edward Stevens purchased Mr. Cowee's interest, and the style was changed to Collester, Rugg & Co. At a later day Maro Collester and Edward Stevens retired, and Franklin and George Eaton took their places, when the firm-name was again changed to Collester, Rugg & Eaton. When Mr. Collester died, in 1862, Mr. Rugg and George Eaton left, and Nathaniel Holmes became associated with Franklin Eaton, forming the company

of Eaton & Holmes. Later John A. Dunn was admitted to the firm, which then took the name of Eaton, Holmes & Co. In 1875 Mr. Holmes sold his interest to Isaac J. Dunn, brother of John A., and the firm-name became J. A. & I. J. Dunn, under which business was carried on till 1886, when John A. bought his brother's share and has since conducted the enterprise on his own behalf. Up to the year 1859 or 1860 the machinery of the factory was run wholly by water-power, at which date, a large addition having been made, a twenty-five horse-power steam-engine was put in for supplementary purposes. In 1870 Eaton & Dunn exchanged this for one of one hundred horse-power, which is still in use. In 1877 another considerable enlargement was made to the establishment. The business has been increasing rapidly in later years and promises well for the future. The amount done advanced from one hundred and forty thousand dollars in 1885 to one hundred and seventy-five thousand dollars in 1887, and the extent of shop-room at the present date is twice what it was ten years ago, while the facilities for doing work have been multiplied proportionally. A great advantage was gained to this establishment and to others in the vicinity in 1881, when a spur of the Fitchburg Railroad was laid, furnishing greatly-improved and much-needed conveniences for the transportation of stock and manufactured goods.

SAMUEL BENT BROS. & CO.—This is one of the more recently formed chair manufacturing firms of the town, and one which, by inherent energy, close attention to business and personal integrity and honor on the part of those concerned in its management, has attained a well-merited success. The privilege on Mill Street which it occupies was first improved by John Merriam in 1822, who used it for the purpose of carding wool and fulling cloth. In 1836 he sold it to Sullivan Sawin, who had recently left the pail factory and settled near by, and it was fitted up for chair-making, the business being carried on by his son, Sullivan Sawin, Jr., in a small way for a few years. Sullivan, Jr., was succeeded by his brother, John, who improved the premises, increased the business and continued it for about twenty-five years. Besides some of the cheaper grades of wood-seat chairs and stools, he manufactured what were called office-chairs, which had a large run for a time. For many years he made a specialty of school furniture, both chairs and desks, which he sold to William G. Shattuck, of Boston, a large dealer in that kind of goods, and which through him were scattered far and wide throughout the country. He also made large quantities of children's chairs of different patterns and sizes, employing some six or eight men in his business. About the year 1860 he retired, and was succeeded by his brother-in-law, A. Allen Bent, who had been many years in his service, and who run the establishment with satisfactory results until 1869, when he disposed of the property to his younger brother, Charles, then just returned from California. Mr. A. A. Bent made a specialty of children's chairs, but he also turned out *bent* work, some styles of which, designed by himself, proved very popular, and are still produced and put upon the market. Mr. Charles Bent at once associated with himself his brothers, Samuel and Roderic L., under the name of Samuel Bent & Bros., and the firm started out on its prosperous career. They soon found it necessary to enlarge their accommodations, and improve in many ways their facilities for business, an experience repeated several times during their history. The old buildings have been removed and new ones, adapted to the growing wants of the manufacture, have taken their places. Their main shop is one hundred and twenty feet long by forty wide, two stories high with a commodious, well-lighted basement in which the heavier work is done. There is also a building one hundred and sixty feet long by forty wide, two stories high, which is used for a paint-shop and store-house, and in which is the office of the firm. A large barn has recently been erected for the convenience of the business. In 1880 a spur track was laid to the factory from the B. B. & G. Railroad, greatly improving the shipping facilities —the firm doing the grading at an expense of $4000 and the corporation laying the rails and furnishing the rolling-stock. Besides the common style and grade of goods produced by this enterprising concern, they supply the market with a large number and variety of children's toy chairs, mostly of fanciful design, for which there has in recent years been a great demand. Besides an excellent water-power, which is rendered doubly valuable by reason of the South Gardner Reservoir, elsewhere described, the establishment is provided with a fifty horse-power steam-engine for heating purposes, and for supplementing the water-wheel if necessary. About one hundred men are employed, and an annual business is done of $150,000. Mr. Samuel Bent, the senior member of the company, died in 1883, his son, Charles Leslie Bent, succeeding him in the firm, the style of which was changed to S. Bent Bros. & Co.

CONANT & BUSH.—This company consists of Chas. W. Conant, formerly member of the firm of Conant, Ball & Co., and C. Webster Bush, the present clerk of the town. In 1875, Mr. Conant, having withdrawn from active participation in the business with which he had been connected for some years, took the lead in establishing the enterprise of which he is now the head, for the purpose of manufacturing reed and rattan chairs, getting out cane and doing other kindred work. The firm commenced operations in 1883, in the building known as the "Alley Paint-Shop," near the railroad stations, which they had purchased, fitted up and furnished with new and improved machinery suited to their special line of production, including a steam-engine for the supply of needed power. The venture proved successful, the firm rising rapidly to a creditable and commanding position,

having produced the first year over a thousand bales of cane prepared for use, besides what they did in the chair-making department of their establishment. Two or three years later they entered into an arrangement with other cane-workers, whereby they engaged to suspend for a time that line of work, and have since confined themselves strictly to the manufacture of reed and rattan chairs in a manifold variety of useful and ornamental forms. They have recently purchased the "Carney Building," standing near the "Kendall Crossing," on South Main Street, and have fitted it up for the manufacture of all kinds of children's rattan carriages, which will hereafter hold a prominent place in their establishment. They have been employing, on an average, about a hundred men, and doing a business of $140,000 a year, which, by the enlargement referred to, will be considerably increased in the immediate future. With ample accommodations and all needful appliances for turning out work, the prosperity of this firm, managing their affairs with characteristic enterprise and sagacity, is assured beyond all peradventure.

CONANT, BALL & CO.—In or about the year 1852 Aaron B. Jackson and Aaron L. Greenwood purchased the water privilege which for many years had been utilized by the father of the former for running a grist-mill, with lands adjoining, located on the north side of Broadway, three-fourths of a mile west of the South Gardner post-office, upon which they erected a factory for making various styles of cane-seat and back chairs. Here they started and carried on business till 1857 or 1858, when they sold out to Abner and Leander White, who continued the same under the name of A. White & Co. The leading member of this firm, Abner White, had been engaged in chair-making for many years in Gardner and elsewhere, and occupied, for a time, a notable place in that industry, though he seems to have been a wandering, rather than a fixed star in the brightening galaxy of chair manufacturers. In the year 1862, John R. Conant, who had been previously associated with Mr. White, entered the firm, from which, a year later, Mr. Leander White retired, Charles W. Conant, brother of John R., succeeding him. Mr. Abner White withdrew in 1866, and the business went on under the management and name of Conant Brothers for two years, when Carlos E. Ball, who had charge of the Boston department established some time before, entered the partnership, the name being changed to Conant, Ball & Co., which it still bears. Seven years later Charles W. Conant retired from active membership in the concern for the purpose of inaugurating a new undertaking, though he remained a silent partner till 1884, when he severed his connection with it altogether. Additions were made to the shop and fixtures from time to time as the requirements of the growing business dictated. Beginning with the use of water-power alone, a gradual change to steam was made, resulting in its exclusive use in 1882, when the Gardner Water-Works were established and the control of the stream issuing from Crystal Lake, on which this factory was located, passed into the hands of the corporation having charge of those works, by act of the Legislature. Early in the year 1888, the firm bought out the stand occupied by L. H. Sawin for a generation, to which the business has been transferred with reasonable expectation of railroad facilities not hitherto enjoyed, and of an increased production of goods. The buildings recently taken possession of are undergoing renovation, enlargement and a general improvement, as are all the accessories of the establishment. The works are operated by an engine of forty horse-power attached to a boiler of twice that capacity. The production of this firm has hitherto been restricted to a fine class of goods, mostly of mahogany, cherry and black walnut stock; but a decline in the popularity of the latter of these woods has necessitated somewhat of a change in the material used, though not in the quality or style of the work, which has been distinguished for excellence and good taste wherever it has been known. The business of the firm has nearly doubled in ten years, amounting now to about $100,000 annually, and furnishing employment to forty men. Within a few weeks the main factory, so lately vacated by this concern, has been destroyed by fire.

L. H. SAWIN & CO.—In this connection it seems proper to mention the immediate predecessors of the last-named company as now located, even though their name has disappeared from the list of those engaged in the distinguishing industry of the town. The senior member of the firm of L. H. Sawin & Co. is one of the oldest practical chair-makers in town, and has been identified with the business as workman and as manager for more than half a century. When but eighteen years of age, Levi Heywood Sawin learned the trade of making chairs under Messrs. Amasa Bancroft and Frederick Parker, who carried on a small business in an insignificant shop on Elm Street. He went thence to the Heywood factory, where he remained for fifteen years, when, in 1851, he purchased the shop and privilege, just below, of Ezra Baker, to whose hands it had reverted after the occupancy of it by Mr. Elijah Putnam. It had been used for some years previous to Mr. Sawin's purchase by the firm of Levi Heywood & Company for getting out stock. It was immediately put in order for the manufacture of chairs, and the business was carried on in a small way for four years, when, larger and better accommodations being needed, Mr. Sawin removed the old building and erected a new and more commodious one, the beginning of the spacious establishment now occupying the site. The work increasing, Mr. Sawin, in 1861, received as a partner Mason J. Osgood, constituting the firm of Sawin & Osgood, which continued till 1869, when Mr. Osgood withdrew, giving place to Reuben H. Twitchell, son-in-law of Mr. Sawin, and Edward H. Sawin, his son, thus forming the new firm of L. H. Sawin & Co., which continued till the ter-

mination of business, as heretofore stated, and the consequent dissolution of the partnership. An enlargement of the factory was made in 1865, bringing it to its present size of one hundred and twenty by forty feet, to which later subordinate additions were affixed for necessity or convenience' sake. As in all the shops on the Crystal Lake stream, water-power was originally used as the motor, but was gradually superseded by steam-power, which has alone been used in later years. For some years thirty-five or forty men were employed here, producing goods to the value of fifty thousand dollars annually.

A. & H. C. KNOWLTON & Co.—The establishment of this prosperous and reliable firm is located on North Main Street, forming one of the series of chair factories deriving power originally from the Crystal Lake outlet, which has now become practically extinct. It was started in 1848 by Abner White, who, having obtained possession of the site, purchased the old Cooledge house, in the northwest part of the town, and moved it thither, fitting it up with machinery suited to chair-making purposes. Going on alone for two years, he took as a partner his brother Leander, whose share was purchased later on by Philander Derby, and the business continued under the name of White & Derby till 1857, when Mr. Derby became sole owner and manager. In 1861 Augustus Knowlton became associated with Mr. Derby under the name of Derby & Knowlton. Two years later Henry C. Knowlton, brother of Augustus, entered the firm, the name being changed to Derby, Knowlton & Co. In 1868, Mr. Derby and the Knowltons, who had been operating the present Derby factory for half a dozen years, separated, the latter retaining the site which they still occupy and conducting business under the name of A. & H. C. Knowlton. In 1881, Alec. E. Knowlton, son of H. C., entered the firm, the name being changed to A. & H. C. Knowlton & Co. A large addition was made to the original shop in 1857, and still another in 1881, extending it to its present capacity. The main factory is one hundred feet by thirty, a part of it three stories high, with a basement. Attached to this is a two-story extension and store-houses, affording ample accommodations for the business. The machinery, with which the factory is fully equipped, is of the best known to the trade, and is run by an engine of ninety-six horse-power. Both cane and wood-seat chairs are produced, of a grade and quality of material and workmanship that give them a high standing wherever known. The firm has a branch house in Philadelphia and also in Los Angeles, Cal. Fifty or sixty men are employed in Gardner, and the sales in 1887 amounted to eighty-five thousand dollars. The firm has an honorable reputation in the business community.

EPHRAIM WRIGHT & Co.—This firm manufactures the standard kinds of cane-seat chairs, and gives constant employment to about thirty men. It occupies a site first improved about the year 1845, by Abner White, a man with a seeming genius for starting new enterprises, who moved to it a two-story house from Green Street, which he furnished with suitable machinery, and associating others with him, went on with the manufacture of chairs until about 1853, when he sold to Ephraim Wright, who had been doing a small business previously at South Gardner, and his son William, the two being associated under the name of E. Wright & Co., by which the firm is still known. Subsequently another son, Edwin L. Wright, was received into the partnership, who is the present head of the establishment. The father died in 1866, and the two sons went on together till 1882, when William also deceased, leaving his interest in the business to his widow, who still retains it. In 1871 the present main factory was erected, one hundred and twenty-five feet long by forty feet wide, three stories high in part and partly two. All requisite out-buildings are attached. Adequate power for the machinery of the concern is supplied by a steam-engine, all of the most approved kind. Without ambition for display or for startling results of any sort, the management of this enterprise is content to move on in the even tenor of its way, maintaining a well-earned prosperity and an honorable reputation for fair dealing and the production of an excellent quality of goods for the market. The annual business done is about fifty thousand dollars.

WRIGHT & READ.—The senior member of this firm, David Wright, is believed to be the oldest living chair-maker in Gardner, with the exception of Samuel S. Howe, who exceeds him in connection with the trade by about two years. He began service with Elijah Putnam in 1826, and afterward worked for Horatio N. Bolton in the old Bickford potash-shop and for others till about 1836, when he entered a co-partnership with the late Calvin S. Greenwood, thus establishing the firm of Greenwood & Wright, so well known in former days. This firm conducted business under varying auspices at the privilege now utilized by the C. S. Greenwood's Sons and elsewhere for many years, purchasing the present Wright & Read location, which they had previously rented about the year 1858 of Marcius L. Gates, who had bought the property after the relinquishment of the manufacture of pine furniture in it by Bradford & Baker. Upon the dissolution of the firm of Greenwood & Wright a few years later, and the consequent division of property, Mr. Wright received the shop and fixtures under notice. Associating with him John M. Moore, the manufacture went on under the name of Wright & Moore. A disastrous fire in 1866 destroyed the shops with their contents, but they were at once rebuilt substantially as they now are and made ready for occupancy. In 1872 Charles F. Read, the son-in-law of Mr. Wright, took an interest in the business, and the firm-name was changed to Wright, Moore & Co. Five years after, Mr. Moore withdrew, and the business was con-

tinued by the others, taking the name, still borne, of Wright & Read. The establishment includes a capacious, well-furnished factory, partly four and partly three stories high, a two-story paint-shop and other needful buildings adjacent thereto. This firm produces many kinds of bent work, facilities for bending constituting a part of their equipment. Dining, library and office chairs, with both fixed and rotary seats, are found among its goods; also children's chairs of different patterns and styles of finish. Forty hands are employed, with a yearly production of about fifty thousand dollars. The works are run by water-power, which has the benefit of the series of reservoirs above, while a steam-engine used for heating purposes could be called into service as a motor if needed. Mr. Wright has practically retired from the management of the business, although he retains an interest in it, his good name contributing still to its prosperity and success.

C. S. Greenwood's Sons.—This firm, consisting of Charles H. and Frederick M. Greenwood, occupy the site in the easterly part of South Gardner Village, opposite the Baptist Church, where Albert Bickford, in the early days of chair-making, built a dam on land belonging to his father's estate, erected a shop and fitted it up with saws and lathes for the preparation of chair stock. Mr. Bickford carried on this business for some years, when Greenwood & Wright, who had associated together for the manufacture of chairs, purchased the property and, having supplied the requisite facilities, commenced operations there. They went on, for about twenty years, increasing their accommodations to meet the demands of their growing business by enlarging their shops, by renting additional room in the vicinity, and ultimately by the purchase of the premises referred to above, now owned by Wright & Read. About the year 1857 the partnership was merged into and succeeded by the South Gardner Manufacturing Company, a joint-stock corporation, in which the employés and others were privileged to hold shares and participate in whatever results might be realized. Not proving satisfactory, this experiment was abandoned at the expiration of a year and a half, the several enterprises combined in it resolving themselves into their previous conditions under their old names. Soon after, Greenwood & Wright dissolved partnership and divided the property, the original stand being assigned to Mr. Greenwood. He continued the business, associating with himself about this time William Hogan, who subsequently died, by which event Mr. Greenwood became sole owner and manager, going on by himself till his death, in 1873. He was succeeded by his sons, named at the head of this sketch, who continue to this day.

The large, though somewhat inconvenient, shops of the firm were burned on the day following the town's Centennial Celebration, in June, 1885, but a building better adapted to the special needs of the establishment was immediately erected and filled with improved machinery, so that work can go on with greater efficiency than before. About twenty men are employed, and business is mostly done under contract. Fancy chairs of various patterns are a specialty, and much is done in the way of producing, upon order, new styles of goods, which are in great demand.

Greenwood Bros. & Co.—The site upon which this firm is located has been in possession of the same family for four successive generations. It was included in the original purchase of the great-grandfather of the present proprietors, Jonathan Greenwood, who came from Sherburne to Gardner about the time of its incorporation. He located at first on the old County Road from Lancaster to Athol,—the first thoroughfare through the town,—some twenty or thirty rods southwest of the present mill-site, where he lived till the opening of the Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike, in 1800. He then erected the large two-story house now standing on the premises, opened a hotel which he kept during the remainder of his life. He died in 1821 and was succeeded by his son, Walter, who was a cooper by trade, carrying on business in a little shop near by, and having as an associate for a time one Jonas Childs. That business failing, Mr. Greenwood converted his cooper-shop into a chair-shop, and began making chairs in 1827, with a single man, Joseph Maynard, to help him. The new business proving profitable, he built, in 1834, a dam across Pew Brook, which flowed in the rear of his house, erected a shop in which he put a few simple kinds of machinery to be operated by water-power, for carrying on the work. For some years he did quite a large business with flag-seats, but later used cane-seats, preparing the cane on his own premises. He continued in the manufacture until his death, in 1861, when his son, Thomas, followed him in the same line of production. In 1870 the shop was considerably enlarged and an improved water-wheel was put in, greatly augmenting the available power. A large store-house was built in 1882, adding increased accommodations to the establishment.

Thomas Greenwood died early in the year 1888, but the business is going on in the same lines pursued by him under the direction of his two sons, Charles W. and Marcus J. Greenwood, who, with their mother, constitute the firm whose name appears at the head of this sketch. Cane rocking-chairs are a specialty among the goods produced. The lack of railroad facilities is a hindrance to the highest success of this enterprise, though it is otherwise well-equipped for business, has a good market secured and a reputation for honest and honorable work, all of which gives the young men upon whom the burden of management has fallen, an excellent opportunity to attain for themselves an enviable reputation and a successful career. They employ some twelve or fifteen hands and produce an excellent quality of goods.

JAMES SAWYER.—Mr. Sawyer, whose place of business is on Travers Street, near its junction with South Main Street, occupies the oldest improved mill privilege in the town. It was first used in or before the year 1770, when Mr. Bickford, from Reading, came to the place, then Westminster, and, purchasing a large tract of land in the vicinity on which was this site, proceeded to erect a saw and grist-mill for the convenience of the new settlement. In this double capacity it served for many years, under the management of the builder and his son, Captain William Bickford, of later memory. In 1829 the property, still consisting of a saw and grist-mill, with the privilege and rights thereto belonging, was sold to Elijah Travers, who, after a time, added to his original purchase a shop for the manufacture of chairs, in which his sons carried on business under different auspices for many years. After their decease the property passed through the hands of Stearns & Whittemore to those of James Sawyer, who has since been engaged there in making cane-seat chair frames, doing a small but prosperous business in that department of the general trade.

LUMBER MANUFACTURE.—In the early days of the history of Gardner there were six saw-mills erected in different localities upon its territory, for the supply of the new and growing community with lumber for building purposes. These were severally the Bickford Mill, which stood where James Sawyer's shop now is, owned by William Bickford; one where the Lewis A. Wright & Co.'s works now are, on High Street, owned by Jonathan Greenwood; one at the Pail Factory, owned by Joshua Whitney; one on Kneeland Brook, near Parker Street, where the Dr. Parker Mill now stands, owned by Simon Stone; one on Bailey Brook, near the junction of West and Bridge Streets, and one on Wilder Brook, north of Clark Street, the ownership of the last two being unknown. Subsequently one was built in the northeast part of the town, near the present homestead of Ebenezer Ballou, and at a still later date one in the east part, on a stream running into Westminster, near where it is crossed by the railroad. The products of these mills found, for the most part, a ready home market, little being done in the way of exportation. After a time, the original growth of wood being cut off, some of these mills were abandoned altogether, while others were converted into shops for the getting out of chair stock or the making of chairs. Two only have remained true to their original purpose through all the passing years. One of these—the Simon Stone Mill—was for a long time run by the late Dr. David Parker, or by agents to whom he relinquished the business in the latter part of his life, some eight or ten men being employed in getting out about twelve thousand dollars' worth of lumber annually.

The other establishment of this kind, and the only one, practically, in operation, is that of Lewis A. Wright & Co., on High Street, occupying the site of the original Jonathan Greenwood Mill. Near the beginning of the present century, Mr. Greenwood sold to Joseph Wright, then recently from Sterling, whose descendants have retained possession of the privilege to the present day. It passed first to Joseph's sons—Joseph and Nathaniel—the latter of whom had charge of it for many years. Upon his death the property came into the hands of his son, Marcus A. Wright, who associated with himself David A. Wright and Calvin S. Greenwood, under the firm-name of Marcus A. Wright & Co., and continued business till 1857, when the whole thing was united with other interests in the formation of the South Gardner Manufacturing Company. Upon the abandonment of that undertaking, the mill, fixtures and appurtenances reverted to their former condition and management. In 1877 Mr. Marcus A. Wright bought out his partners and went on alone till his death, in 1883. He was succeeded by his son, Lewis A. Wright, a young man just coming to maturity, under whose charge the business has been greatly enlarged and abundantly prospered. The enterprise bears the name of Lewis A. Wright & Co., the mother of the present manager having an interest in it. In addition to the manufacture of lumber the firm deals largely in the product of other localities—in Michigan and Canada pine, black walnut and a good assortment of the harder woods. During the present year this department has been greatly enlarged by the purchase of the extensive concern of George E. Utley & Co., wholesale and retail lumber dealers, located at the junction of North Main and Mechanic Streets, near the railroad, which will add very much to the convenience both of the firm and of their customers, it being the design to make this hereafter the chief depot for the sale of goods. The business of this establishment has doubled within the last ten years, and the present outlook is better than ever before.

CHILDREN'S CARRIAGES, CHAIRS AND TOYS.—In the year 1868, Levi Warren bought the premises on Mill Street, where this industry is now carried on, of Mr. Henry Whitney, building a dam and erecting a shop for the purpose of getting out chair-backs. Prosecuting this kind of work for awhile, he afterward converted the building into a factory for the manufacture of toys. Subsequently he received as a partner John Lovewell, who at the expiration of three years purchased his interest and became sole proprietor and manager of the business. Not succeeding in the enterprise, Levi B. Ramsdell, one of Mr. Lovewell's creditors, bought the property in 1877, and, associating with himself G. C. Goodell, under the style of Ramsdell & Goodell, continued the business for two or three years, when Mr. Ramsdell became sole proprietor by purchase, and has since gone on by himself. The business has increased rapidly under Mr. Ramsdell's management, a large trade having

been built up, extending throughout the United States and even to England, necessitating an addition to the shop and greater facilities generally. Unfortunately, a destructive fire in April, 1887, resulted in a complete loss of buildings and their equipment. With commendable enterprise and zeal, the proprietor immediately rebuilt his establishment, supplied it with new and improved machinery, and is going on prosperously as before. The South Gardner stream furnishes power for running the works. Employment is given to thirty-five or forty men, who turn out goods to the value of forty thousand dollars annually.

EAVE TROUGHS, PUMPS, LADDERS, ETC.—In the year 1874 Charles O. Stone, with his brother E. A. Stone, came to Gardner from Hubbardston, where they had been associated in business for two years, and, after erecting what is known as the Carney Building, at Kendall's Crossing, set up there their former line of manufacture. At the expiration of five years C. O. Stone sold his interest to his brother, who was sole owner for a time, when Charles bought the whole and has been going on by himself to the present time.

In 1882 Mr. Stone disposed of his building on South Main Street, and erected a new one on Chestnut Street, where he is now located. Without power till 1885, he then put in an engine, and introduced machinery suited to the manufacture of his own goods, many kinds of which he had previously procured ready-made. He also added to his original business that of getting out house-finishing stuff for carpenters' use. A Weymouth lathe and other facilities for variety-turning were put in a year later. Mr. Stone has recently sold the house-finish and turning department to A. Priest & Son, who conduct it on their own account, while he confines himself solely to his original line of work. His trade has increased one hundred *per cent.* during the past five years. A branch shop is maintained at Fitchburg, though all the manufacturing is done at Gardner. Sales are generally made in the region round-about, teams being upon the road for the distribution of goods through the greater part of the year.

CHAIR MACHINERY.—As has already been suggested, the larger factories for the production of chairs have a machine-shop attached thereto for doing their own repair-work, and, in some instances, for making their own machines. Of these no note needs to be specially taken in this review. There is, beside these, one establishment devoted exclusively to the manufacture of chair machinery and appliances pertaining to such machinery—the only one of the kind, it is claimed, in the country. It was founded in the year 1876, when Levi G. McKnight, from Connecticut, came to Gardner and, associating with himself a Mr. Carter, leased shop-room of P. Derby & Co., and began business in the line under notice. At the end of two years they moved to the Foundry, where the business was carried on two years more, Mr. Carter meanwhile leaving the firm. In 1880 another change was made to a building belonging to A. & H. C. Knowlton, Mr. McKnight taking another partner, the style of the firm being L. G. McKnight & Co. During that year the present spacious accommodations were provided, and at its close were occupied. They consist of a main building, fifty feet by forty, two stories high, with a basement for storage purposes. A fifteen horse-power engine, with a twenty-five horse-power boiler, drives the machinery. Twenty-five men are employed and goods are sent all over this country, and also to Canada and some of the countries of Europe. Seventy-five machines, designed particularly for the making of chairs, are produced, many of them the fruit of Mr. McKnight's own inventive skill, who has the reputation of being a superior mechanic and a trustworthy and honorable business man.

IRON CASTINGS.—The Heywood Foundry Co. was established in 1876, and prepared for business by erecting, off Chestnut Street, below Cross Street, near the railroad track, a brick building fifty feet square, two stories high, with a moulding-room attached, eighty feet by fifty, and furnishing the whole with fixtures and conveniences for making all kinds of iron castings. The furnace is of ample dimensions, and a steam-engine of thirty-five horse-power runs the works. Three tons of iron are melted per day, and the business amounts to about $40,000 per year. Thirty men are employed. The firm, as now constituted, consists of Alvin M. Greenwood and Jonas R. Davis, Mr. Davis being the active manager of the establishment. As germane to their special work, the firm were interested for some years in the manufacture of a cooking-range, which had an extensive sale. They are now making what is called the Royal Steam Heater, of which they have the entire control. It is said to serve an excellent purpose and is being introduced quite largely, in town and elsewhere.

OIL-STOVES, LAMPS, ETC.—This industry was started in 1884 by an incorporated body of gentlemen, of which Calvin H. Hill was president; William H. Wilder, treasurer, and Charles A. Fletcher, business manager; with a capital of $10,000. At the expiration of three years, Mr. Fletcher having sold out his interest, Messrs. Hill and Wilder, with Alvin M. Greenwood, formed a partnership, and have since carried on the business. The chief work done is the manufacture of oil-stoves of a special pattern (of which they are the exclusive owners), and lamps corresponding thereto, adapted to heating purposes. They claim to produce an article superior to all others of a similar kind, with none of their defects. The business has had a remarkable growth, and is in an exceedingly prosperous condition, the demand for goods but recently put upon the market, exceeding the ability to supply them. Beginning four years ago, with a single workman, in a small room in the Foundry Building, they now employ forty hands, and occupy an entire factory, built and equipped for

their own use in 1887. It is located in the rear of the foundry, and has unsurpassed railroad facilities. Every part of the articles produced is made in the establishment. Work is done mostly on orders received through special agencies at Baltimore, Chicago, Atlanta, Ga., and other large cities. A considerable export trade has also been secured.

TIN-WARE MANUFACTURE.—The establishment representing this industry is a lineal descendant of the little shop started in Templeton in 1825 by John Boynton, whose success in the business enabled him to found by bequest that excellent institution at Worcester—the "Worcester County Technical Institute." Mr. Boynton late in life associated with himself David Whitcomb (having had other partners previously), under the name of Boynton & Whitcomb. They were followed in the business by Colonel Henry and William Smith, brothers, who had charge of it till 1870, when, the former having retired, the latter formed a partnership with Andrew H. Jaquith, the senior member of the present firm. In 1877 the business was transferred to Gardner, the interest of Mr. Smith passing into the hands of Charles F. Richardson. Buildings suited to the manufacture had been erected on North Main Street, near the railroad stations, which were destroyed by fire in 1883, when the more spacious and convenient ones, now occupied, took their place. For five years the present company, bearing the firm-name of Jaquith & Richardson, restricted themselves to the old line of production, the making of tinware and corresponding goods, but in 1882 a stove and furnace department was established, whereby the field of operation was materially enlarged, and the enterprise greatly benefited. The efforts of the proprietors have been duly rewarded by a healthful increase of business, including a large traffic in paper-stock, the whole amounting annually to about $50,000. They have one of the largest and best appointed warehouses in the county, and are continually introducing new features to their trade, which inure alike to their own advantage and that of their patrons.

HARNESS-MAKING.—This branch of handicraft was started in a small way in 1869 by George R. Godfrey, who, by close attention to business, excellence of work, promptness and reliability in the fulfillment of contracts and gentlemanly demeanor, has built it up to its present proportions and condition of thrift and prosperity. It is located in the Bank Building at the Central Village, where may be found not only a fine array of the proprietor's own manufactured articles, but an extensive assortment of kindred goods, such as trunks, valises, carriage robes, whips, &c., and where there are ample facilities for carrying on the work. The production is largely custom-made, though considerable supplies are furnished the general trade. The goods are regarded as of superior quality in respect to both stock and workmanship, and the Godfrey harness, the work of which is performed by hand, has attained an enviable reputation throughout New England. Some twenty or twenty-five men are employed, who turn out twelve or fifteen thousand harnesses a year, besides considerable corresponding work.

PHOTO-MECHANICAL PRINTING.—Warren P. Allen is the oldest photographer in Gardner. He came to town in 1864, from Keene, N. H., with a traveling car fitted up for making pictures, and located at the South Village, where he remained several years. He then opened rooms in Market Block, on Chestnut Street, near Central, in which he practiced his art eleven years, and gained for himself a wide reputation as a faithful and skillful workman. When the Lithotype Publishing Company, mentioned below, was first organized, in 1879, Mr. Allen connected himself with it for a time, helping to give it a start and to put its work before the community. Afterwards he commenced at the West Village what he denominates photo-mechanical printing, an invention partly his own, where he remained three years, developing and improving his specialty and getting his art recognized and appreciated by the general public. The demand for his style of pictures increasing, he outgrew his accommodations and sought the larger and better ones in the building of Howe Bros., on Chestnut Street, near North Main, where he now is. He does his own work mostly, and his productions are deservedly popular. Excellent specimens of what he can do are to be found in the views he has furnished for illustrated sketches of Bellows Falls, Vt., Holyoke, Mass., Elgin, Ill., Wellesley and Princeton Colleges, &c., the character, standing and high culture of his patrons attesting to the artistic excellence and thoroughness of what he gives in his line to the world.

LITHOTYPE PUBLISHING.—In the year 1879 Mr. A. G. Bushnell, who since 1869 had been connected with the *Gardner News* as editor and general manager, becoming interested in a new style of producing pictures, associated with himself Mr. W. H. Cowee, Charles Heywood, and perhaps others, and started what is called the lithotype publishing business. Before getting fairly established, Mr. Heywood, an important member of the partnership, died, causing a partial suspension of the work for awhile, although Mr. Cowee assumed the care of it and continued it on his own responsibility for several years. In 1886 new interest in the enterprise was awakened, and a corporation was constituted called the Lithotype Printing and Publishing Company, with a capital of ten thousand dollars, of which Charles D. Burrage was president, W. H. Cowee, secretary, and Herbert S. Stratton, treasurer and manager. The following year the capital was increased to twenty-five thousand dollars, the business going on as before. In 1888 a private company, consisting of Burrage & Stratton, bought out the corporation and are now going on under the name of the Lithotype Publishing Company, prosperously and promisingly. Twenty-five lith-

otype presses are in use, and fifty-five or sixty persons, mostly young women, are employed in the large, well-furnished establishment on Green Street. The work now done amounts to sixty or seventy thousand dollars a year, and is of excellent quality, growing continually in popular favor. Much attention is given to furnishing illustrations for family and town histories, sketches of interesting localities, popular resorts, manufacturing centres, educational institutions and similar kinds of delineation for which there is a constantly increasing call. The company has recently purchased an engraving establishment in New York City, which is running in connection with the Gardner house, under the care of Mr. A. G. Bushnell, agent.

SILVER-WARE.—One of the later industries now in operation in Gardner is that of the manufacture of the more substantial and serviceable articles of silver-ware, which was started in the year 1887 by Frank W. Smith, who came from Concord, N. H., where he had previously been engaged in the same business. A commodious brick building three stories high, with a basement, was erected on Chestnut Street near the corner of Walnut, and thoroughly furnished with the most modern machinery and appliances for carrying on the work. Only skillful hands are employed, of whom there are forty-five in number, including several women, and only solid sterling silver goods are produced. This is a valuable acquisition to the manufacturing interests of the town, having the promise of a prosperous future before it, and destined to shine with a lustre distinctively its own, varied, enriched and beautified at times with golden hues.

BRICK-MAKING.—A large section of territory in the southern part of the town has an aluminous or clayey subsoil unusually free from foreign substances and lying in many places quite near the surface of the ground, which renders the manufacture of brick at numerous points comparatively easy of accomplishment. At what particular date, or in what locality, this business was first started here has not been ascertained. But it is understood by the older inhabitants that the material of which the Bickford house in South Gardner was built, shortly after the town's incorporation, was obtained on the premises and moulded and burned there ready for final use. Abel Jackson at an early day made brick near by where the yards and factory of George N. Dyer are now located, some tokens of which are still to be seen. And the present stand of Abijah Hinds has been devoted to this industry for a long term of years. For two generations or more the only brick made in town were the product of this establishment, the father of the present proprietor carrying on the business in his day. The demand of the community could then be met by this one concern, and there was no necessity for another yard. With the growth of the place and the increasing tendency to put up brick buildings, even the home market was greater than Mr. Hinds, with all his facilities, which he had multiplied as time went on, could supply. And so Mr. H. N. Dyer, an old brick-maker of Templeton, seeing the opportunity, came to town, purchased the property where his son, George N. Dyer, now carries on the business, and there, near the site of the old Jackson yard, started anew. He soon gave way to his son, who has been highly prospered, his trade increasing from year to year, necessitating a constant increase of productive power. He has made the present year one and a half million bricks, for most of which he finds a ready sale within the limits of the town. For several years he produced a fine quality of pressed brick, the clay on his grounds being suited to that kind of goods, but at present he deems it more profitable to limit his production to the more common grades. Both Mr. Dyer and Mr. Hinds employ steam-power to run their machinery, which is of the latest and best pattern, and their facilities for speedy and efficient work are excellent and unsurpassed in all the region round-about. Mr. Hinds turns out about seven hundred and fifty thousand bricks a year, making the entire production of the town two and a quarter millions.

CARRIAGES AND SLEIGHS.—The principal establishment for the manufacture of carriages and other vehicles is located in South Gardner village, near the railroad crossing, and is conducted by Lyman Sawin and his son, Wm. O. Sawin. The senior member of the firm came to Gardner from Ashburnham more than thirty years ago, and entering into partnership with Amasa Lovewell, carried on the general blacksmithing business for a dozen years, when he sold out and went to Ashby. After an absence of a year or two he returned, and having erected the buildings since occupied by him started anew, combining the wheelwright business with his former trade. The call for his work increasing, he took his son into company with him and subsequently consolidated his business with that of Albert Barron, who had for some years made carriages in a portion of his shop, assuming the style of the South Gardner Carriage Company. Besides common carriages, the firm made a specialty of heavy team wagons and gained a reputation for thorough and substantial work. They also manufactured open and top buggies and sleighs of various patterns. The carriage business declining somewhat, more attention latterly has been given to repairs, other work being done chiefly upon orders. Half a dozen men find employment in the establishment. A similar enterprise of some years' standing has recently been re-organized, bearing the name of the Chestnut Street Carriage Manufactory, in which James D. Gay and others are interested, and Townsend L. Bennett, No. 10 Cross Street, does something incidentally in the same line of manufacture.

GRAIN AND FLOURING-MILLS.—The need of the

early settlers of Gardner in respect to the grinding of corn and other cereals for domestic use was originally met by the putting in a set of stones in connection with facilities for sawing lumber by William Bickford as early as 1770 or 1775; and a few years later a grist-mill was built in the north part of the town near the school-house on the site, probably, which was afterwards occupied by the Cowee Brothers as a chair factory. More recently an extensive business has been done in the same direction by T. Augustus and Marshall M. Howe, under the name of Howe Brothers, who succeeded by purchase the late Charles W. Bush in the manufacture of meal and flour at the factory on Mill Street near Sawyer. This privilege had a varied and somewhat unfortunate history during the earlier years of its occupancy. In or about the year 1824, Luke Sawin and Dr. David Parker, then a new resident of the town, bought the Abel Jackson farm, which covered a large tract of land in the vicinity, including the site under notice. Mr. Sawin soon built a dam and erected a shop, which he fitted up for the purpose of getting out chair stock. The business went on but a short time, the shop being burned. Henry Whitney then purchased the privilege and lands adjoining, erecting a saw-mill upon it, which was also destroyed by fire in 1834. The mill was immediately rebuilt and run a few years as before, when it was sold to Daniel J. Goodspeed, who converted it into a factory for the making of chairs, having enlarged the facilities by putting up an additional building to suit his needs. In 1852 a third fire destroyed the buildings and their contents. Charles Travers bought the premises and put up a new chair-shop, which was run by himself for awhile and then sold to Charles Britton, from Westmoreland, N. H., who, being a carpenter, used it for getting out moldings, trimmings and stock in general for his trade. It afterward passed into the hands of Calvin Conant, who reconverted it into a chair-shop for his own use. Subsequently it came into the pos-ession of Charles W. Bush, who removed the old machinery and fitted it up as a meal and flour-producing mill, in which capacity it has remained till now. Howe Brothers, the present proprietors, have occupied it for eighteen years, doing a large and growing business, amounting at this time to an annual value of $50,000.

Ready-Made Clothing.—The Monadnock Clothing House may be regarded as the representative of one of the important industries of the place, inasmuch as the goods in which it deals are to a large extent manufactured on the premises. Its stock embraces every style, grade and quality requisite for the wear of men, boys and even children. The establishment was founded by E. Ballard and A. A. Jerould in 1869, it being the first ready-made clothing store in town. Passing through some changes, it came into the hands of Mr. Samuel Despeaux, a veteran in the trade, in 1880, who gave it the name it now bears. It has one of the largest and best appointed sales-rooms in this section of the State, carrying a heavy stock and doing an extensive business. There are several other ready-made clothing stores in town, besides some half-dozen merchant tailors, so that the needs of the public in this regard are abundantly supplied.

Marble-Cutting.—Mr. T. J. Stafford, an experienced marble-worker, came from Cambridge in 1870 and commenced the marble-cutting business in Market Block near the head of Chestnut Street. Building up a respectable and satisfactory trade, he, after several changes, located in the shop erected for his use toward the lower end of the same street, where he now is. Numerous tomb-stones and monumental pieces of various design and styles of finish in the burial-places of the town and vicinity testify to the artistic excellence and superior quality of his work. Messrs. John E. Partridge & Co., located near the railroad station, and Joseph C. Sargent, 105 Chestnut Street, are engaged in the same line of business.

Contractors and Builders.—Milton M. Favor, a native of Bennington, N. H., came to Gardner in 1867, and after working awhile for Heywood Bros. & Co., started business on his own account. He has had a large patronage, having erected, since locating in the place, over five hundred buildings in this and adjacent towns, or about twenty-five a year. He employs a force of from sixty to seventy-five men, according to the season and demand for work. In the same business are John R. Hosmer, Wm. N. Moore, Cyrus F. Boutelle, Michael J. Ryan, George B. Hager, Joseph J. Gale & Son, Silas Holt and Thomas Wheeler.

Printing and Publishing.—The first printing-office was opened in Gardner in the year 1868, when A. G. Bushnell, formerly of Templeton, took possession of one room in the third story of the bank building, where he was engaged in doing job work till the following spring, when, his business having increased sufficiently to warrant it, he employed an assistant. About that time the project of starting a local weekly paper was agitated, resulting in the organization of an enterprise for the purpose of carrying that project into effect. Charles Heywood associated himself with Mr. Bushnell under the firm-name of A. G. Bushnell & Co., and a prospectus for a paper was immediately issued. Satisfactory patronage being promised, the first number of the *Gardner News* was published July 3, 1869. The original subscription price was two dollars a year, but the patronage increasing, it was soon reduced to one dollar and fifty cents. The size of the paper, to begin with, was twenty-two by thirty-two inches folio, containing twenty-four columns of matter, or six columns to a page, but has been much enlarged since. Though chiefly a local journal, it yet contains much general news, and has correspondents in all the neighboring towns, thus representing a wide constituency and securing a circulation far beyond the limits of Gardner. It claims to be independent in religion and politics,

fearless in expressing honest convictions upon questions of private and public morality, and especially desirous of promoting the welfare and prosperity of the town. It has always been a bright, wide-awake publication, displaying more than average editorial ability and maintaining a creditable standing among its contemporaries. Upon the death of Charles Heywood, in 1882, Mr. Bushnell became sole proprietor, as he had been sole manager from the inception of the undertaking. In 1885 he sold the whole establishment, including the paper, to Asa E. Stratton, of Fitchburg, who now has its several departments in charge, conducting the business on the same general lines as before. The circulation of the *News* is twenty-one hundred. The business of job printing has increased from year to year, making frequent additions of materials and machinery necessary as well as new accessions of room, so that the entire floor of the third story of the bank building is required for the use of the establishment, which now commands the service of from twelve to fifteen employés.

In the year 1880 Mr. E. J. Fuller, from Winchendon, started a second paper in town, called the *Gardner Record*, having his headquarters in Stevens' Block, West Village. In the fall of 1883 the office was removed to the building of Howe Brothers, near the depot. The following June Mr. Fuller sold to Charles Adams and Daniel Rowe, when the name of the sheet was changed to the *Worcester County Democrat*, in order that its title might indicate the politics which the new proprietors designed to have represented in its columns. Struggling on for two years under much difficulty, the experiment of a daily issue was tried for a few weeks in the hope, apparently, of retrieving its falling fortunes, but it had practically the opposite effect, and late in 1886 yielded to the inevitable, and ceased to be. At the end of about three months R. W. and C. A. J. Waterman, of Athol, purchased the stock and fixtures of the office, removed them to Opera-House Block, Pine Street, near Lynde, and commenced the publication of the *Gardner Journal* under the firm-name of Waterman & Son. The first number was issued April 12, 1887, and was favorably received by the public, obtaining at the start a respectable list of subscribers, which has increased since, until at the expiration of twenty months they number seventeen hundred and fifty. The paper is independent in spirit and purpose, and aims to be a general news sheet as well as a medium of local intelligence, seeking to maintain and promote the general welfare by fair dealing and an honest expression of opinion upon all matters pertaining thereto. A good business at job printing has been built up in connection with the publication of the *Journal*, the whole giving employment to nine persons.

MERCANTILE INTERESTS.—A few general statements in regard to what may be called the mercantile affairs of Gardner will no doubt serve the specific purpose of the present volume and satisfy the desire of those who may read it. The first merchant in the place was Mr. Jonathan Prescott, from Lancaster, son-in-law of John Glazier, who located on the east side of Green Street, opposite the Common, where the residence of the late Francis Richardson, Esq., now stands. His was the only store in town for many years, and even down to a date within the memory of large numbers now living, a single old-fashioned country store supplied all the needs of the Central village and a large section around it, reaching in some directions into neighboring towns. A store was opened in South Gardner early in this century, or perhaps shortly before its opening, and for several decades this and the one at the Centre were amply sufficient to meet all the existing needs of the community in this respect. But to-day the shop-keepers of the place are numbered by scores, if not by hundreds. Certain sections of the different villages are almost wholly given up to traffic of one sort or another, and one in them need not go far to find, with rare exceptions, whatever may be desired in the line of merchandise for personal, domestic or more general use. Dry-goods merchants, grocers, clothiers, furniture and crockery dealers, druggists, jewelers, traders in hardware, paper-hangings, gentlemen's and ladies' furnishing goods, cutlery, stoves and furnaces, sewing-machines, stationery, meat, flour, grain, farm produce and venders of all sorts of small wares, confectionery, fruit and peanuts—all these have a place in this busy town, and stand ready to serve the public need.

Before leaving the manufacturing interests of Gardner altogether, it is desirable that a statement be made respecting an important adjunct to that portion of them located in the southern part of the town, to which reference has been several times made in the foregoing pages, to wit:—The South Gardner Reservoir. This body of water covers an area of about one hundred and eighty acres, of which nearly three-fourths are in this town, the remainder in Westminster. Up to a comparatively recent date the owners of what is known as the Wright Mill were allowed to flow the broad expanse of meadow-land which the dam was high enough to cover, only through the later autumn, winter and early spring months, so as in no wise to lessen or damage the grass grown thereon. As a consequence, a large amount of water would pass by that and other privileges on the stream below when the pond was drawn down to its summer level, with advantage to no one, while, later in the season, a scarcity of water would compel the stopping of the machinery at all of those privileges for weeks, or perhaps months, before the autumn rains came on. It was evident to practical men that, if the amount of water which thus ran wholly to waste could be held in some way for use when needed, the mills, so often idle in the dryer parts of the year, could, with rare

exceptions, be kept in operation the twelvemonth through. It was for Mr. David Wright, who was eager for improvement, and who had sagacity to discover chances for improvement, to turn this thought to practical account. He set himself about interesting his co-manufacturers on the stream with him in a project for a reservoir for the purpose indicated. The dam mentioned, as it was and had been for years, was capable of holding an immense body of reserve water, and, by raising it a few feet, which could be easily done, the quantity could be greatly augmented. The raising of the dam would involve some expense, and the using it for permanent flowage would involve still more, since it would necessitate the payment of heavy damages to the proprietors of the meadows above, or the purchase of those meadows. Mr. Wright, therefore, when the subject had been sufficiently discussed, circulated a paper and secured subscriptions enough to buy the lands in question, which put the matter on a permanent basis. Previous to the consummation of this scheme, however, a canal had been cut from the Walter Greenwood mill-pond to the proposed reservoir, in order that whatever surplus water existed there might be diverted from its natural course, and held in reserve with the other, to the extent of the capacity of the new pond. And so the plan of Mr. Wright was carried out to the fullest extent, and all the advantages to be gained from it were secured. The expense of keeping the reservoir-dam in repair is met by occasional assessments upon the owners of the privileges benefited by it.

Nor was this all. The owners of certain mill-sites on the stream, desirous of gaining still other benefits of the same sort, bought two dams, and the meadows flowed by them, situated above the reservoir itself, while, still later, S. K. Pierce & Co. purchased a third one,—the Minot Meadow, so-called,—and dam thereunto belonging, which now constitutes a part of his estate. So that, in fact, there is a series of four reservoirs on the upper part of the stream, each one of which contributes directly to the value of every mill-property below, and indirectly to the prosperity of the whole town.

CHAPTER CXIII.

GARDNER—(*Continued.*)

EDUCATION—SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES.

At an early day in the history of the Pilgrim settlement at Plymouth the subject of education became a matter of general interest and the question of the public instruction of children and youth entered very soon into the deliberations that pertained to the permanent policy of the colony. And the Puritan founders of Massachusetts, animated by the same spirit, soon after acquiring a foothold on these shores, made provision for the establishing of schools of different grades to the end, as they said, "that learning may not be buried in the graves of our fathers." So, under a wise inspiration and guidance, the founders of New England built the school-house beside the church, making education and religion, intelligence and piety, co-ordinate factors in the new civilization they proposed to establish on this virgin soil—living forces to energize, direct and give character to its advancing life. True to their noble descent, the founders of Gardner did the same thing. At the first annual meeting, held March 7, 1786, action was taken which resulted in the division of the town into four districts, or squadrons, as they were called, in each of which a school was soon after established. These were respectively in the parts of the territory corresponding to the four cardinal points of the compass and were designated accordingly. One-half of the money appropriated for schools, which was thirty pounds, was to be divided equally between the four squadrons, and the other half according to the number of scholars in each between four and twenty-one years of age. The complex duty of providing a place for the schools, of selecting and employing teachers and of caring for and expending the money was assigned to four persons, one in each squadron respectively. The names of this first School Committee were William Bickford, David Foster, Ebenezer Howe and Josiah Wheeler. There was but one school-house in the town, which was built by Westminster some years before, "on Mr. Bickford's land on the County road, or the road leading to Mr. Timothy Howard's (Heywood's) house, where the major part of the squadron shall appoint." It actually stood on the site of the house built and formerly occupied by Amos B. Minott on South Main Street. It is likely that this building was used by the South Squadron for some years, although in 1791 it was declared to be "so old and shattered that it is not fit to keep school in." It would seem by this record, and by the absence of any record regarding the erection of school-houses previous to this date, that the schools in other squadrons were held for some years in private dwellings. At the annual town-meeting in 1795 it was voted to build four school-houses, but the appropriation of four hundred and fifty pounds to pay for the same was not made till April, 1796. In March, 1797, the town voted to provide a chair and table for each house, so that it may be presumed that about this time Gardner was fully and satisfactorily equipped with the institutions and accompanying facilities for public education. The school-houses were indeed small, incommodious and unpainted, but they served the needs of the time and were important helps to the laying the foundations of that more complete system of common-school instruction, with its large array of instrumentalities and appliances, which now exists—a blessing unspeakable to the entire community and an honor to the town.

In 1802 an article was inserted in the warrant calling

the regular March meeting, "to see if the town will choose a committee to see what repairs, if any, the school-houses need and paint them Spanish brown and lye." The town voted "to pass over the article," though it has an inherent interest to the present generation, since it shows what was used in those impecunious days as a substitute for oil in the preparation of paint. In 1807 an attempt was made to increase the number of school districts by certain individuals asking the town "to build a school-house in the middle of the town or otherwise give the petitioners and others the privilege of building on the Common." The town decided to do neither of the things desired. The same request was made at several times afterward with the same result, though it appears from the records that a school building had been erected at the place designated about the year 1814, probably by private funds, for the special accommodation of the families living near. In 1809 the citizens evinced their sense of the need of more careful supervision of the schools as well as an interest in their prosperity, by choosing "a committee of four men to inspect the schools" "at the opening and closing of said schools the year ensuing." This was the inauguration of a new policy in that regard.

With the growth of the town came the demand for increased school accommodations. So far as the records show, the original plan of having four districts continued in operation till 1818, although, as a matter of fact, the people of those districts living near to the central village had for several years been privileged to draw their portion of the school-money and spend it in support of a teacher in the private school house referred to above. But in the year mentioned, the desirableness of new districting the town became so apparent that a committee was chosen for the purpose of putting the matter in proper shape for final action. This committee reported in favor of making six districts agreeably to an accompanying detailed plan, which provided for a district in the east, the southeast, the southwest, the northwest, the north and the central portions of the territory, each in its order, and under the name designated by its locality. These six districts included in the aggregate one hundred and fifty-three families,—the east one containing thirty; the southeast and southwest, twenty-seven each, and the remaining three twenty-three each. Each district was to build its own house and to locate it, if those concerned could agree upon a spot; otherwise the town should do it. This division continued for over half a century, or until the abolition of the district system according to public statute, in 1869.

Different rules prevailed at different times in regard to the division of the public-school money among the several districts. What the policy was at the beginning has been stated,—that is, one-half equally between the districts and one-half according to the number of children between the ages of four and twenty-one. In 1820 the town voted that "the school money be divided according to the number of families that shall be in each district on the first of May next." This method prevailed till 1837, when it was decided to divide one-third of the money according to the number of scholars in the respective districts of the ages named before, the remainder equally between the districts.

In 1840 the rule was so far changed as to have the children numbered between four and sixteen years of age. In 1844 one-half was divided equally between the districts and one-half according to the number of pupils, which proportion was changed in 1850 to one-fourth and three-fourths respectively, and in 1854 to one-third and two-thirds respectively. In the same year the "Annual Report of the School Committee" was first printed and circulated among the families of the town.

The changes in the appropriations for educational purposes can be indicated only in a general way. The first sum voted was thirty pounds, or about a hundred dollars in United States currency. Up to the year 1800 the annual amount averaged thirty-five pounds, or one hundred and seventeen dollars. In that year it was two hundred dallars. It rose in 1806 to three hundred dollars, where it remained many years. In 1817 it was three hundred and thirty dollars; in 1818 four hundred. The same figures prevailed till 1832, when they were increased to four hundred and fifty dollars, and in 1833 to six hundred. They rose to seven hundred in 1840; to eight hundred in 1847; to nine hundred in 1849; and to one thousand in 1852. From that time on, with the growth of the town and the increase of its inhabitants, the increase of school appropriations was rapid, reaching two thousand dollars in 1859 and 1860, but falling off somewhat during the four years of the Rebellion. After that period it went up again more rapidly than before. It was thirty-five hundred in 1867, forty-five hundred in 1871 and five thousand in 1873. In 1875 it had risen to six thousand five hundred dollars, and in 1878 to seven thousand dollars. Since that date the increase has been very rapid, reaching, in the year 1888, the generous sum of fifteen thousand dollars, which sufficiently indicates the degree of interest the citizens take in the public schools and the value at which they estimate the American system of popular education as related to the welfare of the community and to the strength, perpetuity and glory of the republic. Besides the High School, which has one principal and two assistants, there are twenty-four schools of the lower grades, each supplied with competent instructors and all in prosperous condition.

At the time of the abolition of the old district system, in 1869, there were six school-houses taken by the town, whose appraised value was $19,758, of which that on School Street, built ten years before, was estimated at $10,666; the one in the Southeast District

at $2,550; and the one in the Southwest, on Broadway, at $5,150. In 1878 a house for two schools was erected on West Street, at a cost of about $5,000, which has recently been enlarged to double that capacity at an additional expense of $3,500. Within a few years, also, a two-room wooden building has been put up on Park Street (Little Canada) at a cost of $3,600; a brick house with four rooms, on Pleasant Street, costing $10,000, and a very fine brick edifice, on Prospect Street, South Gardner, with all modern conveniences, costing about $15,000. Whole school property valued at $69,000.

GARDNER HIGH SCHOOL.—For some years previous to 1856 a growing interest in the establishment of a High School had existed among the more intelligent and thoughtful people of the town, but it was not till that date that such interest assumed a definite form and crystallized into a practical effort to accomplish the contemplated result. But the time had now come when the statutes of the Commonwealth required such a school, and the matter was brought up in a meeting held February 5th, and referred to a committee of seven persons, who subsequently reported adversely to the proposition. The town accepted the report, and the subject rested for ten years. On the 2d of April, 1866, "Voted, on motion of Allen Folger, that a High School be established in town, according to law, and that the Selectmen and Superintending School Committee be a committee to carry into effect this vote." Pursuant to this action a High School was opened the following autumn in the old school-house of the Central District, which had been vacated upon the occupancy of a new building a few years before. This house furnished the best accommodations that could readily be obtained at the time, but it ere long became apparent that a more commodious and better arranged one, as well as one more centrally located, was needed, and in 1872 the town took definite action looking to the supply of the need. The subject was referred to a committee of three persons, who reported unanimously that "after examining the building now occupied by our High School, they were of the opinion that the accommodations and conveniences which it affords are not what the best interests of such a school demand." "Its location is also unsatisfactory to a large portion of those now sending children to the school, and to others who would send if its location was more central." They therefore recommended a new building to be placed on a lot selected by them lying on Chestnut Street, below the "Atherton House," so called, in the Heywood pasture. They also conveyed to the town the gratifying intelligence that after deciding upon this location they consulted with the owner, Mr. Levi Heywood, in regard to the terms upon which it could be obtained, who generously proposed to donate it to the town, if it should be accepted for the purpose specified. The report was accepted, and steps were immediately taken to carry its recommendations into effect. As a result, the proper deeds transferring the site finally fixed upon from Mr. Heywood to the town were passed, plans for a building were secured and the present neat, commodious and attractive structure was built under the direct superintendence of Francis Richardson, Esq., since deceased, and made ready for occupancy December 21, 1874. It is a substantial brick edifice, with foundations of Fitchburg granite and brown sand-stone trimmings. The main part is forty-six by seventy feet with a front projection and porch seventeen by twenty-two feet, the whole being two stories high and surmounted by a tower rising to an altitude of ninety feet. It has three front entrances, reached through open porches and leading into spacious halls. Its internal arrangement, including a commodious basement with cemented floors, is such as to serve well the uses for which it was designed, and the grounds outside are ample and well graded, The entire structure with its furnishings and surroundings, cost twenty-two thousand dollars, and is an ornament and an honor to the town. The citizens are to be congratulated upon having so admirable a High School building, and upon the excellent standing the school has maintained since its establishment.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES—*The South Gardner Social Library.*—Some time about the year 1840 a number of ladies and gentlemen in the south part of the town became interested in a movement for furnishing themselves and the neighborhood a higher and more extensive range of reading than had hitherto been enjoyed. Enlisting a goodly number of their friends and fellow-citizens in the matter, they secured the formation of a society bearing the name of the South Gardner Social Library Association, with a constitution and by-laws duly providing for the orderly government and administration of its affairs. It was a joint stock company, each member being required to pay two dollars on every share subscribed for, to be devoted exclusively to the purchase of books, for the purpose of founding a library; all other expenses to be met by equal assessment on the shares in proportion to the amount thereof. This institution started out under favorable auspices, and for many years was liberally patronized and successfully maintained, deriving support from levies made upon the stock, from annual fees for drawing books and the contributions of friends. In 1852 the association received a bequest of one hundred dollars from the estate of Abijah M. Severy, who died some years before, and in the following year it began to receive an annual income of about twenty-five dollars from a fund created by the same generous donor. This has continued year by year to the present time and of late has been the principal source of supplies for the purchase of new books, the fees of members, the number of which has become greatly reduced, and of book-drawers being little more than sufficient to meet current expenses. The multiplication of libraries connected with the Sunday-schools of the town, the increased

facilities for getting reading matter from other quarters, and more recently the opening of the large and attractive library and reading room at the Central Village, have had a tendency to diminish interest in this institution and to weaken its support. It has upon its shelves about twelve hundred volumes, to which additions are made from time to time as the condition of its finances will allow.

Some years ago a public library was started at the centre of the town, which contained many valuable books and was well patronized for a time, but no records of it have been found and none of the details of its history can be given. The public lost interest in it, and as a result it gradually fell into decay and finally disappeared.

The Levi Heywood Memorial Library Association.—A few years before the death of the late Levi Heywood, he became personally interested in the question of a Public Library and instituted some measures with a view of making that interest felt and of turning it to some practicable account. In order to call attention to the matter, he caused a lecture to be given in town upon the value and importance of such institutions by Hon. Theodore C. Bates, of North Brookfield, at which many influential citizens were present. As a result of this lecture and of the impression it made upon the hearers, a paper providing for contributions to a fund for the establishment of a library was circulated and money was pledged to the amount of about three thousand dollars for the realization of the object proposed, whereupon a petition was presented to the town for a vote authorizing the erection of a building for the proper housing of the contemplated library, "to be located within sixty rods of the Town Hall." The town, probably on account of the designated location, refused to grant the request. This action put the whole matter at rest for the time being, and nothing further was done about it till after the decease of Mr. Heywood in 1882.

A year or two subsequent to that event, Rev. Lawrence Phelps, then pastor of the First Congregational Church and Society of the town, revived the subject and brought it once more before the public. By personal influence and effort, aided by the co-operation of other interested parties, he secured the formation of an association which took the name of the Gardner Library Club, afterward changed to the Gardner Library Association, under which title it was chartered by the Massachusetts Legislature, June 19, 1884. The name of the corporation sufficiently indicated the object it was designed to promote. Under its auspices papers for subscriptions were again circulated, and pledges amounting to seven hundred dollars were obtained for the specific purpose of purchasing books and creating a nucleus of an institution, such as was hoped for at an early day. But as yet no place had been found in which to locate this germ of a library yet to be, and something must be done in that direction before proceeding further in regard to purchasing books.

Happily for the undertaking and for all concerned, while the question of a library building was under serious, if not anxious, consideration, Mr. Calvin Heywood and Mrs. Helen R. Greenwood, the only surviving children of Mr. Levi Heywood, recalling their father's interest in the matter of a Public Library, and desiring to honor his name and memory, proposed, without solicitation, to erect or cause to be erected, a library building, at a cost of not less than $25,000, to be presented to the corporation, when completed and made ready for use, on condition that that body should take the name of the Levi Heywood Memorial Library Association, and provide for the running expenses and general proper maintenance of the institution,—the building to be called "The Levi Heywood Memorial Building." The corporation voted to accept the generous offer on the terms specified, and work on the building began at an early day, and was carried on to completion as rapidly as possible.

Meanwhile the corporation was busily engaged in carrying out their plans as best they could with the means in hand, and in preparing for the occupancy of the building when it was ready for use. The money subscribed for books was expended. An old library, belonging to the Young Men's Christian Association, consisting of about two hundred volumes, was donated to the association, as was also a circulating library of James Emerson, M.D., numbering about one hundred volumes—making a collection of eight hundred books, which were properly arranged, catalogued and offered to the public in February, 1885, in the drug-store of Dr. Emerson, under the Town Hall. The association also qualified itself for receiving the title-deed of the property to be conveyed to it, by a new act of the Legislature, passed April 14, 1887, authorizing the change of name required by the donors, and granting power to hold real estate to the value of $80,000.

Before the completion of the library building Mrs. Fanny B. Heywood, widow of the late Charles Heywood, son of Levi, and her children, Mrs. H. S. Stratton, Mrs. Charles D. Burrage and Charles Heywood, came forward of their own free will and generously offered to supply an appropriate room in it, to be called the Charles Heywood Memorial Reading Room, with a good variety of magazines, papers and current literature of the day and to make adequate provision for the continued support and renewal of the same; thus greatly enlarging the field of the association's influence and much augmenting its power for good as an educating and elevating force in the community. Moreover, for the perpetual maintenance and increased usefulness of the library itself, Mrs. Helen R. Greenwood, since the death of her last surviving brother, and her husband, Alvin M. Greenwood, have laid the public under renewed

obligations by creating an endowment fund of $25,000, the income of which is to inure, year by year, to the benefit of the institution. In addition to the means thus put at the disposal of the Library Association, the town for the past two years has voted it the amount of the dog-tax, about $440 per year, (which will, it is hoped, be continued in time to come), and numerous donations of books, pamphlets and public documents from different sources have been received.

The Levi Heywood Memorial Library Building was completed, furnished and made ready for occupancy early in 1886, and on Thursday, the 4th day of February of that year, was formally dedicated to the important uses for which it was erected, an address appropriate to the occasion being delivered by Mr. S. S. Green, the accomplished and widely-honored librarian at the Public Library in Worcester. Since that date both the library and the reading-room have been open to the public—the former on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons and evenings from two o'clock to six, and from seven to nine; the latter every afternoon and evening during the week, except Sundays, at the same hours. The number of volumes in the library is now about twenty-six hundred, seven hundred and nineteen having been added during the present year. The whole number of books loaned in 1887 was 11,404. Two hundred and thirty-six new names were added to the roll of subscribers during the same period. Miss Nellie S. Osgood has had charge of the institution from the beginning, performing the duties of her position with credit to herself and to the satisfaction of all concerned. The officers of the Levi Heywood Memorial Library Association are: Rev. Lawrence Phelps, president; Charles D. Burrage, secretary; Volney W. Howe, treasurer; Herbert S. Stratton, James Emerson, M.D., vice-presidents; Rev. Lawrence Phelps, Alvin M. Greenwood, Martha W. Burrage, Helen R. Heywood, Helen R. Greenwood, Laura A. Heywood, James Emerson, M.D., Sarah L. Conant, Geo. W. Cann, Herbert S. Stratton, Mrs. Franklin Eaton and Charles D. Burrage, directors.

The library building is located in what is called the Central Village, directly east of the First National Bank, and is a neat and pleasing specimen of the Romanesque style of architecture, with enough original variations to give it a character distinctively its own. It is fifty by seventy-eight feet in size, one story in height, with large gables on the south and east sides fronting spacious rooms on the second floor. Its foundations, which rise five feet above the sidewalk, are of faced granite, and are crowned with a fine-cut water table. It is built of pressed brick, with brown-stone and terra-cotta trimmings. In the upper part of the front gable is a triangular panel of terra-cotta, bearing the name "Levi Heywood," while underneath, on a brown-stone frieze, are the words "Memorial Building." Below this are three large double windows, arched and flanked with decorated pilasters, giving ample light to the interior. In front is a massive open porch, nine by sixteen feet, floored with variegated tiles, and entered on either hand by broad circling granite steps. This porch has a large brown-stone arch in front with smaller ones at the sides, all supported by polished granite columns of a reddish hue, which rest on solid bases, and all surmounted by a terra-cotta cornice and balustrade.

On ornamented spandrels above the main arch are the figures 1885, indicating the date of the erection of the structure. The entrance opens into a spacious waiting-hall, fourteen by twenty-eight feet in size, and twelve feet high. On the right is the directors' room, fifteen by twenty feet, and on the left the reading-room, twenty by twenty-five feet in size. Back of the reading-room is a large reference-room, and, correspondingly, on the other side are there a librarian's room, lavatory and a stairway to the second floor, where there are a parlor, ten by twenty feet in size, and a hall, measuring twenty-four by thirty-six feet. In the rear of the waiting-room, below, and occupying the entire back part of the building, is the book-room, thirty-eight feet long by twenty-five feet wide, in a semi-circular form, having a height of eighteen feet, which will allow a gallery and additional shelving when needed. Alcoves radiating from a common centre, but not extending to the walls, afford the necessary conveniences for books. This room is sufficiently lighted both from the sides and from above as the other rooms are from the sides, and all are finished in excellent manner and handsomely decorated. The basement is divided into various apartments, having cemented floors, and devoted to such uses as convenience requires. The whole building is heated by indirect steam radiation and lighted at night by gas,—both generated in a basement room, set apart for that particular service. The architects of the structure were Messrs. Fuller & Delano, of Worcester, whose skill and efficiency in their distinctive profession this piece of work abundantly attests. It is unquestionably the most chaste and elegant specimen of architecture in town, a beautiful memorial, not only of one of its leading citizens for half a century, but of the wise generosity of its donors.

CHAPTER CXIV.

GARDNER—(*Continued.*)

RELIGION, HOUSES OF WORSHIP, PARISHES, ETC.

"It concerneth New England always to remember," said the pious old minister of Salem, John Higginson, "that these are a plantation religious and not a plantation of trade." And this she did remem-

ber through all her earlier history, to her own enduring honor and glory and to the welfare and happiness of many generations, over whose fortunes and destiny she exercised, unconsciously to herself, magic and mighty influence. And so it was that the founders of the town of Gardner, sons and daughters of New England, true to their ancestral heritage, regarded well at the outset the moral and spiritual interests of the people at large and took active measures to have them properly guarded and promoted. One of the first things done by the new town as a corporate body was to provide a place for the public worship of God and a minister to serve at the altar of religion. A site for a meeting-house, with a burying-ground and Common or training-field adjoining, according to the custom of the time, had been selected midway between the extremes of population, so as to accommodate the largest possible number of people, probably by mutual arrangement of those most interested, and at a legal meeting held on the 7th of November, 1785, four months after the act of incorporation was granted, steps were taken to secure the same to the perpetual use of the town by proper title deed. That site was very near the spot where the present church of the First Congregational Parish stands—the burying-ground in the rear and the Common in front substantially as they are to-day. At the same meeting Joseph Bacon, John White, Captain Kelton, Moses Hill and David Foster were chosen a committee "to draw a plan of a meeting-house and to see what stuff it will take;" and Simon Gates, Elisha Jackson and Captain Kelton a committee to hire preaching. It was also voted "To hire four days' preaching." At an adjournment of this meeting a week later, the committee on a meeting-house reported, whereupon it was voted "to build a meeting-house, forty feet wide and sixty-five feet long, with three porches," the size of which was afterwards modified to forty-five feet by sixty, with two porches. The material for the construction of said house was divided into more than a hundred lots, according to a schedule still preserved, and let out by auction to the lowest bidder. The work of providing material for and laying the underpinning was divided into ten lots and let out in the same way. The material was to be delivered before April 1, 1787, and the underpinning was to be completed June 20, 1787. The responsibility of erecting and finishing the building to the extent of framing and covering it, setting the glass, painting the outside, laying the lower floor and making the inside doors was committed to Joseph Bacon, the leading carpenter in the place, who was to do it for £172 10*s.*, "he assisting with his hands in raising" it. On the 27th of June, 1787, the frame was ready to be put up, and that part of the work is supposed to have been done on that day. It was a great occasion. Help from neighboring towns had been sought and was on the ground in due season. A crowd of spectators gathered to witness the proceedings, which began early in the morning and continued till sundown. With commendable forethought, authority was given Joseph Bacon by the town to keep the Common so far clear of spectators as that they should not interfere with the raising of the house. With equal forethought, a committee was appointed to furnish food and drink for the workmen and instructed, with prudent hospitality, "to give the spectators one drink." An accident, whereby a Mr. Day, of Winchendon, and a Mr. Gregory, of Templeton, came near losing their lives by the falling of a stick of timber, marred somewhat the harmonies of the day and gave it a tinge of sadness. Nevertheless, the frame was up, strong and sure, before night, its pitch-pine sills twelve inches square and posts of oak of equal size and other timbers in proportion, including two hundred oak braces, giving it a solidity and power of endurance which might defy storm and tempest, if not time itself.

But the building, though raised and soon after enclosed and covered, and so made available for public uses, was not completed according to the original plans for several years. Work in the way of finishing it and making it comfortable was done upon it as the means of meeting the expense involved would allow. To raise money, the pews, seventy-one in number, were sold in 1788, long before they were put in, a method of dealing in "futures" not unknown to the modern commercial world. At that date, indeed, the galleries were not built, nor the floors wholly laid, nor the doors and windows cased, nor the lathing and plastering done. There was the shell of a building and nothing more. At length, in January, 1789, the town closed a contract with Lieutenant Foster to finish it, "as Westminster Meeting-house is finished," by the 1st of November, 1790, for £199,10*s.*, all the material to be furnished as he needed it. Under this arrangement, the house was finally completed, though not to the satisfaction and acceptance of the town, till the summer of 1791, four years after the frame was erected. It was a plain, unpretending structure, scarcely larger than a moderate-sized chapel of these days, painted stone-color, with green doors and white trimmings, quite unlike the elaborate, complex, highly decorated, fully-equipped piece of ecclesiastical architecture which now stands in its place.

During these years of the building of the meeting-house, preaching had been maintained the greater part of the time, for awhile in private houses, but afterward in the unfinished building, seats and pulpit being improvised in true primitive style. Four days' preaching were provided for at first, then three months, then a year. There is no record of any action of the town in regard to the employment of a minister during the year 1787. Whether this was an omission of the clerk, or whether the citizens felt obliged to economize in this particular on account of straitened circumstances, is left to conjecture. If the latter, the experiment was never tried

afterward, no year having transpired since in the town, and but very few Sundays, when the voice of the preacher has not been heard, when public prayer and praise have not been offered to God.

A place of worship having been provided, even though it was as yet unfinished and in a crude condition, some one must be found to preside at its altar and lead in its service as the permanent minister of the town. A church had been formally organized February 1, 1786, but under what auspices or by whose agency, no one can tell. And who were the first preachers in the place—"the transient supply"—has not been ascertained. But after a time, Mr. Frederick Parker seemed to commend himself to the people as a suitable man to fill the responsible position, and received from the church a formal call "to settle in the work of the Gospel ministry in this place." The town, at a meeting held May 11, 1789, concurred. The terms of the proposed contract were: "for the settlement £150, to be paid in neat stock at the market-price, and for the salary, £60 a year for five years, and £66 afterwards; one-half to be paid in produce from the farm, viz.: beef, pork, grain, butter, cheese at the market-price; also twenty cords of hard wood yearly, cord-wood length, delivered at his dwelling-house." Mr. Parker seems not to have been ready to accept the invitation on the terms proposed. The call was renewed the next year with the same result, and that ended all negotiations with Mr. Parker.

The town in appropriating money for preaching the following year, 1791, instructed the committee on pulpit supply, in terms indicating a wise caution worthy of emulation in later times, "to hire some person of *good character* for four Sabbaths." The person of good character very soon appeared, and proved so satisfactory that he received an invitation to settle from the church in the usual order, which was ratified by the town, July 21st, the same year. The acceptable candidate was Jonathan Osgood, a native of Andover, Mass., and a graduate of Yale College in the class of 1789. The terms upon which the call of Mr. Osgood was offered, were, "£160 for his settlement and £75 annual salary," to which was subsequently added "twenty cords of hard wood, to be delivered at his dwelling-house, beginning three years after his settlement." On those conditions Mr. Osgood accepted the invitation in a letter dated September 21, 1791, which is preserved in the town records, with the proviso that "if at any future period, as you increase in wealth, I should stand in need, I trust you will be ready to afford me relief," adding significantly, "I shall depend that you punctually fulfill the proposals you have made." Mr. Osgood was duly ordained and installed as minister of the town of Gardner, October 19, 1791, the five neighboring churches, together with the two churches in Andover, the second church in Boxford, the church in Littleton and the church in Bolton, ten in all, with their pastors, being invited to representation in the council called to aid in his settlement. Mr. Osgood was a "cure" of bodies as well as of souls, and served in both capacities with such skill and efficiency as to secure the confidence, esteem and cordial support of the people of the town and community at large. For over thirty years he filled the two positions of minister and physician, his labors ending with his life, May 21, 1822.

For two years the town was without a minister, at the expiration of which period Mr. Sumner Lincoln, a native of Warren, and a graduate of Yale College, in the class of 1822, having studied theology at New Haven, and qualified himself for the profession, was invited to the vacant place with the offer of "a salary of five hundred dollars and a pew in the meeting-house." Mr. Lincoln accepted the call and was regularly ordained and installed as pastor of the First Church in Gardner June 16, 1824. Mr. Lincoln was settled as minister of the whole town, according to the old custom, and served in that capacity for about three years, when the secular and religious interests of the inhabitants were separated, the town yielding all its hitherto exercised rights in ecclesiastical affairs to the newly-formed religious society called the First Parish of Gardner, which became the lineal successor of the town in such matters. Under this new *régime* things went on as before until 1830, when the controversy between the Unitarian and Trinitarian branches of the Congregational denomination, which had been going on elsewhere in the State for several years, reached the place and became so decided and marked in its expression as to cause a division among the members of the church and parish, which resulted in a separation of the two opposing parties and the formation of a new religious organization, representing the views of those who withdrew from the previously existing body. The turning-point of this matter was the vote of the parish, dismissing Rev. Mr. Lincoln, who had assumed the Trinitarian position in the discussion, thereby committing itself fairly and unmistakably to a strictly Unitarian position. In accordance with the now declared views of the parish—the dissenting members having severed their connection with it—the Rev. Jonathan Farr, a minister of pronounced Unitarian views, was settled December 9, 1830, by a council composed wholly of ministers and delegates in full theological sympathy with himself. He was dismissed, after a pastorate of two and a half years, in July, 1833. His successor was Rev. Curtis Cutler, a native of Lexington, and a graduate of Harvard College and Divinity School, who was settled October 30, 1833. This relation was dissolved in 1839, when Rev. George W. Stacey took charge of the pulpit. He remained but a year or two and was followed by Rev. William H. Fish, who was the last acting minister of the First Church and Parish of Gardner in its distinctively Unitarian character and fellowship.

At the close of the ministry of Rev. Mr. Fish, the society and all its interests fell into a state of

suspended animation, which continued for several years, no minister being employed and none of the functions of a church being exercised, when, in 1846, the house of worship having been remodeled and made convenient and suitable for religious services, the question of a resumption of the public exercises of religion within its walls arose, awakening considerable interest and feeling in the community. This question involved another of deeper import, to wit: Under what auspices, theologically considered, shall the re-constructed edifice be opened? In other words, Shall the old lines of religious opinion and affiliation be taken up and followed out, or shall a new departure be made, ignoring the history of the society for the past sixteen years and starting out independently of all previous professions, declarations and alliances? It was finally decided by those who had been chiefly instrumental in re-constructing the meeting-house, and who had the larger pecuniary interest in it, that thenceforth the parish should act in sympathy with the more popular branch of the Congregational body, and maintain ecclesiastical relations with the so-called Orthodox Churches of the general community, retaining its old name and all the prestige, historical and ecclesiastical, properly belonging to it.

In accordance with that decision, overtures were made to the Evangelical Congregational Society, under which name those withdrawing from the First Parish in 1830 had organized and were legally known, for a union of the two bodies, which were favorably received, but which finally failed, by reason of the inability of the two parties to agree upon the conditions of the proposed intermarriage. Whereupon a call was extended to Rev. Mr. Banister to become the pastor, which was so far accepted as that he acted in that capacity for about a year, when Rev. John C. Paine, a native of Ashfield, succeeded him, being formally installed in office January 12, 1848. Mr. Paine proved to be a man of ripe culture, of pleasing manners and a popular preacher. After sixteen years of service he left, in May, 1864, and in the following October Rev. Wm. D. Herrick, a graduate of Amherst College in 1857, who had studied theology at Andover, and been settled four years at Redding, Conn., was installed in his place, Rev. Julius H. Seelye, D.D., president of Amherst College, preaching the sermon. He remained four years, when the union of the two societies, attempted twenty years before, was consummated, and he was dismissed, agreeably to the terms of the consolidation of the two distinct organizations and the churches connected with them referred to. The Articles of Faith and Covenant of the Evangelical Church were to be retained, while the names of the religious and secular departments, under the new arrangement, were to be the First Congregational Church and the First Parish in Gardner, respectively.

Thus it came to pass that, after twenty years, during which time there had existed two churches in town nominally of one form of theological doctrine and both struggling for existence, their houses of worship only a few rods apart, yet with more or less of alienation, if not bitterness of feeling, between the members of them, not altogether becoming those who the same faith profess and "the same Lord obey," these separate religious bodies came together, their two lives blending in one common life thenceforth as time went on. If, at the time of the union there was not, as the historian of Gardner intimates, that spirit of cordiality and co-operation between all the parties concerned that could be desired, yet since then, we are assured, "the old lines of separation have become less distinct," a growing harmony is displacing former unfriendliness or distrust, and there seems to be a disposition prevailing more and more to "keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace."

Under the new dispensation a call was extended to Rev. William Belden to become the pastor of the united Church and Society, which was accepted by him, and he was installed January 22, 1868. His pastorate was brief, being terminated by his dismission, March 22, 1869. August 25th, the same year, Rev. John E. Wheeler, a native of Amherst, N. H., and a graduate of Amherst College, was clothed with the honors and assigned the duties of the same office. He remained but about three years, closing his labors early in July, 1872. The parish was without a minister for nearly two years, several attempts to obtain one proving ineffectual. At length, on the 15th of May, 1874, the parish united with the church in extending a call to Rev. Wm. D. Herrick, pastor of the First Parish and Church at the time of the consolidation seven years before, who, although he had declined a similar one made a few months previously, finally accepted. Mr. Herrick was installed the second time in Gardner, June 11, 1874, and entered at once upon an active and useful career in the church and community. After two or three years' service, however, his health began to give way, and he was obliged to curtail his labors and, after a time, to suspend them for a season altogether, in the hope that he might find complete restoration of his depleted energies and be able to resume his ministerial work with his old-time vigor and promise of success. But he only partially recovered, and on taking up his professional duties again found himself unequal to the task of performing them to his own satisfaction, and seeing no prospect of entire recovery, deemed it due to his people as well as to himself to proffer his resignation. It was reluctantly accepted, and he closed his labors not long afterward. During his ministry he prepared, under directions from the town, an elaborate and detailed history of Gardner from the date of its incorporation, including a genealogical record of many of the principal families, which was published in a large volume of five hundred and thirty-five pages, in 1878.

During the same period the parish greatly improved its property and facilities for prosecuting the various departments of ministerial, church and parish work. In 1875 it erected a commodious and attractive parsonage, with stable and other conveniences attached, at an expense of about six thousand dollars. Early in the year 1878 the project of a new house of worship was started, which resulted in the completion, the year following, of the present spacious, well-arranged and well-equipped, imposing edifice, located at the head of the Common, very near, if not on the exact site, where the original town meeting-house was built. Until this was ready for occupancy, the church and society, subsequent to the union of the two parishes in 1867, had worshipped in the sanctuary of the Evangelical Congregational Parish, which stood on the east side of Green Street, fronting the Common. The present edifice is one of the finest pieces of church architecture in the northern part of Worcester County. It is of Gothic style, with steep, slated roof, and covers an area of sixty-four feet front, which is the width of the structure, and a length of one hundred and eighteen feet, having, at the southeast corner, a tower one hundred and twenty-five feet high, in which is a clock with four dials. The material is principally brick, with underpinning and steps of light-colored granite and brown sandstone trimmings. The building is lighted by stained-glass set in lead sashes, a large rose window adorning the front part. It has convenient entrances in front and at the sides, the latter leading to the main audience-room and to the chapel in the rear. There are six hundred sittings in the auditorium, all facing the preacher's platform and desk, at the right of which is the choir and organ-loft, and at the left a pastor's room. Nearer the walls there are ample passage-ways to the other parts of the building, where there are on the lower floor a spacious lecture-room, an infant class-room, library room and parlor, with a stairway to the second floor, where may be found a dining-room, kitchen, lavatory and all the modern improvements and conveniences. The whole is warmed by hot water and steam and lighted by electricity. The cost of the building, including organ and furnishings, was thirty thousand dollars, which amount was raised by the persevering efforts of Mrs. Henry Heywood and Mrs. Alvin M. Greenwood. The present pastor is Rev. Lawrence Phelps, who has served the church and society about five years. Everything betokens prosperity and usefulness.

THE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AND SOCIETY.—As the history of the religious enterprise represented by this name is so closely interlinked with that of the First Parish and Church, it is noticed next to it in this review, although, chronologically considered, it would be assigned a later place in the list of the religious organizations of Gardner. The members of the First Parish who, as has been said, withdrew on account of marked theological differences in the year 1830, were legally organized on the 25th of June, the same year, under the title given at the head of this paragraph. A constitution was drawn up, approved and signed by forty-one male members, who were thus qualified for the transaction of business. Steps were at once taken toward the erection of a meeting-house, which was accordingly built and dedicated June 16, 1831. The church connected with this parish was instituted agreeably to Congregational usages August 11, 1830. Rev. Mr. Lincoln, who had been minister of the old church and society, withdrew with the seceding members and by previous arrangement was at once chosen minister of the new body. The same council which was called to formally dismiss him in ecclesiastical order from his former pastorate installed him in the later one the same day, August 11, 1830. In addition to the regular salary of four hundred dollars in money voted Mr. Lincoln for his services, he was granted "his choice of all the pews in the house for his use." He remained pastor of this church and society until February 23, 1842, when the relation was dissolved. Mr. Lincoln is still living in the enjoyment of a fair degree of bodily and mental vigor, his heart warm as ever towards all generous and noble things, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years. Although at the time of the division in the First Parish of Gardner he sympathized with and became the minister of the Trinitarian party, he yet subsequently entered the fellowship of the Unitarian denomination and has been for a long time one of its most devoted and honored clergymen.

The several pastors of the Evangelical Congregational Church and Society succeeding Mr. Lincoln were, Rev. Wm. B. Stone, settled February 23, 1842, and dismissed in August, 1850; Rev. D. C. Frost, who served as acting-pastor about two years; Rev. Abijah Stowell the same for five years; Rev. J. W. Healey, who was installed December 3, 1857, and was dismissed July 11, 1859; Rev. Samuel J. Austin, installed December 8, 1859, and dismissed in May, 1864. Subsequent to this date there was no regular minister for about two years. Several persons had been favored with an invitation to the vacant place, but declined. At length Mr. George F. Stanton, of Lowell, a recent graduate of Bangor Theological Seminary, accepted a call extended to him, and was ordained to the work of the ministry and installed pastor of the church under notice, June 6, 1866, the sermon being preached by Rev. E. D. Foster, D.D., of Lowell. In the following May he retired in order to facilitate the union of this church and society with those represented by the First Parish, which was at that date accomplished. Thus, after an existence of thirty-seven years, this body was reunited to the lineal descendant of that from which it seceded, the changed theological attitude of the latter making this step possible without offence to the distinctive religious convictions of the members of either party.

It is a fact worthy of record and remembrance, that this Evangelical Church and Society, besides representing its own characteristic form of Christian faith, and doing the work incumbent upon it in its religious capacity, was, from the beginning, earnestly devoted to the reform movements of the age, maintaining a consistent and unequivocal position in their behalf, and displaying unusual fidelity, zeal and courage in the support and furtherance of the cause of temperance and of the abolition of American slavery.

The first meeting-house of this parish, built in 1831, was remodeled in 1846, and finally supplanted by a new one, more favorably located and better suited to existing needs, which was dedicated May 8, 1856. This house was used by the party erecting it until the union spoken of was effected, and by the consolidated churches until the occupancy of their present place of worship.

The First Baptist Society and Church.—In the year 1827 a few individuals living in the village of South Gardner and vicinity, desirous of having better religious privileges than they had previously enjoyed, inaugurated measures for the formation of a new society in that part of the town. In a brief time the object aimed at was accomplished, the organization taking the name of The Baptist Society of Gardner, as an indication of the religious convictions and preferences of its members, who were encouraged in their efforts by the sympathy and co-operation of the Baptist Church and Society in Templeton. The original membership consisted of ten persons, among whom Messrs. Sullivan Jackson and George Scott occupied the most prominent position. The immediate object of the association was to raise money for the purpose of sustaining a meeting and supporting the preaching of the Gospel in South Gardner village. To more effectually promote this object, an auxiliary association, called the Parochial Society, which is still connected with the church, was legally instituted January 30, 1828, for the management of the business interests of the enterprise. Moneys were raised, and regular religious services were opened at once in the house of Mr. Jackson, and continued for several years. Other activities of church life were established, among them a Sabbath-school, which consisted, to begin with, of fourteen members. The movement, once fairly started, attracted public attention and increased in numbers and importance. The need of a house of public worship was soon recognized, and steps were taken to provide one. Money was raised and a building was erected in 1833, at a cost of three thousand dollars, which amply met the wants of the society for many years, and was used as first constructed, with slight improvements, till 1872, when it was much enlarged and greatly improved in many ways, at an expense of over seven thousand dollars. The audience-room was entirely remodeled and newly furnished, and a commodious vestry with ante-rooms in the basement, was fitted up. A new and graceful spire supplanted the former inartistic cupola or belfry, in which was placed an excellent clock for the convenience of the neighborhood. Ten years later, in 1882, a good pipe-organ was introduced and other improvements made, at an aggregate cost of three thousand dollars. At present the edifice is exteriorly neat and attractive, and also well-furnished and equipped within, rendering it admirably adapted to the uses of a living Christian body of believers.

The church connected with this society was established in the year 1830, when twenty-three members of the Baptist Church in Templeton, who resided in Gardner, withdrew from that organization by mutual consent and in the spirit of brotherly love, for the purpose of having church privileges nearer at hand, and of exerting a greater influence for good upon the public mind and heart. An ecclesiastical council convened at the house of Sullivan Jackson on the 15th of November of that year, under whose authority the First Baptist Church in Gardner was organized, Mr. Jackson being chosen the first deacon. Its present deacons are Marcius A. Gates and Elmer L. Lovewell. The total number received into the church from the beginning is five hundred and forty, the present membership being one hundred and ninety-five.

Fifteen pastors have served this church and society during the fifty-eight years since they were organized, the Rev. Robert F. Tolman being the present incumbent of that office. In addition to the Sabbath-school, whose fourteen original members have increased to three hundred and ninety-six, there are, as auxiliary agencies for interesting and benefiting those who may be reached and helped to the better life, and especially the children and youth, "The Band of Hope," "The Cheerful Workers," "The Young Ladies' Mission Circle" and "The Society of Christian Endeavor." It is proper to add that legacies left by Abijah M. Severy, Mrs. Susannah Stone and Mrs. Rebecca Greenwood, the benefits of which are now being shared by this church, are fully appreciated as assisting very substantially in maintaining "the preaching of a Gospel of Salvation, of Anti-Slavery, of Temperance and of Peace."

Church of the Sacred Heart.—Who the pioneer Catholics were, or when they settled in Gardner, is involved in mystery. The most reliable information dates their coming in the year 1845. For many years they were few in number, and it was not till 1856 that the first Catholic service held in town took place in a grove west of Baker's Lane, Rev. Edward Turpin, of Fitchburg, officiating. Subsequently Mass was celebrated from time to time in private houses by priests from neighboring parishes. At length Bishop Fitzgerald, seeing the need of a clergyman to minister to the steadily increasing Catholic population of the northern part of Worcester County, sent Father Bannon to make his residence at Otter River, giving him jurisdiction over all the outlying districts north

of Worcester and west of Fitchburg. Thither the Catholic people of Gardner went to attend divine worship until they became sufficiently numerous to warrant a separate service for themselves, when the town hall was secured for that purpose and used at stated intervals. Meantime the Catholic population grew apace, with which came a demand for more clergymen. Therefore, in 1872, Winchendon, Gardner and Ashburnham were set off as a new parish, and Rev. D. C. Moran was appointed to administer its affairs, with headquarters at Winchendon. Father Moran was a man of great executive ability, and threw himself at once into the work of building up the spiritual interests of his people, and of putting the affairs of the parish into good working order. One of his first cares was to provide a suitable place of worship for his people in Gardner, who were adding to their numbers daily. He caused funds to be raised, selected and purchased a lot on Cross Street, and secured plans from Architect James Murphy, of Providence, R. I. In 1874 ground was broken, and before the end of the following year a handsome wooden structure of Gothic style, capable of seating six hundred people, was reared and dedicated to the service of God under the title of the "Sacred Heart of Jesus." Its total cost was about $26,000, and it was, at the time, the finest church edifice in town, a monument of which both pastor and people might be proud.

Gardner continued as a mission of Winchendon till 1880, when it was deemed able to maintain a resident pastor, and Rev. M. J. Murphy was placed in charge. Father Murphy soon became a great favorite. He took an active part in everything calculated to promote the best interests of the town, being a member of the School Board several years. He directed his efforts at the outset to a thorough organization of the parish, in order that his labors for the spiritual welfare of the people might be more effective, and the beautiful ritual of the Catholic Church be carried out in all its splendor. Sodalities, literary and temperance societies were established, so that the old and young of both sexes might benefit by their good influence.

The erection of a parochial residence next claimed his attention. Funds were collected, and the present substantial and commodious house was completed. The grounds about the church were graded at the same time, and concrete walks were put in. Much praise is due Father Murphy for the good taste displayed in the laying out and care of the grounds, which made the site one of the most attractive spots in town. Not long after, the French Canadians, who had formed a large portion of the growing congregation, wishing to have a clergyman of their own nationality, who could speak their own language and enter more fully into their feelings and sympathies, expressed themselves to that effect. Their desire was favorably considered, and in 1884 they withdrew, organized a church by themselves, and had a pastor installed over them. The Sacred Heart Church went on enjoying an era of prosperity, when, lo! on the evening of May 28, 1887, flames were seen to issue from the church edifice, and in one short hour it was in ruins. Soon after this, Father Murphy was transferred to another field of labor, and Rev. J. F. McDermott was intrusted with the work of rebuilding the church. On assuming his duties, the scene of desolation which met his view might have disheartened a less intrepid spirit; but nothing daunted, he threw all his energy into the task before him. Infusing into his people something of his own hope and confidence, they met his appeals for funds with a liberal response, while willing hands volunteered to clear away the *débris* and make ready for a new structure. Architect P. W. Ford, of Boston, furnished plans therefor on the old lines, with a slight addition to the rear, which will not only improve the outward appearance of the building, but give a hundred more sittings in the main auditorium. Work was soon begun, and pushed forward with such vigor that the congregation were enabled, in the following January, to occupy a handsomely, finished basement, which has since served as a place of worship. The superstructure will be completed in the near future, and will surpass its predecessor both in beauty and design. Thus it will be seen that the Catholic Church has made wonderful progress in Gardner since the sowing of the little mustard-seed in 1845, which has grown to include in 1888 nearly half the population, numbering now about thirty-eight hundred souls, and destined, under favorable conditions, to keep abreast of the general advance of the town in years to come.

THE UNIVERSALIST CHURCH.—In the year 1864, Rev. Jacob Baker, State missionary of the Universalist denomination, began holding religious services in Gardner, at which he preached with earnestness and emphasis the distinctive doctrines of the body represented by him. Those doctrines met with a hearty response in certain directions, and an effort was very soon made to bring together those who were in sympathy with them, and to provide for the regular and permanent advocacy of them in the community. On the 4th of June a society was organized pursuant to that effort, and a constitution was adopted for the orderly government of its affairs. One of its first acts was the appointment of a parish committee, who were subsequently instructed to secure, if possible, the services of Mr. Baker for half the time during the ensuing year. This purpose was carried out, and Mr. Baker's labors continued till the spring of 1867. Considerable interest having been awakened in the movement among the people of the town, and the society having increased its membership proportionally, it was deemed advisable, for the good of those concerned and to help on the cause, that a permanent minister be employed, and the Rev. Harrison Closson was called to that office with the understanding that he was to serve the

Gardner Society on alternate Sundays, the others being at his disposal to devote to the more general work of his profession, as opportunity offered. This plan was carried out for a year, when the financial condition of the society had so much improved as to warrant the engagement of Mr. Closson for the whole time. Soon after this was done, the minister, who was possessed of much religious fervor and zeal, was instrumental in establishing a church in connection with the society in accordance with New England usage, which was organized April 23, 1868, and publicly recognized with appropriate solemnities on the first Sunday in June following. This body was called "The Church of the Unity and Restoration," adopting a "Covenant" which embodied in a general way the principles of the Universalist branch of the Christian church.

A year later, Mr. Closson, who had been thus far employed annually as the incumbent of the ministerial office, was installed as pastor of the church and congregation according to Universalist custom, the Rev. A. A. Miner, D. D., of Boston, preaching the sermon. Under the ministry of Mr. Closson the movement was greatly prospered for a time, though later there was some decline of interest occasioned by differences which grew out of the matter of a place of worship. Services had been held for several years in what was called "the bell meeting-house," which was the former house of the First Parish. But the time had come for a change, as was recognized by all. The old house must be repaired where it was, or moved to a new site and refitted, or a new house must be built. Failing of an agreement upon any one of these propositions, disaffection arose and the organization became much weakened. Mr. Closson left in 1871 and for three years there was no regular religious service. But at length new interest arose, and measures were taken to build a church edifice. Funds were raised to that end. Mr. Wm. S. Lynde, an influential member of the parish, gave an eligible site at the corner of Cross and Maple Streets and one thousand dollars in money, which revived the hearts of all engaged in the enterprise. The house was erected and dedicated on the 26th of May, 1874. Soon after, Rev. Royal T. Sawyer became pastor and remained three years. He was an earnest, able preacher and a faithful worker in and out of the pulpit, and the church and society grew and prospered. Rev. Ephraim A. Reed was his successor, who rendered good service to his people for about two years, when he left and was followed by Rev. Mr. Barber, who gave way to Rev. James Taylor, a devoted minister and an excellent man, honoring his calling and sharing the esteem and confidence of the public. He took charge of the pastorate in 1884 and remained about three years. Rev. H. W. Smith is the present pastor, who is laboring with energy and ability for the people of his charge and the building up of the "larger hope" in the hearts and lives of men. The parish has a pleasant place of worship, commodious and convenient, an efficient Sunday-school and various healthful activities for the prosecution of its own distinctive work and for the promotion of "peace and good-will among men."

The Methodist Episcopal Church.—According to the records of the town clerk of Gardner, there were disciples of John Wesley and adherents of the so-called Methodist form of religious doctrine within its borders at an early period of its history. In the year 1797 Philip Wager, elder of a Methodist Society in Ashburnham, certified to the fact that Samuel Stone, of Gardner, "attended public worship" with that society and "contributed to the support of its ministry," which, under the provisions of a recently enacted law of the State, absolved him from the duty of paying a "ministerial tax" in his own town. In the following year a similar certificate was filed in reference to Mr. Simon Stone, also a resident of Gardner. It would seem, furthermore, from the same records, that in the year 1800 there actually existed in town a society of the same persuasion, of which one Henry Eames was public teacher, and Ebenezer Richardson and Samuel Stone were a standing committee. Further than this, touching this organization, nothing has come to light, and it is probable that it had but an ephemeral being, of which no account has been preserved.

During the first quarter of the present century a growing interest in the doctrines of Methodism prevailed in the north part of Worcester County, and what was called a "circuit" of preaching stations was established, extending through about a dozen towns, of which Gardner was one. It was known as the Ashburnham Circuit, that town having an established church, as others had not, and being the centre of operations.

In the year 1826 Rev. John E. Risley was the preacher of this circuit and Rev. John Lindsay presiding elder of the district under the auspices of which its activities were carried on. It is understood that about that date, religious services were held from time to time in the town, though so far as is known no attempt was made to found a church. Occasionally a preaching service would be held in a school-house or private residence by some itinerant, temporarily in the place, zealous in broadcasting the seed-grain of the Methodist faith. Finally, the town having grown considerably, and evincing signs of increasing prosperity, Rev. Wm. P. Blackmer, preacher in charge at East Templeton, seeing, as he thought, an opportunity for instituting a church representing his own conception of Christian truth, early in 1869 conducted a few meetings in the lower town hall. A good interest was awakened and a stated preacher was asked for, of the proper authorities, to enter and occupy the newly-opened field. In response to the request, the New England Conference, which met at Lowell, March 24, 1869, appointed Mr.

Blackmer to take charge of the work already promisingly begun. He at once commenced his labors and prosecuted them with such success as that in July of the same year the Rev. Loranus Crowell, presiding elder of the Worcester District, formally organized a church with a membership of eighteen and a Sunday-school of fifty persons, thus forming the nucleus of what has grown to be a large, active, useful branch of the religious brotherhood of Gardner.

In April, 1870, Rev. W. M. Hubbard was appointed to succeed Mr. Blackmer. During his administration of affairs a chapel was erected upon a site on West Street, donated for the purpose by Mr. Lewis H. Graham, which was dedicated September 14, 1870. Rev. Daniel Atkins followed Mr. Hubbard, who, at the end of a two years' pastorate, in 1875, reported ninety-nine members of the church and thirteen probationers. Rev. Seth C. Carey became pastor in 1875. The growth of the movement had been so great that larger accommodations for public worship and other departments of the general work were needed, and measures were started to meet the existing demand in that regard. A lot on Chestnut Street was procured, ground was broken September 20, 1876, a new edifice with a seating capacity for six hundred persons was built and dedicated August 9, 1877, Bishop R. S. Foster, of Boston, preaching the sermon. The cost of the building, with its various appointments for the use of a living, active body of Christian believers, was less than thirteen thousand dollars. At the close of Mr. Carey's ministry the church had one hundred and twenty-three members and thirty-four probationers. Revs. W. D. Bridge, W. P. Ray, J. H. Twombley and M. H. A. Evans have successively had charge of the field since Mr. Carey's retirement. Rev. E. P. King is the present pastor. Under wise and energetic administration all the interests of the church are well cared for and effectively promoted.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church.—The Episcopal services in Gardner are yet held under the auspices of the Missionary Society of the Diocese of Massachusetts. There is, therefore, no organized parish. The first service ever held here was conducted by the Rev. J. S. Beers, the Diocesan Missionary of this State, on December 10, 1882, in the Lower Town Hall. After said service, the Holy Communion was celebrated at the house of David Parker, M.D. The following persons beside the Missionary partook: Dr. Parker, Mrs. L. D. Rose, Miss Kate Skein and Miss Sarah Muzzy (now Mrs. H. P. Upham).

The work was put into the form of an organized mission February 9, 1883, at a meeting in the Town Hall, presided over by Rev. W. R. Huntington, D.D., then of All Saints' Parish, Worcester, but now rector of Grace Church, New York City. The mission was named St. Paul's by the suggestion of Mr. Wm. Briggs, a gentleman interested in the movement, who so named it after St. Paul's, New Castle-on-the-Tyne, England, where his father is buried. At its organization an Executive Committee were chosen, as follows: David Parker, M.D., Mr. Briggs, Mrs. Geo. A. Ellis, George W. Black, J. W. Jefts, James H. Rose and Miss Kate Skein. Dr. Parker was elected senior warden; Wm. Briggs, treasurer, and Mrs. G. A. Ellis, secretary. From February 9, 1883, services were led by different clergymen and lay-readers until July 16th, when the Rev. John C. Hewlett took charge by appointment of the Massachusetts Diocesan Missionary Board. After a time Mr. J. W. Jefts and Miss Skein resigned by reason of removal from town, and Messrs. M. Shumway and Frederick Conant were chosen to fill the vacancies. May 25, 1883, Miss Sarah Muzzy was added to the Executive Committee.

In the month of July, 1883, a Sunday-school was organized with the Rev. J. C. Hewlett, superintendent; Mr. Wm. Briggs, treasurer, and Mr. W. B. Ellis, librarian. Soon Mr. Ellis resigned, and Mr. Frank Allen succeeded him. The first person baptized was Mrs. Mary A. Van Benthuysen, by the Rev. J. S. Beers, in the Town Hall, April 15, 1883. The first confirmation service was held April 16, 1883, by the Rt. Rev. B. H. Paddock, D.D. Dr. David Parker and Mrs. Mary A. Van Benthuysen were then confirmed.

The Rev. J. C. Hewlett was in charge for about one year. He was followed July 22, 1884, by the Rev. Thomas A. Hyde. During the pastorate of the latter the chapel on North Main Street, now occupied, was built. He continued in charge about one and three-fourths years. May 1, 1886, Rev. J. S. Lemon was appointed to follow the Rev. Mr. Hyde. The first marriage in town, by an Episcopal clergyman, was that of Mr. E. J. Rose and Miss Libbie E. Jacob, November 21, 1883, by Rev. J. C. Hewlett.

The first serious loss met by the parish was the death of the senior warden, David Parker, M.D., May 8, 1886. The origin of the mission was largely due to his efforts, and was the realization of hopes indulged for over sixty years. He lived, however, only a short time to enjoy the services of his choice. The next serious loss of the parish was the death of the general Diocesan Missionary, the Rev. J. S. Beers. At present, the Executive Committee consists of Messrs. William Briggs, G. W. Black, Frederick Conant, Alfred Wyman, Herbert Morse, George Glazier and Mrs. George A. Ellis. The Sunday-School superintendent is the pastor; the assistant superintendent and treasurer, Mr. Briggs; the secretary, Alexander Hamilton; the librarian, William Kennedy. The organist and choir-leader is Mrs. A. A. Williams. The treasurer of the mission is Mr. G. W. Black. The parish has a pleasant place of worship worth more than six thousand dollars. There are about fifty communicants, Rev. J. S. Lemon still filling the office of pastor. With the exception of the French congregation, St. Paul's is the only church in West Gardner.

The Unitarian Church.—For more than forty

years after the close of the labors of Rev. William H. Fish as minister of the First Parish there was no distinctive Unitarian preaching in the town. At length, on the 27th of January, 1884, the Rev. A. C. Nickerson, pastor of the First Church and Society in Templeton, to test the question of the existence in the community of sympathy with that form of Christian faith, held a service in the Lower Town Hall, the birth-place of several religious enterprises, with an attendance of thirty-five persons. A good degree of interest was manifested on the occasion and more was developed afterward, so that two months later, March 27th, a legal organization of a society was effected, the necessary papers having been drawn up and receiving many signatures. At a later date the first permanent officers were elected, as follows: Webster Cowee, moderator; Edgar V. Reynolds, clerk; Edwin A. Colby, M.D., treasurer; Orange F. Smith, collector; Orange F. Smith, Jonas R. Davis and Julian P. Dunn, parish committee. Before the expiration of the year, steps were taken in reference to a site for a church edifice which resulted in the purchase of a lot in the Central Village, at the corner of Elm and Cherry Streets, on which a house of worship was subsequently built.

From the time of the first meeting in January, 1884, until April, 1886, the movement was in charge of Rev. Mr. Nickerson, who supplied preaching regularly; the service being held in the afternoon for his accommodation. Upon his removal from Templeton, at the date named, it was deemed wise to have a resident pastor, who should devote his entire time to building up the enterprise and establishing it upon a permanent basis. After hearing several candidates the society, on the 19th of July, by a unanimous vote, instructed the Executive Committee "to extend a call to the Rev. Wm. C. Litchfield, of Berlin, to become our Pastor." The committee acted according to instructions, and the call was accepted. The regular labors of Mr. Litchfield began on the first Sunday in August, and on the 28th of October he was duly installed as the first pastor of the Unitarian Society of Gardner, Rev. Austin S. Garver, of Worcester, preaching the sermon.

The need of the society for a house of worship becoming more and more imperative, the effort to secure one was renewed and charged with fresh vigor and zeal. The necessary funds were soon pledged and the project was urged forward with commendable rapidity. On the 7th of May, 1887, ground was broken on the lot already bought, and on the evening of January 25, 1888, the building, which, with the exception of the basement, was finished and furnished suitably for church purposes, was dedicated with appropriate exercises, the sermon being delivered by Rev. Minot J. Savage, of Boston. It is a substantial structure, eighty feet by forty in measurement, built of brick with granite trimmings and having a circular tower of ample height at one of the front corners, through which entrance is gained to the main auditorium and parlor adjoining. These, when opened as they may be to form one audience-room, will accommodate three hundred persons, constituting, with the furnishings and adornings, a neat, convenient and attractive place of religious service. The basement when completed will have pleasant, well-arranged and appropriate rooms for Sunday-school and other purposes. The society is slowly gaining in numbers, in public confidence, in efficiency of administration, in power of usefulness and in promise of future growth and prosperity. The congregation has more than doubled during the last two years; the Sunday-school, with a proportionate increase, is well organized and doing good service, and other activities are in successful operation. On the 1st of April, 1888, one hundred families were connected with the various departments of the institution.

The French Catholic Church.—Some twenty-five or thirty years ago the first installment of French Canadians came to Gardner seeking employment and a chance to better their worldly fortunes. The success attending their search induced others to follow them, and others still in constantly increasing ratio, until at the present time this element of the population numbers about eighteen hundred souls. At first, and for many years, these people contemplated only a temporary sojourn here, as was the case in other places,—one long enough to acquire a competency or what was deemed such, then going back to their native boroughs to enjoy it. But latterly they are more disposed to a permanent residence in their new homes, and a desire and purpose of becoming part and parcel of the community in which they dwell and of the American people, by naturalization and other processes of affiliation and coalescence, have become widely prevalent and are shaping their lives to new issues, in all social and civil respects.

These new-comers, by inheritance, education and conviction are, generally speaking, Catholics, and strongly committed to the faith and polity of the Papal Hierarchy. Very naturally, they at first attached themselves to the movement which ripened into the "Church of the Sacred Heart," becoming members with others of that church when it was finally established and domiciliated in the community. This relation continued till 1884, when, the congregation having greatly outgrown the accommodations of the church building, and the French members feeling that they were able to maintain a church of their own, which should have a minister of their own nationality, a separation of the two distinct elements of the church was effected, with the approval of all parties concerned, and the French Catholic Church was organized, the Rev. F. X. Soly being installed as pastor in November, 1884. The new parish first worshipped in the skating-rink, but soon built the structure now in use on Nichols

Street, which is designed to serve its needs until a more commodious and substantial edifice can be erected, in the near future. In this building, which, with the grounds, cost about eight thousand dollars, besides the main auditorium, with a seating capacity for five hundred persons, there are rooms for a pastor's residence, schools, social and society meetings, etc., etc. After two years of faithful service, Father Soly, on account of failing health, resigned his pastorate, and was succeeded by the Rev. C. E. Brunault, the present incumbent. Under his wise and prudent management the parish has flourished, and grown to be the leading one in town in respect to numbers. Various activities have been instituted for purposes of charity, and to promote the material, intellectual and moral welfare of the people, among which are St. John the Baptiste's Society, for mutual help, a temperance society for men and also one for boys, a literary club, a club for naturalization purposes, the League of the Sacred Heart, St. Ann's Society for married women and a Society of the Immaculate Conception for girls. Two day-schools are in operation, having both French and English teachers, over which Father Brunault exercises a watchful supervision.

CHAPTER CXV.

GARDNER—(*Continued.*)

RELATIONS TO THE STATE AND NATION.

THE spirit of patriotism and of loyalty to those principles of civil and religious liberty which are embodied in the Declaration of Independence, and which underlie both the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the American Republic, has from the beginning animated the hearts and actuated the lives of the sons and daughters of this representative New England town. If at any time it has seemed to slumber or grow cold, it would, on occasion, revive again, and burn and glow with renewed ardor and zeal, ready to meet bravely any emergency, to stand fast in any lot, and to endure any hardship or sacrifice for liberty's sake, to vindicate the honor of the old Bay State or to save the imperiled country.

Gardner was not incorporated until after the signing of the treaty of 1783, whereby the English colonies in America were acknowledged and declared by the mother country to be free and independent,—until the thunders of the Revolution had died away upon the air. Nevertheless, a goodly number of its early citizens had taken part in the great struggle, and had shared, with those better known to fame, the honors and rewards with which a hard-won but glorious victory had been crowned. Thirty-five of the early citizens of the town are known to have been connected with the Continental Army in one capacity or another, or to have contributed by personal service in some different form to the mighty achievement which broke forever the bonds of colonial allegiance to despotic power, and it is more than probable that several others whose names are not found on any existing records belonged to the same triumphant patriotic category. The list of Revolutionary soldiers, as derived from trustworthy authorities, is as follows:

Baker, George.
Baker, John.
Baldwin, Josiah.
Beard, Andrew.
Bickford, William.
Bolton, Ebenezer.
Clark, Joseph.
Comee, David.
Eaton, John.
Fairbanks, Levi.
Foster, David.
Foster, Samuel.
Glazier, John.
Goodale, Peter.
Greenwood, Aaron.
Greenwood, Jonathan.
Haynes, Reuben.
Heywood, Seth.
Hill, Jesse.
Hill, Moses.
Holland, Joseph.
Howe, Ebenezer.
Jackson, Elisha.
Kelton, Samuel.
Kemp, John.
Kneeland, Timothy.
Matthews, John.
Simonds, Elijah.
Simonds, Joseph.
Stone, Samuel.
Wheeler, Josiah.
White, John.
Whitney, Joshua.
Whitney, William.
Wood, Elijah.

Several of these were commissioned officers, though it does not appear that any of them rose to a higher position than that of captain. Elisha Jackson had command of a company of minute-men raised by order of the Provincial Congress, and with those under him hurried away to Cambridge on receiving tidings of the battles of Lexington and Concord, April 19, 1775. William Bickford and Josiah Wheeler had been soldiers in the French and Indian Wars. Ebenezer Bolton and David Foster were at the battle of Bunker Hill, the latter helping to carry the body of General Joseph Warren from the field. Jonathan Bancroft, Benjamin Eaton, Reuben Haynes and Samuel Stone were at the taking of Burgoyne at Saratoga, October 17, 1777, the most important of all the victories of the seven years' contest.

It was about a year after the incorporation of the town that the general feeling of unrest and disquietude in the central and western parts of Massachusetts arose, which ripened later into that episode in post-Revolutionary history denominated "Shays' Rebellion." The citizens of Gardner at the outset sympathized very fully with the prevailing dissatisfaction caused by excessive taxation, a depreciated currency, and other conditions of political and social life consequent upon a long and costly war, which, combined with the poverty of the masses of the people, made the public burdens "heavy indeed, and grievous to be borne." They therefore, with commendable heartiness and dispatch, responded to a call for a convention, to be held at Paxton on the 26th of the following November, for the purpose of consulting upon the existing grievances, and of finding some way of relief from the disabilities and burdens to which all classes of the population were subject, and at a legal town-meeting chose Captain Samuel Kelton

as delegate thereto, and instructed him in regard to his action at its sittings. It cannot be learned from the records that the delegate made any report of his mission, or of the doings of the convention, or that the town took any further action in the matter. It is but reasonable to suppose that the citizens, seeing to what extremes the master-spirits of that and kindred gatherings were inclined to go, and that there was violence and treason in the movement as it was manipulated, could not find it in their hearts to have anything more to do with it. Their sense of justice and of patriotic duty would not allow them, probably, to be parties to the bloody designs of the leading agitators, and so quietly allowed the whole subject to go by default, so far as they were concerned. By this course they fortunately escaped becoming involved to any extent in those measures which led speedily on to open insurrection or mad defiance of the State government, and which came to their tragic culmination at Springfield on the 25th of the following January, 1787, when five of the insurgents were killed by the United States troops stationed there, in an insane attempt to capture the arsenal of the Federal Government, and its military stores. The repulse of the assaulting party on that occasion virtually put an end to the whole wicked and foolhardy affair.

Although the town, in its corporate capacity, appears to have been absolved from all complicity with the rebellion, yet there were several individuals who were so far implicated as to be required to go before a justice of the peace, take and subscribe to an oath of allegiance to the State and National governments, and deliver up such fire-arms as might be in their possession. Certificates from magistrates attesting to the fact that at least three persons conformed to that requirement, and so may be judged guilty of some act of disloyalty in connection with the revolt, were received by the town clerk in the spring of 1787, and were copied in full into the records. The impartial historian, looking through the vista of more than a hundred years, sees some justification for the discontent which prevailed during the critical period under notice, even while pronouncing emphatic condemnation upon those violent, blood-thirsty spirits, who would not only have sacrificed human life to an indefinite extent to gain their ends, but imperiled all those precious interests which the recently-closed Revolutionary War had been waged to secure.

The year 1794 was a year of great discontent and excitement throughout the entire country. There were various causes for this unfortunate state of the public mind. The trouble with the Indians of the great Northwest, the so-called Whiskey Insurrection in Pennsylvania, which at one time assumed threatening proportions and called for the intervention of the general government, the complications growing out of the conduct of the minister of the new French Republic, and, perhaps, most of all, the growing feeling that England was not fulfilling the terms of the Treaty of 1783 honestly and in good faith, arousing in many quarters a disposition to let loose upon her again the dogs of war—all these things served to unsettle the public mind and to jeopardize the public welfare. The wisdom and statesmanship of President Washington were taxed to the utmost to avert threatening ills and guide the Ship of State safely through the troubled waters to serener and safer seas. Pending efforts to secure by peaceful means and in quiet ways assumed-to-be-invaded rights, to allay popular disquietude and to promote public order and tranquillity, he deemed it wise and prudent to put the country in a state of defence and to prepare it for whatever emergency might arise. Measures were instituted to that end. State governments rallied to the support of the National authority, and seconded its methods and plans of action. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts issued a call to all the towns to raise certain quotas of men, who should be ready at the shortest notice for any service to which they might be called. Gardner responded with loyal good will. In town-meeting it was voted "to give a bounty of twenty shillings to men who should enlist, when they were called into service, and to make up their wages to ten dollars per month." A military company was formed, with William Bickford captain, which was kept under drill till the crisis was passed and the statute requiring its formation repealed.

Upon the issuing of the proclamation of war against Great Britain, in 1812, by President Madison, the people of Gardner were evidently largely in sympathy with the so-called Federal Party of the country, the members of which were disposed to regard the action of the Chief Magistrate with disfavor, and to look upon the conflict which such action was designed to inaugurate as not only unnecessary and unjustifiable on general principles of national polity, but as hostile to the best interests of the Republic. Under this prepossession, they were moved to join with their fellow citizens of other towns and localities in creating a movement or state of public sentiment which should have a tendency to terminate hostilities even before they had fairly opened, and avert the calamities which it was claimed by the Federalists would inevitably result from a continuance of the struggle. They accordingly sent Rev. Jonathan Osgood a delegate to a convention held at Worcester on the 12th day of August, only a few weeks after war was declared "to consult upon the alarming condition of our country" and "to petition the President of the United States to bring about a speedy and honorable peace with Great Britain."

But the efforts of the opponents of the war were without avail. The national administration was fully committed to its declared policy, and was not to be dissuaded from its purpose to urge it forward with all possible vigor and efficiency. Seeing that there was no alternative in the matter, and deeming the cordial support of the regularly constituted govern-

ment a token of loyalty to the nation, the citizens of Gardner, or at least a reputable proportion of them, responded to the call for enlistments in the public service. A company of militia was organized under the name of the Gardner Light Infantry, which was soon ordered to repair to South Boston for the defence of the metropolis of New England against any possible attacks from British cruisers that were looking for vulnerable points all along the Atlantic coast, and there it remained on duty until the cessation of hostilities, early in 1815. The officers of this company were: Ephraim Williams, captain; Samuel Sawin, lieutenant; Joel Cowee, ensign; Ebenezer Bolton, Charles Hoar, Benjamin Stone and Reuben Wheeler, sergeants. The organization was maintained for some twenty years, but, fortunately, there was no occasion for its being called again to swell the ranks of horrid war.

But there are duties which the patriotic citizen owes his country in times of peace as well as when commotion fills the air, and armed foes threaten the public welfare and the nation's life. And these the people of Gardner discharged with more or less of constancy and fidelity, according to personal conviction or party preference, for nearly half a century, little apprehending the fiery ordeal through which they were to be called to pass. But it came nevertheless, and they rose to meet it with wonderful unanimity and alacrity,—with characteristic and praiseworthy loyalty and zeal. When the mutterings of secession first arose, after the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency of the United States in the autumn of 1860, and when, in the following April, by the firing upon Fort Sumter, open and armed rebellion against both the constituted authority of the nation and the Republic itself in the interest and for the perpetuation of chattel slavery was inaugurated, they girded the loins of their strength about them, and, in the name of outraged justice and an insulted flag, they rallied to the support of the Federal Government, and furnished men and means to repel the domestic invader and suppress the unwarranted and traitorous revolt.

On the 30th of April, in response to the proclamation of the President declaring the existence of an armed rebellion in the slave-holding States, and calling for seventy-five thousand volunteers to meet the rising foe and overthrow the conspiracy, a special town-meeting was held for the purpose of taking appropriate action in the way of meeting the demands of the crisis. At that meeting it was unanimously

VOTED, That the selectmen be and hereby are authorized to purchase, at the expense of the town, clothing or uniforms (suitable for wear in actual service) sufficient for the members of a volunteer militia company, which may be raised by enlistment of the citizens or inhabitants of the town, and be organized agreeably to the laws of the Commonwealth, on or before the first day of June next. Provided, that said company shall pledge themselves to enter the service of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or of the government of the United States, to defend and sustain said government against the traitors and rebels, which now or may hereafter threaten its destruction, if called for by the proper authority or authorities for that purpose at any time within one year from the date of the organization of said company. Also provided that, if an entire company cannot be raised in the town of Gardner, the selectmen are hereby authorized to furnish uniforms or clothing, as aforesaid, to such citizens or inhabitants of said town as shall enter the service of their country for the purpose aforesaid.

VOTED, That the selectmen pay to the order of the several members of a militia company, which may be raised from the citizens of the town, or to the order of their families in their absence, the sum of one dollar per day, payable monthly, for three months from the commencement of actual service.

The same spirit which is manifested in these initial votes of the town was displayed throughout the entire four years of the war, prompting corresponding action from time to time as the exigencies of the country required. In illustration of this fact, a few instances of what was done, and a few only, are here referred to. On the 23d of July it was "Voted, that the selectmen be and hereby are authorized to offer a bounty of one hundred dollars (in addition to the bounty now offered by government) for each and every volunteer who may enlist into the service of the United States on or before the fifteenth of August next as a part of the quota of forty men to be furnished by the town of Gardner under the late requisition of the Governor of Massachusetts, and that the sum of $4,200 be and hereby is appropriated by said town for the purpose of carrying the same into effect." A month later the same bounty was again voted, and the sum of six thousand dollars was appropriated accordingly. By vote of the town passed June 27, 1863, the selectmen were authorized to draw on the treasurer at their discretion for funds to render "the necessary aid to the families of those who have been or may be engaged in the military service of the United States." On the 4th of April, 1864, one hundred and twenty-five dollars was voted to "each recruit under the recent call of the President." Similar votes were passed at several successive dates during the remaining period of the conflict.

According to a carefully prepared list of the number of men sent by the town to aid in the suppression of the slave-holders' rebellion, there were two hundred and ninety-one in all, of whom one hundred and eighty-five, including half a dozen re-enlistments, were citizens or residents, the others being engaged from outside to fill the required quotas. Of those belonging to the place, seven were slain in battle, three died of wounds, seventeen were victims of various diseases incident to the fortunes of war, while a number of others, returning home, sunk slowly into their graves as the result of ailments contracted while connected with the army; others, yet living, have been sufferers from maladies or disabilities incurred in the same way.

It has been estimated that the whole amount of money expended by the people of Gardner during the four years of the war, for the purpose of prosecuting it and carrying it to a successful issue in the

complete suppression of the Rebellion, was sixty-two thousand two hundred and sixty-nine dollars, according to the following itemized statement:

Raised and paid out by the town	$23,062
Voluntary subscriptions	13,344
State aid paid soldiers or families	17,363
Paid for twenty-five substitutes	7,500
Sent to soldiers by Soldiers' Aid Society	1,000
Making a total of	$62,269

This sum, according to the census of 1860, would be nearly twenty-four dollars to each man, woman and child in the town, or at the rate of almost six dollars a year, which may be regarded as the actual annual cost of the Rebellion to every inhabitant during its continuance. Aside from this vast expenditure, there has been paid what is called State Aid, which comes primarily and substantially from the citizens of Gardner, being included in the State tax. The amount of this at first was twenty-three hundred and twelve dollars, but has been reduced to about six hundred dollars a year. And this payment is to continue, though in constantly diminishing figures, as time goes on, indefinitely, or until the last man in Gardner who heard and answered his country's call during those years of her distress and threatened overthrow, 1861–65, shall have passed beyond the realm of all earthly conflicts and of all mortal needs, when it may be said of him:

> "He sleeps his last sleep, he has fought his last battle.
> No sound shall awake him to glory again."

Since the close of the war the citizens of Gardner have been content and happy in following the pursuits and fulfilling the obligations of their common every-day-life, in guarding and fostering their domestic and social interests, in providing for the general needs of the community, in giving encouragement to both private and public morality and piety, in promoting the growth and prosperity of the town, all of which things sustain definite relations to the national welfare, and in discharging the more quiet but highly important duties of good citizenship in the spirit of true loyalty to those principles and institutions of civil and religious liberty which the republic properly regarded represents and was founded to maintain and perpetuate. Their patriotism, though it may not display and report itself in those more open and striking forms assumed in the time of the great uprising, is nevertheless, as may be believed and hoped, burning, a steady, never-dying flame, within their breasts, ready as of yore to respond to any call of the country for brave defenders in the hour of peril, should it come again, and for true and noble men and women always and forever, in whom alone, with the favor of God, is to be found its assurance of permanent prosperity and of unfading glory.

CHAPTER CXVI.

GARDNER—(*Continued.*)

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS.

GARDNER WATER WORKS.—With the rapid growth of Gardner and the accompanying multiplication of wooden buildings in the more thickly populated districts, the need of some effective system of public water works, both as a protection in case of fire and as a means of domestic supply, became apparent to many of its leading citizens. After agitating somewhat the subject of providing for this need, a public meeting in the interest of the project was held March 10, 1880, at which S. L. Wiley, of Greenfield, president of the Wiley Construction Company, who was familiar with such enterprises and who had looked the ground over to some extent with a view to practical results, was present and made a statement in regard to the feasibility of the thing proposed and the probable cost, both of the works and the water as it might be furnished to consumers. His representation made so favorable an impression upon those who heard it that a town-meeting was called on the 28th of April, when, after considering the subject at some length, a committee was chosen "to contract with any Company or Corporation for sixty or more hydrants for a term of years for the use of the town, and to authorize such Company or Corporation to lay water-pipes along or across any highway and make necessary excavations for the same." This committee, after due inquiry and deliberation, closed a contract with the Wiley Construction Company in the autumn of the same year, and in the following June the work of laying the mains was commenced and carried forward to completion four or five months afterward. During the succeeding winter, the reservoir on Glazier Hill was constructed, as was also the pumping-station at the southeast corner of Crystal Lake. At an adjourned annual town-meeting in 1882 the committee reported their doings with the agreement made with the Construction Company, which was as follows: "The Company are to put in sixty hydrants according to accompanying plans, and furnish water for extinguishing fires for twenty years, at the rate of sixty dollars for each and every hydrant per year, the town to have the privilege of putting in new hydrants at its own expense on lines of pipe already laid, without additional cost. If new lines of pipe are laid, the Company will put in new hydrants on the same terms as the original ones were furnished. All hydrants to be accepted by the town and warranted to be kept in good working order. The Company to supply all public buildings, fountains and watering-troughs, without cost to the town, and all private parties at rates not to exceed those established in the town of Athol. The control of the hydrants to be in the hands of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department.

At the end of twenty years the Company agrees to sell to the town at a price determined by three disinterested appraisers." This agreement was ratified by the town.

On the 10th of April, 1882, the Gardner Water Company was incorporated by act of the Legislature, and given the privilege of taking water from Crystal Lake, with the additional "right of eminent domain." The capital stock of the company was $100,000. S. L. Wiley was chosen president, and Volney W. Howe secretary and treasurer. The water was first let into the mains May 4th, and a trial of the hydrants took place May 11, 1882. Everything proving satisfactory, the Gardner Water Company bought of the Wiley Construction Company all its interest in the undertaking, assuming all its stipulated obligations to the town. The cost of the works, to the present time, has been about $80,000. More than sixteen miles of street pipes have been laid, with seventy-four hydrants and six public watering-troughs attached. About one-third of the families in the town are accommodated by the works. School-houses and engine-houses, as well as other public buildings, receive water free. About three hundred thousand gallons are used per day. The reservoir will contain five million gallons, and is supplied from Crystal Lake, the water of which is of superior quality and practically inexhaustible, by two compound, duplex, condensing pumping engines, made by the Deane Steam Pump Company, of Holyoke, which are capable of pumping four million gallons per day. Henry W. Conant is the present skillful and efficient superintendent of the works, and the officers of the company at this date are C. H. Green, of Northfield, president; Volney W. Howe, secretary and treasurer.

Fire Department.—Few towns anywhere are better furnished with facilities for extinguishing fires than Gardner, and its immunity, in late years, from the devouring flame is worthy of note. Since the construction of the water-works, with more than seventy hydrants distributed through the densely-peopled sections of the town, it has been, under the efficient direction of the chief engineer of the Fire Department, comparatively easy to control a conflagration whenever one has broken out, and to prevent seriously disastrous results. The pressure in the mains is sufficient, at almost any point—except in close proximity to the reservoir—to throw water over the highest buildings, and the protection is therefore as perfect as possible from that source. The town has also four hand-engines, which are kept in good order and may be called into requisition in localities lying beyond the reach of the hydrants. Besides these, there are four hose-carriages and two hook-and-ladder trucks, for each of which there is a company of twenty men, with an ample amount of hose and other equipments equally complete. A patent life-saving apparatus is provided for cases of extreme danger. Two engine-houses, for the proper protection and care of the apparatus, are located in different parts of the town—one in South Gardner, built in 1880, for the erection of which $4,000 were appropriated, and one in the West Village, erected in 1883, at a cost of $5,000. There are also supplementary stations in the Town Hall building and at the depot. The department is thoroughly manned and under good discipline, and can be called into service at any point by a system of well-arranged signals at the shortest possible notice. The officers of the department for 1888 are: Chief Engineer, Charles N. Edgell; Assistant Engineers, Benjamin T. Joslin, Dexter Gleason, Theodore W. Learned, Frank P. Cowan.

Street Lighting.—It is but a few years since anything like a systematic method was attempted in the way of illuminating the streets of the different villages of the town by night. The records of the clerk show that small sums were voted to parties who should maintain street lamps in localities approved by the selectmen. More recently a gas company has been formed, under whose superintendence pipes have been laid, posts erected and lights kept burning along the more frequented thoroughfares. The company was incorporated in the year 1888 with a capital of fifty thousand dollars, the officers being C. H. North, president; J. L. Robinson, treasurer; T. King, secretary. The works and office are on Logan Street, with Charles A. Roebuck in charge as manager. Not to be behind the times in the matter of lighting streets, halls, shops, stores and even private dwellings, the Gardner Electric Light Company was also incorporated in the year 1888, with Roderic L. Bent, president, and Charles F. Richardson, secretary and treasurer. The capital is $15,000. Works have already been erected on Park Street, near Crystal Lake, illuminating stations have been established and practical operations have been begun and are now going on. The machinery employed consists of one arc dynamo, capable of supporting fifty lights, and an incandescent dynamo with a capacity of five hundred lights. The demand for the latter light is already so great that a second dynamo will probably be put in at an early day. The machinery and appliances are from the manufactory of the Thomson-Houston Company, Boston. Mr. J. W. Thurber is the electrician and manager of the concern.

Public Buildings and Halls.—The principal public building in the place, besides the churches and school-houses, is the Town Hall Building, located in the Central Village, at what was formerly the very heart of the community. It is a wooden structure, built originally in 1860 at an expense of twenty-one thousand dollars. It is two stories high, with spacious basement and high pitched roof relieved by dormer windows. Its exterior walls are broken by buttresses which are surmounted by well-proportioned rooflets and pinnacles. The main hall is on the second floor, occupying with its various accompanying side-rooms the entire area, above which is a commo-

dious, well-lighted apartment used as a Masonic lodge-room. There is a small hall on the lower floor which is used as a District Court-room and for smaller gatherings, also the central post-office and several stores. The edifice was greatly enlarged and improved in 1883, at an additional cost of twenty thousand dollars. The seating capacity of the principal hall is now twelve hundred. It is not only well adapted to ordinary gatherings, but is provided with an ample stage, sets of scenery and other conveniences for dramatic representations.

Citizens' Hall is a spacious apartment on the second floor of the engine-house in South Gardner. In order to meet the need of some place for public gatherings in that part of the town, the residents of the neighborhood supplemented the appropriation made in 1881 for better accommodations for the Fire Department in that locality by voluntary contributions to the extent of about $3000, thus securing an additional story to the structure proposed to be built, and the conveniences they desired. The hall is easily accessible and serves a most excellent purpose as a place for holding lectures, social parties and entertainments of whatsoever kind.

Besides these more public places of assembly, there are several belonging to or occupied by different social and benevolent associations or orders — such as the Grand Army Hall, near the railroad stations; Odd Fellows' Hall, in West Gardner; and the Knights of Pythias Hall, in the Bank Building; Good Templars' Hall, on Chestnut Street; Unity Hall, near the Universalist Church; and still others owned by private parties, like Hager's Hall and Garland's Hall, in West Gardner.

Hotels.—The first hotels in the town were kept by John Glazier, on the spot and in the house where Wm. Austin now resides; Capt. Elisha Jackson, on Kendall Street, near the summit of the hill; and Jonathan Greenwood, on High Street, near Minott. In these several localities was furnished entertainment for man and beast after the fashion of those primeval times. Numerous taverns or public-houses of varying grades, during the more than a century intervening, have accommodated the travelers and other people with food, drink and lodging, at other points within the town limits, of which no record has been sought. At present there is no lack of such establishments in the community for the benefit of either the transient or the permanent guest. The most spacious and imposing of them all is the Windsor House, in the Central Village, owned by a syndicate of Gardner gentlemen and kept by Colby & Hartwell, who have recently taken the place of the former landlord, Mr. W. H. Barnes. The building was put up in 1882, on the site of the old "Central House," for many years neither an ornament nor an honor to the town in any sense, nor a blessing to the community. It is constructed of brick, with granite and brown-stone trimmings, having a frontage of eighty-three feet on Green Street, where is the main entrance, and of eighty-eight feet on Pearl Street. It is three stories above the basement, which is high and commodious and is arranged and fitted up with ample facilities for mercantile purposes. The superstructure contains nearly one hundred rooms, well-apportioned and elegantly furnished, and is provided with steam-heat, gas, electric bells and all the appointments of a first-class establishment.

The South Gardner Hotel is the oldest stand of the kind in town. It is located on the line of the first county road that was laid through the place and of the Fifth Massachusetts Turnpike, and was probably erected and opened as a public-house about the time of the construction of that important thoroughfare in 1800. It has been greatly improved within a few years and adapted to the requirements of the present time.

The Gardner House is more favorably located to accommodate the traveling public than any other in the town, being directly opposite the Fitchburg Railroad Station and central to several important business interests. It was first opened in 1881 by Mr. L. H. Horton, of the South Gardner Hotel, who died not long after, leaving the property to his widow. She had charge of it for about two years and then sold it to Mr. Frank Rafferty, of Claremont, N. H., who enlarged the building and made it more convenient and attractive to guests. It is heated with steam and well-supplied with modern improvements.

Richards' House, on Parker Street, near Vernon, formerly the Methodist Chapel, is a pleasant and commodious place of public entertainment, dispensing a free and generous hospitality to its guests and offering special inducements to commercial travelers, by whom it is liberally patronized.

Citizens' House, on Parker Street, near West, presents a pleasing and somewhat imposing external appearance, being three stories high above the basement, with a double piazza on three sides and other corresponding architectural features. It contains forty-five rooms, besides a large hall, is heated by steam and is furnished with due regard to both comfort and beauty. The proprietor is Agnes Jacques, who is also manager.

The American House, the Crystal Lake Hotel and the Montreal House are hostelries of smaller proportions and of less note, yet claiming their share of favor and patronage from the general public.

Elegant Residences.—Gardner is honored and adorned with a goodly number of beautiful and ornate private buildings—the homes of the better-conditioned class of its citizens, who, by the skill, care and good taste displayed in their dwellings and grounds, contribute not only to the general attractiveness of the place, but to the pleasure and happiness of all lovers of fair and comely things. Some of these, it is said, excel in architectural proportions, in artistic appointments, in chasteness and delicacy of ornamentation, in richness

of color and perfection of finish, anything elsewhere in the county outside of the city of Worcester, while others, less elaborate, costly and perfect, are yet models of refined taste and elegance in the line of art which they represent. Among these as worthy of special mention are the residences of Messrs. George and Henry Heywood, Alvin M. Greenwood, Philander Derby, Mrs. Fannie B. Heywood and Mrs. Ellen L. Pierce, while those of Seth Heywood, Roderic L. Bent, John A. Dunn, Charles D. Burrage, John D. Edgell and others are exceedingly pleasant and attractive.

THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.—On the 27th of January, 1885, it being the year on which the town would complete a full century of its corporate existence, it was voted, at a legal meeting of its citizens, to celebrate the event with observances and exercises appropriate to so important and interesting an occasion, and the matter of providing ways and means for carrying this vote into effect was entrusted to the charge of the selectmen. On the 2d of March, following, at the annual town-meeting, a large committee of citizens was chosen to advise and co-operate with the selectmen in arranging the details of the celebration and in making due provision for the proper execution of whatever plans might be adopted in relation thereto. These parties addressed themselves to the duty assigned them with praiseworthy promptness, fidelity and zeal. The work in hand was wisely divided into numerous departments representing distinct and important interests, and the proper subcommittees were chosen to have these departments in charge, so that nothing should be neglected or omitted which might be deemed necessary to make the proposed demonstration a grand success. Fifteen hundred dollars had been appropriated by the town to defray whatever expenses might be incurred, and private contributions increased the sum to an extent that left the Committee of Arrangements great liberty in the adoption of measures suited to the ends they were appointed to promote and secure. The result of their labors furnished ample evidence of the wisdom and efficiency of their management.

The exact day of the proposed anniversary was the 27th of June, and that was the time fixed upon for the event to take place, preparations for which being made accordingly. But as it had been deemed advisable to unveil and dedicate the newly-erected soldiers' monument on the same day as a prominent and attractive feature of the occasion, it was decided, in order to have time for carrying out the full programme, which was considerably lengthened by this arrangement, that the oration and the more formal exercises accompanying it should be given in the town hall on the evening of the preceding day, June 26th. The hall was elaborately and splendidly decorated and at an early hour was filled with an intelligent, earnest and expectant audience. The Honorable John M. Moore, one of Gardner's best known and most respected citizens, presided, calling the vast assemblage to order and conducting the proceedings according to the following

PROGRAMME.

Opening Address	Hon. John M. Moore.
Prayer	Rev. Lawrence Phelps.
Song of Welcome	Centennial Glee Club.
Address of Welcome	John D. Edgell.
Centennial Hymn	Glee Club.
Oration	Rev. Wm. S. Heywood.
Poem	Hon. John M. Moore.
Closing Song	Glee Club.

The following day was ushered in by a reveille at sunrise from the camp of Battery B, Massachusetts Artillery, located just outside the Central Village, and responding bugle-calls from the neighboring hilltops, followed by a salute of a hundred guns, the ringing of bells and the blowing of steam-whistles. People were early astir, and as the morning advanced, crowds gathered from the adjoining towns and all the region round-about. The streets put on a holiday appearance, public and private buildings were profusely decorated with the national colors, an indefinite number and variety of tasteful designs, emblematic figures, mottoes and words of welcome and rejoicing. The Governor of the Commonwealth, His Excellency George D. Robinson and suite, with other distinguished guests, arrived about ten o'clock, being received with an appropriate salute, when the procession formed, and passing through the principal streets of the different villages of the town, ended its march at length at the immense tent in the rear of the residence of Charles W. Conant, where an excellent dinner was spread and enjoyed, and where the post-prandial exercises were held. On its way the procession halted at the square where the soldiers' monument stood, and where services appropriate to the unveiling and dedication of that tribute to patriotic virtue took place. The procession was nearly a mile long and moved to the strains of martial music floating from several well-trained bands through the air, lending exhilaration and enchantment to the scene.

After the dinner was over the president of the day assumed his proper place, and invited the Rev. James Taylor to offer prayer. He then introduced Geo. W. Cann, Esq., who was to serve as toast-master, and call out the speakers whom a large and eager audience was waiting to hear. "Our Commonwealth" was responded to by Governor Robinson in his usual happy style. Other well-selected sentiments opened the way for Col. W. S. B. Hopkins, of Worcester; Hon. J. Q. A. Brackett, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Hon. C. C. Coffin, the "Carleton" of the *Boston Journal;* Philander Derby, an honored citizen of Gardner; Rev. W. D. Herrick, of Amherst; Rev. Wm. S. Heywood, of Boston, the orator of the day; Harvey B. Whitney, of New Jersey, a native of the town; Rev. Increase S. Lincoln, of Wilton, N. H., the second minister of Gardner, who had just passed the eighty-sixth year of his age, and Charles F.

Reed. The president closed the exercises with a few well-chosen words. A dress parade on the Common by the local and visiting militia terminated the day's proceedings, and a grand illumination in the evening with fire-works, and concerts by Reeve's Band, of Providence, and the Fitchburg Band brought to a fitting end the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Gardner.

THE SOLDIERS' MONUMENT.—Sometime in the year 1882 a committee consisting of John D. Edgell, Charles F. Reed and J. Warren Spring was chosen by the town to act with the selectmen in considering the matter of erecting some suitable testimonial in honor of the brave men of Gardner who, in the time of the great Rebellion, "died that the Republic might live." On the 3d of March, 1884, that committee reported in favor of such action, and $5000 was appropriated for the purpose designated. Subsequently the parties to whom the responsibility of carrying the project into execution was assigned made a contract with the Smith Granite Co., of Westerly, R. I., for the erection of a monument of a certain specified design and height, at a cost of $5000, to be completed before the 27th of June, 1885, which action was communicated to the town at its annual meeting that year. The conditions of the contract were fulfilled, and the ceremony of unveiling and dedicating the beautiful granite structure constituted, as before stated, a prominent part of the proceedings of Centennial Day. The exercises consisted of a prayer by Rev. F. B. Sleeper, a poem written for the occasion by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, and read by Comrade John D. Edgell, a statement of the Monument Committee by Ezra Osgood, chairman, and an address by Captain John F. Ashley, interspersed with appropriate songs and martial music. They enlisted the attention of a large auditory, and were received with manifest favor and enthusiasm. The monument is made of Westerly stone and is of fitting design, of excellent proportions, well-executed and finely finished. It consists of a square shaft resting on a pedestal having a solid base with substantial foundations, the whole being surmounted by a color-bearer in bronze, supporting a flag. Appropriate symbolic illustrations and inscriptions are cut upon its different sides, together with the names of the principal battles in which soldiers from the town were engaged. On the south or principal front, at the foot of the pedestal, in large, raised letters, is the word "GARDNER," and beneath in three lines, "*To her brave sons, who fought for the Union in the War of the Rebellion,* 1861–1865."

MILITARY AFFAIRS.—Mention has already been made of the volunteer military companies formed in response to calls of the United States Government in the troublous times of 1797 and thereafter, and upon the declaration of war with Great Britain in 1812, or in consequence thereof. For nearly twenty years after the disbanding of the latter of these there seems to have been no organization of the kind in town, although the military spirit was somewhat rife in the general community, and military companies were popular in many localities. In 1844 one was formed, however, with James Cooledge 2d as captain, and David Kendall, Joseph Wood and Hiram Wood as lieutenants, which bore the name of the Gardner Greys. But it did not meet with general favor from the public; interest in it soon began to decline and it had but a brief existence. People began to think the time had come when men should "beat their swords into plough-shares and their spears into pruning-hooks and learn war no more." But the Rebellion of 1861 dispelled that illusion, and the citizens of Gardner rose to meet the exigency thrust upon them in a spirit becoming the sons of Revolutionary sires, as has been duly narrated in another chapter. The Rebellion over, the military spirit did not altogether pass away with it. Kept alive by memories of battle scenes and valorous deeds, or awakened by other influences, that spirit came to the surface again and put on an outward form of existence in 1884, when, on the 20th of May, the "Heywood Guards" was chartered agreeably to the statutes of the State, and assigned a place in the volunteer militia of the Commonwealth, as Company F, Second Regiment, with Solon T. Chamberlain captain, and Charles N. Edgell first lieutenant, who are still in command. In the same year the town appropriated five thousand dollars to build an armory for the new company, and chose a committee to superintend the work, which was completed in a few months. The building is a fairly good-sized one of some architectural pretensions, and stands on Elm Street near the railroad stations. The company is under good drill and maintains a respectable standing among its compatriot organizations.

THE TOWN POOR.—Like most towns of the early times, Gardner availed itself of the privilege accorded it by the public statutes of "warning out" persons and families coming to settle within its borders without the consent of the authorities, whereby it was relieved of the responsibility of supporting them should they ever come to want. As a rule, most newcomers were thus treated, among whom may be found those who proved to be in after-years some of the most thrifty and honored citizens of the place. As to persons legally subject to the public charge, the policy generally prevailing years ago of letting them out to the lowest bidder to be cared for and supported, was at first adopted. The first case of this kind recorded is that of Oliver Upton and wife, with their children, early in 1789. Those having them were "to provide victuals and drink convenient for them and to take care of them." An effort was made the same year to have the town buy a farm with suitable buildings, and use it for the proper sustenance and shelter of those who had or might become public charges. But it did not succeed, and nothing was done in that direction for many years. The original policy of letting to the

lowest bidder was continued as time went on until, out of considerations of kindness and humanity, the matter of providing for the poor was left to the discretion of the selectmen. This course was pursued till 1849, when the Abram Stone place, in the northwest part of the town, was purchased, and, with its buildings, put in order for the proper care and maintenance of the unfortunate class under notice. Since that time those designed to be benefited by such an establishment have been accommodated there. The farm contains two hundred and eighty-three acres, having a due proportion of wood, pasture and tillage lands, all in good condition. The house is large, convenient and, though old, is well suited to the purposes for which it is used. A new barn, seventy-two feet by forty, superseded the old one in 1872 at an expense of three thousand dollars. The present annual appropriation for the support of the poor is six thousand dollars.

PHILANTHROPY AND REFORM.—The people of Gardner have never been indifferent to the great humanitary movements which more than ever before in the history of the world have characterized the century now drawing to its close. A long list of benevolent and reformatory activities to be found in the annals of the town proves this. It has already been said that the Evangelical Congregational Church and Society from the beginning maintained an open, unqualified, consistent testimony against the evils of society and in favor of all enterprises calculated to elevate and improve mankind. No doubt this fact did much to mold public sentiment and create an interest in the community in all good causes and in all philanthropic endeavors. But outside of that communion, there was a respectable number of those who, out of their own best convictions and emotions, were devoted to the welfare of their fellow-men, and counted it a duty and a joy to do what they could for the advancement of truth and righteousness in the world. The great temperance reform has had from its very beginning friends and champions ready to do what they could to destroy one of the greatest evils that ever afflicted human society, to overcome one of the greatest of the foes of God and man. Soon after the question of temperance began to be agitated, in 1829, the Gardner Temperance Society was formed, with Rev. I. S. Lincoln as president, and later, to meet the new demands laid upon those who would do effectual service in this behalf—demands created by the increased light which had been thrown upon the nature and injurious effects of all kinds of intoxicating beverages—"The Washington Total Abstinence Society" was organized with Dr. David Parker as chairman and Thomas E. Glazier as secretary. At a still more recent date have "The Sons of Temperance" and the "Good Templars" kept their respective "Lamps of Temperance" trimmed and burning, the rays of which might illumine some darkened mind or guide some lone wanderer into paths of safety and of peace. Aside from these outside and special activities, the several churches of the town have combined more or less of temperance influence and effort with their other work in these later years, and maintained a Gospel broad enough to include the principles of temperance among the "good tidings of great joy for all people." The cause, so far as it assumes organic form, is at present represented by a Lodge of Good Templars, a Prohibitory Club, two branches of the Women's Christian Temperance Union, and perhaps other associations of which no report has come to hand.

As with the cause of temperance, so was it, in its day, with the question of anti-slavery. In the irrepressible conflict between liberty and tyranny which antedated the Rebellion by more than a generation and prepared the way for the triumph of the right in that bloody strife—a conflict which "tried men's souls" as few things in American history ever did before, or ever will again—the friends of the oppressed, the friends of impartial liberty were not a few, and they stood strong and fearless for the right, coming up "to the help of the Lord against the mighty." And in the same spirit have other reforms and good causes, unpopular, perhaps but having the interests of justice and humanity in them, been fostered, upheld and advanced by men and women of this goodly town.

SOCIAL AND BENEVOLENT ORGANIZATIONS.—Under this head are included those associations which, while partaking largely of the same spirit as the enterprises or causes just referred to, are more private in their nature and character and more restricted in the sphere of their activity and influence. Of these, so popular at the present day and so numerous in the community at large, Gardner has its full share. Little more can be done than to catalogue them in these pages without a detailed account of their objects, methods of operation, officers or present degree of prosperity and success. They are mentioned in a miscellaneous way with little regard to their relative importance or any other principle of orderly succession as follows: D. G. Farragut Post No. 116, G. A. R.; Women's Relief Corps; Sons of Veterans; Hope Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons; William Ellison Lodge, No. 185, Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Gardner Encampment, I. O. O. F.; Gardner Lodge, Knights of Honor, No. 1582; Gardner Lodge, American Order of United Workmen; Achilles Lodge, Knights of Pythias, No. 48; Narragansett Tribe, Improved Order of Red Men, No. 48; Puritan Council, Royal Arcanum, No. 1018; American Order of Hibernians, No. 6; American Legion of Honor; Crystal Lodge, Knights and Ladies of Honor, No. 1072; Gardner Commandery, No. 347; United Order of the Golden Cross, Charles Sumner Camp, No. 37, Massachusetts Division Sons of Veterans, and others, perhaps, of which no record has been obtained.

The town is also honored with a Rifle Club, and a Knockabout Wheel Club, both duly organized and

equipped for service in their respective spheres of activity. No attempt is made to enumerate the many societies organized, under many different names, in connection with the several churches of Gardner, as agencies for aiding in the efficient prosecution of the recognized work of the church.

BANKS.—The First National Bank of Gardner was established early in 1865, receiving its charter on the 25th day of February, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, derived mostly from the citizens of the town. Mr. Amasa Bancroft was chosen first president and Mr. John D. Edgell, first cashier. In 1875 its capital was increased to one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, the amount of it at the present time. March 27, 1876, Mr. Volney W. Howe was appointed assistant cashier. In 1872, Mr. Bancroft retired from the presidency and Mr. Charles Heywood was chosen his successor. At the death of Mr. Heywood, in 1882, Mr. John D. Edgell was promoted to the vacant position and Mr. V. W. Howe was made principal cashier. These persons serve in the places indicated at the present day. This bank has been under wise and prudent management from the beginning, building up for it an excellent reputation and securing for it the confidence and support of the business community. It has a surplus of thirty thousand dollars.

The Gardner Savings Bank was established in 1868 and duly incorporated for the transaction of business under the laws of the Commonwealth. Charles Heywood was the first president and John D. Edgell, treasurer. This institution has been of great value to the financial interests of the town, especially those of the middling classes, by whom it is largely patronized. It has had a fortunate experience and may be regarded as thoroughly sound and trustworthy. Its present president is Mr. Franklin Eaton and Mr. J. D. Edgell is still the treasurer. The amount of its deposits to date is one million and thirty-eight thousand dollars and its guarantee fund is thirty-eight thousand dollars.

POST-OFFICES.—The first office for the reception and distribution of mail matter established in town was located in the village of South Gardner, that being on the great line of travel between Boston and the towns lying westward in the Connecticut Valley. Mr. Clement Jewett was the first postmaster. His successor was Moses Wood, who, having business interests at the Centre, moved the office there. The people of the south part of the town were much dissatisfied, and petitioned the department at Washington for a new office. Their petition was granted, and Abijah M. Severy was given the charge of it. He was succeeded by Lewis H. Bradford, Samuel S. Howe and S. W. A. Stevens, who received the appointment about the year 1854. At the central office Mr. Wood was probably succeeded by Levi Heywood, C. Webster Bush and Miss Sarah E. Richardson, who has filled the position since 1873, to the entire satisfaction of all interested and concerned. An office was established in the West Village some years since; it is now in charge of Mr. Albert A. Upton.

CEMETERIES.—There are four of these cities of the dead within the limits of the town—the old burying-ground in the rear of the First Congregational Church, lying between Green, Heywood and Woodland Streets, which was laid out about the time of the incorporation, and in which sleep the remains of nearly three generations of the earlier inhabitants; Green Bower Cemetery, off Union Street, South Gardner, which is in control of an association organized in 1849, though it had been used previously to some extent for burials; Crystal Lake Cemetery, purchased "for a cemetery for the use of the town" in 1858, and occupying a beautiful site on the west side of the lake which gives it its name; and St. John's (Catholic) Cemetery, off West Street.

POLICE.—The Police Department of the town consists of fourteen men, at the head of whom is Mr. Henry Carney, with headquarters in the basement of the Town Hall building.

PHYSICIANS.—The first medical practitioner was Joseph Boyden, who came to town early in its history from Sturbridge, married the daughter of Seth Heywood, followed his profession until about the time of the settlement of Rev. Jonathan Osgood in 1791, when he left for Tamworth, N. H., where he spent the remainder of his days. He is said to have been a man of superior ability and of wide reputation. Dr. Boyden was succeeded by Mr. Osgood, who was not only a minister, but a physician of acknowledged skill, serving in that capacity for more than thirty years with a good degree of success and to the satisfaction of his patrons. The third physician of the town was Dr. Howard, whose stay was brief and of whom nothing further is known. In 1822 Horace Parker, M.D., from Westford, began the practice of his profession in the place and continued till his health failed in 1829, when he returned to his old home, resigning his place to his brother David, who had studied with him and who had already practiced somewhat in the community. Dr. David Parker came to Gardner well-qualified for the duties of his calling and cordially endorsed by the highest medical authority in the Commonwealth. He early evinced unusual skill in the treatment of disease and endeared himself to the people of the town and vicinity, both by his success as a physician and by his kindness and sympathy in times of sickness, anxiety and bereavement. Had he given himself wholly to his chosen work he would have risen to a high and commanding position in the medical world. For nearly sixty years he lived in Gardner, was familiar with its affairs and with the great mass of its people, attending to the duties of his profession almost to the last, and passing away at the advanced age of more than four-score years in the spring of 1886. Others of the profession in town have been: Drs. Carpenter, Jew-

ett, Harriman, Warner, Whittier, Sanborn and Sawyer, Sr. The present physicians are: Drs. R. F. Andrews, C. H. Bailey, E. A. Colby, J. E. Gallagher, G. W. Garland, J. R. Greenleaf, H. P. Grise, F. E. Hale, Waldo Mason, ——— Mulligan, J. H. Pilardy, F. S. Riopelle, E. A. Sawyer, W. A. Smith, G. B. Underwood.

ATTORNEYS.—Among the first men who practiced law in Gardner were C. H. B. Snow, Esq. and C. W. Carter, Esq. Mr. Snow died many years ago, and Mr. Carter is still in the profession at Leominster. The present lawyers are Charles D. Burrage, Thatcher B. Dunn, Ephraim D. Howe, Edward P. Pierce and James A. Stiles.

POPULATION, ETC.—The population of the town, indicating its growth from the beginning, is given as copied from statistical tables preserved in the office of the State Secretary, at Boston, to wit: 1785, about 300; 1790, 531; 1800, 667; 1810, 815; 1820, 911; 1830, 1023; 1840, 1260; 1850, 1533; 1855, 2183; 1860, 2666; 1865, 2553; 1870, 3333; 1875, 3730; 1880, 4988; 1885, 7283.

Of the 7283 inhabitants in 1885, there were native males, 2650; females, 2630; foreign males, 1067; females, 891; mulatto males, 35; females 10. This population was distributed in 1673 families, who occupied 1148 dwellings.

According to the assessor's estimates for the last year (1888) the property of the town is as follows:

Total value of personal estate	$1,006,070
Total value of real estate	2,883,476
Whole valuation	$3,889,546

From the same authority it appears that on the 1st day of May the last year there were in town: horses, 732; cows, 511; sheep, 45; other neat cattle, 139; swine, 119; dwelling-houses, 1251½; land assessed, 12,558.44 acres; number of tax-payers, 2,955; number of polls, 2,635; amount of money to be raised by taxation in 1888, $71,313.29.

The public property of the town of Gardner in the year 1888, as reported to the Tax Commissioner of the Commonwealth, Alanson W. Beard, was follows:

School-houses	$65,000
Town-house	30,000
Armory	3,000
Almshouse—real and personal property	9,000
Eighty-four shares in Fitchburg Bank	7,300
Fire apparatus	6,000
Engine-houses	12,000
Other assets (cash on hand)	10,000
Cemeteries	5,000
Public grounds	5,000
Total	$152,300

The liabilities of the town are:

Funded debt	$106,000
Temporary loan	8,000
Trust funds	425
Total	$114,425

The present town officers are: Clerk and Treasurer, C. Webster Bush; Selectmen, Charles Bancroft, Webster Cowee, G. N. Dyer; Assessors, R. P. Adams, Marcus Whitney, Thomas F. Carney; Overseers of the Poor, Charles Eaton, Charles Whitney, Jos. D. Frinney; Collector of Taxes, Edwin H. Cady; School Committee, Dr. E. A. Sawyer, Mrs. Clara Howe, J. M. Moore.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

LEVI HEYWOOD.

Prominent among the business-men and inventors of this his native town stands the name of Levi Heywood, a sketch of whose ancestors' lives and inventive genius we here give. In connection with each of the varied industries which have made New England the work-shop of the country, there is in almost every case some single name, that of a pioneer, or especially successful manufacturer, which is at once suggested when the industry is named. In this relation to the chair manufacture stands the name of Heywood. The various families of this name, widely disseminated through Middlesex and Worcester Counties, are all of them, it is believed, descended from John Heywood, who, prior to 1650, came from England and settled in Concord, Mass. His son, well and widely known as Deacon John Heywood, was a man of large influence both in civil and in ecclesiastical affairs. One of his sons, Phineas, born in Concord in 1707, removed in 1739 to Shrewsbury, Mass. He was selectman, a Representative in the Provincial Congress, a member of the Committee of Correspondence in 1774–75, and a man of large influence in public affairs. His son Benjamin, born in 1746, was commissioned, in 1776, a captain and paymaster in the army, and served through the war. He was present at the surrender of Gen. Burgoyne. From 1802 to 1811 he was one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, and for many years was one of the most eminent citizens of Worcester County. His older brother, Seth, born in Concord in 1738, was carried with his father's family to Shrewsbury, and in 1762 was married to Martha Temple, of that town. He soon after moved to Sterling, and served as lieutenant in the Army of the Revolution, purchasing a farm within the limits of what is now Gardner. He was living there at the time of the incorporation of the town in 1785, and, in connection with John Glazier, was one of the petitioners and chief promoters of that act, and was the first town clerk. His son Benjamin, born in Gardner in 1773, married Mary Whitney. He inherited his father's farm. He was for many years the town treasurer. His children were Levi, Benjamin F., Walter, William, Seth and Charles. He died in 1849, in his seventy-seventh year.

Levi Heywood was born in Gardner, December 10, 1800. His early advantages for education were only those of the common schools of that day, with the

ett, Harriman, Warner, Whittier, Sanborn and Sawyer, Sr. The present physicians are: Drs. R. F. Andrews, C. H. Bailey, E. A. Colby, J. E. Gallagher, G. W. Garland, J. R. Greenleaf, H. P. Grise, F. E. Hale, Waldo Mason, ——— Mulligan, J. H. Pilardy, F. S. Riopelle, E. A. Sawyer, W. A. Smith, G. B. Underwood.

ATTORNEYS.—Among the first men who practiced law in Gardner were C. H. B. Snow, Esq. and C. W. Carter, Esq. Mr. Snow died many years ago, and Mr. Carter is still in the profession at Leominster. The present lawyers are Charles D. Burrage, Thatcher B. Dunn, Ephraim D. Howe, Edward P. Pierce and James A. Stiles.

POPULATION, ETC.—The population of the town, indicating its growth from the beginning, is given as copied from statistical tables preserved in the office of the State Secretary, at Boston, to wit: 1785, about 300; 1790, 531; 1800, 667; 1810, 815; 1820, 911; 1830, 1023; 1840, 1260; 1850, 1533; 1855, 2183; 1860, 2666; 1865, 2553; 1870, 3333; 1875, 3730; 1880, 4988; 1885, 7283.

Of the 7283 inhabitants in 1885, there were native males, 2650; females, 2630; foreign males, 1067; females, 891; mulatto males, 35; females 10. This population was distributed in 1673 families, who occupied 1148 dwellings.

According to the assessor's estimates for the last year (1888) the property of the town is as follows:

Total value of personal estate	$1,006,070
Total value of real estate	2,883,476
Whole valuation	$3,889,546

From the same authority it appears that on the 1st day of May the last year there were in town: horses, 732; cows, 511; sheep, 45; other neat cattle, 139; swine, 119; dwelling-houses, 1251½; land assessed, 12,558.44 acres; number of tax-payers, 2,955; number of polls, 2,635; amount of money to be raised by taxation in 1888, $71,313.29.

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Levi Heywood was born in Gardner, December 10, 1800. His early advantages for education were only those of the common schools of that day, with the

addition of two terms at the academy in New Salem, Mass. He taught school for two terms, in 1820-21-22. In the spring of the latter year he went to Rochester, N. Y., and was employed for about one year in stone-work by contract. Returning in 1823 to Gardner, he entered into partnership with his brother Benjamin, in the business of a country store. In 1826 he commenced, in Gardner, the manufacture of wood-seated chairs. In 1831 he went to Boston, and opened a store for the sale of chairs, in which business he continued till 1836.

He also, in connection with W. R. Carnes and his brother William, under the firm-name of Heywood & Carnes, started a mill for sawing veneers from mahogany, etc., in Charlestown. This mill was burned in 1835. He then returned to Gardner, and entered into partnership with his brother Walter, who with others had been for some years engaged in the manufacture of chairs on part of the premises now occupied by Heywood Bros. & Co. The veneer-mill in Charlestown was rebuilt, and Mr. Heywood retained his interest in it until 1849. The business of the new firm in Gardner was conducted with success, the manufacture being mainly by hand, the only machinery being the ordinary turning-lathes and circular-saws, which were operated by water-power, obtained from the pond now known as Crystal Lake.

In 1841 it occurred to Levi Heywood that machinery specially adapted to the various processes of manufacture might be introduced to advantage. His brother, of a more conservative disposition, hesitated to leave the well-worn paths in which they were achieving reasonable success. This difference of opinion led to a dissolution of the partnership, Levi purchasing his brother's interest. He at once gave his thoughts and labor to the devising and constructing of special machinery, as well as to the introduction of different kinds of wood-working machinery, which were already in use for other purposes, and were also adapted to his purpose. In the successful carrying-out of this idea he inaugurated a new era in the chair manufacture, and herein manifested much enterprise, together with the fertility of resource, mechanical skill and inventiveness, and the purpose to introduce constantly new and valuable features, both in methods of manufacture and in style of product, which have always characterized him, and have been large elements of his success.

As an instance of his originality in the matter of mechanical devices, it may be said that as early as 1835 he conceived the idea of the band-saw, now universally adopted as one of the most valuable tools in wood-work. The idea was not original with him though, nor really novel, for as early as 1808 Wm. Newberry, of London, England, had conceived the same idea, and made a crude model of a band sawing machine, but did nothing more with it. So thoroughly were its advantages anticipated by Mr. Heywood, that he consulted with B. D. Whitney, of Winchendon, and with Charles Griffiths, of Boston, as to the feasibility of constructing a machine of this kind. Both of these gentlemen, experts in such matters, agreed that with the quality of saw-blades then made, or any known methods of uniting them, so as to make an endless band, the idea could not be successfully carried out. As is well known, M. Perin, of Paris, France, has since that time accomplished what Mr. Heywood so many years before conceived to be both desirable and feasible.

In 1844 he took into partnership General Moses Wood, then of Providence, R. I., and his brother Seth, the style of the firm being Heywood & Wood. This partnership continued till July 1, 1849. At that time General Wood retired from the firm, and Messrs. Calvin Heywood and Henry C. Hill were admitted, the style of the firm being changed to L. Heywood & Co. Mr. Heywood, in addition to his business relations as the head of the firm of Heywood Bros. & Co., in 1847 formed a partnership with Hon. W. B. Washburn, of Greenfield, Mass., in the manufacture of chairs and wooden-ware, at Erving, Mass., the style of the firm being Messrs. Washburn & Heywood. At this point it is proper to refer to the inventions of Mr. Heywood, which have been mostly to meet the demands of his own business, and have largely contributed to its success. Among them may be named one for wood chair-seat, one for tilting chair, three for machines for splitting, shaving and otherwise manipulating rattan, and four for machinery for bending wood. Of the merits of his wood-bending process it may be proper to introduce the testimony of M. Fr. Thonet, of Vienna, Austria, the head of the largest chair manufacturing firm in the world, employing some five thousand operatives. After visiting the factories of Messrs. Heywood, he wrote: "I must tell you candidly that you have got the best machinery for bending wood that I ever saw, and I will say that I have seen and experimented a great deal in the bending of wood." The Heywood patents have been combined with those of John C. Morris, of Cincinnati, Ohio, on which the patents of Blanchard have, after protracted litigation, been decided to be infringements. The combined patents owned by the Morris & Heywood Wood-Bending Co. it is believed cover the really effective methods for bending wood.

Mr. Heywood represented the town in the convention for revising the Constitution of the State in the year 1853, and in the lower branch of the Legislature in 1871. He was a director in the Gardner National Bank, and a trustee of the Gardner Savings Bank from the organization of those institutions; an attendant of the Congregational Church in Gardner, and a liberal contributor to its support. He was largely interested in educational matters, and made liberal donations of land and otherwise to the town in this direction. He was respected in the highest degree for his personal integrity and excellence of

character, and his example was for good to the large number of his employés, and to the community in which he was long regarded as the most influential citizen. He died July 21, 1882.

CHARLES HEYWOOD.

The subject of this sketch, Mr. Charles Heywood, was the second son of Levi and Martha (Wright) Heywood, and was born during the temporary residence of his parents in Boston, on the 12th day of November, 1831. At an early age, having received a good elementary education in the public schools and at the Fitchburg Academy, he entered the office of E. D. Brigham & Co., commission merchants on Long Wharf, when he was subjected to a thorough training in mercantile affairs, which, in addition to his native abilities and previous acquirements, admirably fitted him for his subsequent career in life. When nineteen years old he went into the counting-room of the rising establishment of which his father was the founder and head, and in which he himself was to become an important factor in later years. There he applied himself not only to the clerical duties pertaining to his position, but to the study and mastery of the details and practical workings of the great industry with which he was brought in contact, and of the means and agencies by which that industry could be carried forward to larger issues and a grander achievement than had as yet been attained or conceived of as possible for it. He thus became amply qualified for membership in the firm of Heywood Bros. & Co., to which he was admitted a few years later, and for a responsible place in its multiform activities. For a while he had charge of the Boston department of the establishment, having his residence at Winchester, a few miles out of the city. In 1866 he returned to Gardner, where he was brought into more immediate relation to the processes of manufacture and to the development and growth of the business, and when he assumed a more direct responsibility in the control of the company's affairs. In 1868 he withrew from the firm, but returned to it six years later and remained in its active service until compelled to desist by failing health, which resulted in his death June 24, 1882. By his removal from the scene of his earthly labors, Gardner lost one of its first citizens, and one of the best representatives of its important interests and prosperous fortunes.

It is difficult to justly estimate such a man as Charley Heywood, to set in proper array his many estimable qualities, and to give him that complete and symmetrical portraiture which will reproduce him, as he was, to the reader's eye and mind. Only a few hints to this end will be attempted in this delineation. As a man of business, quick to grasp business problems and efficient in executing business demands, he was, by common consent, pre-eminent. Nature seemed to have made him, under the eye of a wise Providence, for business pursuits and achievements, endowing him with a keen, clear insight in that direction and a discriminating, practical judgment which, acting with such spontaneity and precision, was akin to genius, if not genius itself. An eminent citizen of a neighboring town, well qualified to judge in such matters, declared him to be "the ablest financier in the northern part of Worcester County."

But he was more than a business man by far—a man of affairs was he in a large sense, built after a generous pattern, to serve many uses, and to answer numerous ends in life. He was a many-sided man. Of versatile gifts, of wide sympathies, of broad views, of comprehensive purposes and aims, of a liberal spirit, he was restricted to one line of effort, to no narrow field of desire or endeavor. Nothing relating to the public good or to the prosperity and welfare of the community was foreign to him or failed to enlist his interest and active support. His ability, his manly character, his disinterested spirit were recognized by his fellow-citizens, who were swift to acknowledge them and ready to honor them by suitable tokens of confidence and appreciative regard. At different periods he held by election and appointment the responsible offices of selectman, School Committee and town treasurer. When in Winchester in 1861 he was chosen Representative to the General Court, and again in 1868 in the district of which Gardner formed a part, though he was a pronounced Democrat, while the district was decidedly Republican — his well-known ability, combined with his sound judgment and fair-mindedness, securing for him the cordial support of many of his political opponents. As a Democrat, he was repeatedly nominated for Congressman and State Senator. At the organization of the Gardner Savings Bank in 1868 he was elected president, and in 1872 was called to the presidency of the First National Bank upon the retirement of Amasa Bancroft, a position which he held till his decease. He took an active part in the long struggle to secure the construction of the Boston, Barre and Gardner Railroad and contributed very largely of his personal effort and pecuniary means to that result. In recognition of his services the corporation made him, for many years, one of its vice-presidents and finally its president. An ardent admirer of the principles, ritual and objects of the Masonic order, he was greatly interested and chiefly instrumental in the founding of Hope Lodge in Gardner, of which he was made first Master. Devoted to the mystic rites, he was held in high esteem by his associates, and rose by regular gradation to the thirty-second degree in the ascending series of honors conferred under the jurisdiction of the order.

Whatever he deemed a benefit to the community and town received his cordial encouragement and support. His name was identified for twenty years with almost every public improvement that was made.

Chas: Heywood

William Reynolds

He was the prime mover in the project for establishing a system of water works. He took part in the preliminary proceedings relating to the founding of a Public Library. He furnished means wherewith to start a printing-office and a local paper in the place. The lithotype business, which has risen to considerable importance and given the town a notoriety in circles which did not know of it before, was inaugurated mainly through his influence and by his help. Mr. Heywood had great interest in and sympathy for young men, and often aided such as manifested a laudable ambition to make a successful start in a business career and fill an honorable place in life by his counsel and pecuniary means. He was liberal to benevolent and charitable movements and objects, and the deserving poor and unfortunate were often relieved and cheered by his unostentatious acts of kindness and good-will. He was a faithful friend to the needy and suffering, and will long be held by such in grateful remembrance. A friend also to religion and to religious institutions, he contributed liberally to the activities connected with the First Congregational Church and Society, whose influence in the community he deemed most salutary and indispensable. Deeply interested in the erection of the church edifice which now graces the head of the Common, he was made chairman of the building committee, and to his influence and efforts its existence was largely due. Not narrow and exclusive, but broad and tolerant in his religious views and sympathies, he respected those who honestly differed from him in opinion, and often, by his contributions, aided other churches than his own in their early struggles to get a foot-hold in the community in order to do some earnest Christian work for God and man. The high regard in which Mr. Heywood was held, not only by the people of his own town, but by the general community, as a business man, a high-minded citizen and a public benefactor, was abundantly attested at his obsequies, when a vast multitude from all the region round, and from far-away places, gathered in the spacious church he had done so much to rear, to express by their presence the sense of loss which filled their hearts, and to pay respectful and appropriate honors to his name and memory.

SETH HEYWOOD.

Seth Heywood was the youngest of the five sons of Benjamin and Mary (Whitney) Heywood who lived to grow up to maturity, all of whom were intimately connected with the chair-making industry in Gardner and elsewhere, and most of whom gained a creditable reputation for business enterprise and efficiency through their manufactured goods, distributed far and wide in this and other countries of the globe. He was born November 12, 1812, and spent the first twenty years of his life upon his father's farm, which then comprised a large portion of the territory now covered by the central village of the town. Having shared the educational advantages which the public schools offered him in his youth, he went to work, before attaining his majority, for his older brothers, then engaged in business under the style of B. F. Heywood & Co., and with the enterprise long identified with the family name he has been connected to the present day—first as workman for several years, then as partner in the management from 1845 to 1882, and finally as confidential adviser and friend. He is the only surviving member of the original firm of Heywood Brothers & Co., reorganized and put upon permanent footing in 1861. Less aggressive and venturesome than his brother Levi, with whom he was so long and so intimately associated, he yet has not only witnessed the growth of the gigantic establishment to which he has been attached from its very inception, but, in his more quiet, unobtrusive way, by his influence and counsel, as well as by his pecuniary means and more active efforts, has done his full share, no doubt, to promote its development and wonderful success. Fortunately, when he desired to lay aside the responsibilities pertaining to the management of the still growing business, he had sons trained under his own care to something of his own wise and prudent methods, whose ability and efficiency had been thoroughly tested, to whom he could resign the weighty interests he had helped to guard and conserve in the assurance that they would not suffer detriment by the change.

Extremely modest and unassuming, Mr. Heywood has not only shrunk from everything that might seem to partake of the spirit of self-seeking or desire for popular favor, but also from taking positions of public trust which he was in every way well qualified to fill, and to which his fellow-citizens would gladly have called him had he consented to yield to their wishes. He has, however, been induced to accept the office of treasurer of the town, a position which he held for several years, discharging its duties with scrupulous fidelity and care. He was sent to the General Court in 1860, his political opponents confiding in his good judgment, integrity and interest in the public welfare, helping to secure to him whatever honors a seat in the lower branch of the Legislature might be able to confer upon him. He has been officially connected with the management of the National and Savings Banks of Gardner, as director and trustee respectively, from the time they were instituted to the present day, and to his financial ability and conservative spirit is due, in proportionate degree, their acknowledged strength and their good standing in the financial world.

He is also a member of Hope Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons, and is in good repute as a brother of the mystic tie. Public-spirited and liberally-minded, kind and charitable, he is ready to do his part in all movements and enterprises in which the good of the people at large and the prosperity of the

town are involved. He is a Trinitarian Congregationalist by religious association, though of the more liberal type, and has always been a generous patron of the First Congregational Church and Society. As a man and a citizen he is above reproach and without guile. Of agreeable, though retiring manners, reticent, but cheerful in disposition and countenance, eminently just in his dealings with all men, of incorruptible probity and honor unstained, no man in the community and town is more sincerely respected than he, and no one is deemed more worthy of trust.

HENRY C. HILL.

The subject of this sketch, Mr. Henry C. Hill, was the son of Bernard and Sarah More Hill, of Newport, R. I., where he was born November 8, 1821. Of his boyhood and early youth little has been learned. While yet but a lad he was employed in the paint shop of Levi Heywood & Co., at Boston, whence he was transferred in the year 1841, before attaining his majority, to the same department of the same firm in Gardner, where, by his fidelity and skill and manifest devotion to his employers' interests, he soon rose to the position of foreman. Proving an efficient manager and displaying general business capacity, and, moreover, having shown himself to be a man of sterling principle and undoubted honor, he was deemed so essential a factor in the development and successful issue of the important industry with which he was connected, that in 1847 he was admitted as an active member of the firm, with which he remained through its several changes and under its varying names for twenty-one years, retiring with a satisfactory fortune in 1868. After severing his old business relations he led a more quiet life, attending to some less onerous but responsible public trusts which he had assumed, answering the calls that naturally came to him in a community whose interests and well-being he desired to foster and promote, enjoying the society of his friends and the hallowed intimacies of his own household until his death, which occurred on the 13th day of February, 1878.

Mr. Hill was a man of generous, noble nature, commending himself not only to his business associates and others with whom he met in a business way by his practical wisdom, financial ability, trustworthy judgment and downright honesty of purpose, but also to the general public by those more general qualities of character which go to make up a complete manhood, and which are calculated to secure the confidence and regard of all classes of people. As a consequence and proof of this, he was called to fill numerous positions of responsibility and trust, the duties of which he discharged with such fidelity and care, with such cheerfulness and courtesy, as to constantly gain to himself new friends or to rivet more closely friendships formed before. For two years he served the town on the Board of Selectmen, and was an influential adviser in regard to many matters of public interest and concern. Upon the retirement of Mr. Charles Heywood from the presidency of the Gardner Savings Bank, in 1876, Mr. Hill was chosen to fill the vacant place, in which he served with highly creditable faithfulness and sagacity until his failing health obliged him to desist. He was for some years director of the First National Bank of Gardner, and to his valuable and highly appreciated services to that institution his associates furnished ample testimony in the resolutions passed by them at the time of his death. Interested in the principles and ritual of the Masonic fraternity, he assisted in the founding of Hope Lodge as one of the charter members, and served as its second Master to the acceptance of his brothers of the craft. He was also a member of the Jerusalem Encampment of Knights Templar of Fitchburg, and of the Worcester County Commandery. Politically attached to the principles and policy of the Democratic party, he was repeatedly honored, under its auspices, with the candidacy for Congress in his Representative district and for both houses of the State Legislature.

Interested in public affairs, he kept himself well-informed upon what was going on about him to the last. The prosperity and welfare of his adopted town he had much at heart, and contributed liberally to what he deemed conducive thereto. He cultivated literary tastes, and collected in his own home a considerable library of well-selected standard works, which he found to be a great source of comfort and satisfaction when failing health obliged him to withdraw from more active life. His habits and inclinations were largely domestic. He took great delight in making his home cheerful, pleasant, attractive, happy, and sought his chief enjoyment in the bosom of his family. His kind, thoughtful, constant effort in this direction and behalf fill that home, now that he has left it, with tender, touching, sacred memories.

Mr. Hill was not formally connected with any church, but he held the Christian faith in sincere respect, and honored Christian institutions by his personal influence, encouragement and liberal pecuniary support. He was a regular attendant upon the public religious services of the First Parish of the town, and one of the last acts of his life was to give two thousand dollars to aid in the erection of its present beautiful and commodious house of worship. Unassuming in manner and in spirit, he abhorred shams and pretenses, and delighted in what is substantial and real, whether relating to articles of manufacture or to personal character, and sought to illustrate in himself the genuineness he professed to believe in and admire.

PHILANDER DERBY.

The second largest chair manufacturing establishment in the town of Gardner is that of which Mr. Philander Derby is the acknowledged head, and to which he, above all others, has imparted life, energy

Shumaker Cohn

S. W. Purdue

and indeed all the essential elements of its phenomenal success. The career of this man is in many respects a remarkable one, full of interest, full of instruction, full of encouragement to all humble, honest workers in any and every field of human effort and achievement. Its more salient and suggestive features are herein brought to the reader's notice.

Philander Derby was born in the town of Somerset, Windham Co., Vt., June 18, 1816. He was the son of Levi and Sally (Stratton) Derby, of the same place, grandson of Nathan and of Abigail (Pierce) Derby, of Westminster, and great-grandson of Andrew Derby, one of the early settlers of the last-named town, and for many years clerk of the proprietors, previous to its incorporation. He worked upon the home farm till he was twenty-one years of age, when he left the familiar fields and hills behind him and went forth to seek his fortune. Coming to Massachusetts to visit relatives and friends, and to find, if possible, some favorable opening for himself, he after a little time made an engagement with Phelps & Spofford, of Sutton, to work in and about their factory, doing such incidental and odd jobs as might be assigned to him in the interest of his employers. There he remained two years and then went back to his old home and made an arrangement with his father to take the farm, with a view of settling upon it and devoting himself thereafter to the primitive calling of tilling the soil. At the expiration of three years, however, he changed his plans, gave up the place and again turned his steps to Massachusetts. He went to Templeton, entered the chair-shop of Mr. Windsor White, in whose employ he continued two years. Having mastered the trade of making chairs, as he thought, and feeling himself competent to carry on business for himself, he removed to Jamaica, Vt., not far from his native town, and there, in the midst of a lumber region, where material could be easily obtained, he began manufacturing on his own account. Not succeeding to his satisfaction, he sold out his investment and the third time took his way to the old Bay State. Coming to Gardner—the place of all others for the chair business—he made an engagement with Rugg, Collester & Co. as a workman, at the termination of which he was employed by S. K. Pierce, with whom he afterward entered into partnership, which continued but a short time. At its dissolution, Mr. Derby, thrown out of a place, tried two or three kinds of business, but, finding nothing that suited him, seized upon the opportunity offered him to purchase a half-interest in the chair manufactory owned and managed by Abner White, located at the site now occupied by A. & H. C. Knowlton & Co. Not long afterward he bought out his partner and continued the business by himself for several years, covering the period of great financial depression in 1857 and reaching to the time of the breaking out of the war in 1861, when the whole land was filled with uncertainty and alarm and all business interests and enterprises were seriously disturbed and imperiled. It was a time of trial to Mr. Derby, just fairly started in the chair manufacture, with the burden of heavy responsibilities resting upon him. But he nerved himself to meet the crisis in a manly way. By various expedients requiring hard work, sagacity and a resolute will, he succeeded in going through the ordeal without serious harm, meeting his obligations as they matured, saving his business, maintaining his credit and his honor unimpeached and firmly established before the world. Taking a fresh start, he has gone on from that time to the present in a career of exceptional prosperity, as detailed in one of the chapters preceding these sketches.

The success of Mr. Derby is due chiefly to himself rather than to any fortuitous circumstances or outside aid—to his untiring industry, his determined purpose, his unfaltering perseverance, which no discouragements could check, no obstacles deter and no dark forebodings overcome. These native endowments, acting along the lines and according to the conditions of business prosperity, have given him the victory and crowned him with well-earned and durable honors. It is, however, a matter of simple justice to note the fact that he has had in his wife a valuable helper throughout his business career. Her faith and courage have reinforced and fortified his energies in some of his more trying experiences, while in the practical management of his affairs her cool judgment and clear-seeing sagacity have often rendered him essential service.

Mr. Derby, though closely confined to the building up and developing his business interests, has not been disposed to ignore his relations to the general public nor to be indifferent to matters pertaining to the welfare of the community. He has been ready and happy to do his full share in supporting the institutions of society, to contribute to benevolent and charitable objects and to help in any enterprise which he deemed promotive of the good order, real prosperity and enduring welfare of the community. Declining all invitations to public office, he has yet consented to serve for some years as director of the National Bank and as trustee of the Savings Bank in his own town. A man of principle and honor, he shares the confidence and regard of his fellow-citizens; a friend of temperance, he commends the cause by both precept and and example. A Republican in politics, he is true to his convictions, but holds no one in disesteem for honestly differing from him in relation to matters of public policy. An Orthodox Congregationalist in religion, he is tolerant of all faiths and seeks to honor his Christian profession by a Christian life.

SYLVESTER K. PIERCE.

One of the most active, enterprising, successful business men of the town of Gardner was he whose

name stands at the head of this biographical sketch. Mr. Pierce was the son of Jonas and Achsah (Haynes) Pierce, of Westminster, where he was born April 11, 1820. He was a descendant in the seventh generation of Anthony Pierce, who came to this country from England about the year 1630, settled in Watertown, Mass., and was made a freeman there September 3, 1634, becoming the common ancestor of a large posterity, whose representatives are scattered all over the United States. When Sylvester K. Pierce was but three years of age his father died, leaving him and several other children to the care and training of a mother who, with limited resources, struggled hard to provide for her dependent ones the means of subsistence, and to fit them for the duties and responsibilities of maturer life. At the age of eleven he was sent to reside with a sister, who had married a farmer of his native town, where it was thought he could be better cared for than at home, and where he remained three years, going thence to spend another year with another sister similarly situated in Ashburnham. At the expiration of that period, when fifteen years old, he came to Gardner and engaged in the service of Elijah Putnam as apprentice to the trade of chair-making, under an arrangement by the terms of which he was to remain two years, and receive, besides his trade, board and schooling, the sum of $120 in money. After this he was for five years employed as journeyman in Ashby and Ashburnham, when he returned to Gardner and entered upon that career of business and financial prosperity which is sufficiently indicated in its appropriate place in the preceding historical sketch of the town of his adoption. That active and successful career was brought to a sudden termination by his decease January 28, 1888. A man of large frame and of robust constitution, he had enjoyed general good health until, having contracted a violent cold which in its early stages took the form of typhoid pneumonia, he came to his death five days afterward.

Like many another successful manufacturer and prominent citizen of Gardner, Mr. Pierce was a good example of a self-made man. Starting out in life from humble conditions, deprived of a father's protection and guidance when but a child, put to manual labor at an early age, compelled by necessity to forego many of the comforts and delights so acceptable to youth and so desirable at all times, and to endure many privations and hardships, dispossessed of advantages and opportunities so helpful to the development of a self-reliant and well-balanced character, he yet, by his own energy, ambition, industry, sleepless vigilance and unfaltering perseverance in the pursuit of business ends according to business principles and methods, built up from inconsiderable beginnings one of the largest and most substantial manufacturing enterprises of the town in which he lived, and became one of the most active, prominent and influential, as he was one of the most wealthy, of its citizens. For a generation he was the leading man in the industrial interests of the community where he resided, and the renewed life and increasing prosperity of the village of South Gardner during these later years are largely due to his efforts and influence. The enlargement of his business as the years have gone by called in workmen with their families from abroad, conducing to the material growth of that part of the town, as well as to its social, educational and religious advancement and importance. The immense establishment with which his name is especially identified is the most prominent feature of the neighborhood, while his residence opposite, with its imposing front of fine architectural design and stately proportions generally, arrests the attention of every passer-by. A furniture and carpet store erected by him, and put in operation in 1869, has attracted patronage from a wide circle of surrounding country, and his farming operations, carried on as a sort of pastime or recreation supplementary to the more onerous duties of his regular business, have won the recognition of connoisseurs in that department of human activity.

Politically Mr. Pierce belonged to the Republican party, but, while loyal to its principles and devoted to its interests, never aspired to leadership in its councils or to any office at its disposal. He has, however, been called to, and has filled acceptably, important positions in financial enterprises both in his own and other towns, his business sagacity and integrity securing to him the confidence of those having important trusts in charge. He was for many years a director of the Wachusett Bank, Fitchburg, and of the First National Bank, Gardner; also a trustee of the Gardner Savings Bank, and of the People's Savings Bank, Worcester. To him have been assigned, from time to time, important interests in the management of town affairs. He was a member of the First Congregational Church and Society in the town, serving for many years on the board of management connected therewith, and taking an active interest in all matters pertaining to church activity and usefulness. A kind husband, an affectionate and devoted father, an enterprising and honored citizen, his sudden removal from the midst of his earthly labors, while "his eye was not yet dim nor his manly force abated," was a loss to his family and to the community widely felt and deeply lamented.

EDWARD J. SAWYER, M.D.

Edward Julius Sawyer, son of Rev. Pember and Laura Sawyer, was born in West Haven, Rutland County, Vt., August 3, 1829, and died at Gardner, Mass., May 10, 1883. He received his early education at New London, N. H., and Chester Academy, Vt., where were laid the foundations of that broader and more thorough culture which characterized his maturer life.

Choosing the profession of medicine for a calling, he studied with Dr. Lowell, of Chester, and attended

Edward Julius Sawyer.

Calvin S Greenwood

lectures at the Medical College in Castleton, in the same State, from which institution he graduated with the honors of a degree in June, 1853. He soon after began the practice of his profession at Acworth, N. H.; but, at the expiration of five years, desiring a larger field and better opportunities, he removed to Gardner, Mass., where he found an opening and a sphere of activity more congenial to his tastes and better suited to his ability and power of usefulness. Entering into his work here with earnestness and zeal, he soon gained the confidence of the community and secured a good practice, which grew year by year till his decease.

Dr. Sawyer was well qualified for the duties of his profession and fully equipped for every department of service in it. Thorough in his diagnosis and skillful in his treatment of disease, of deliberate judgment and high character, he was often called upon to act as professional consultant in difficult cases, where he proved himself as acceptable and trustworthy as he did in the more regular duties of a family physician.

In the sick-room he was cheerful, sympathetic and encouraging, his presence and personal influence contributing to the benefit of his patients as well as his prescriptions. There was to him a sacredness in his work which called into exercise all his best powers, and to those committed to his professional care he gave unwearied and conscientious attention.

But Dr. Sawyer commended himself to the confidence and esteem of the general public not only by his professional ability and success, but by his manly qualities, his courteous manners and consistent Christian life. He was a pleasant companion, a faithful friend, a public-spirited, honorable and honored citizen. Well read in the current literature of the times, familiar with passing events, of broad sympathies and generous culture, and withal a ready, entertaining speaker, he was often called upon to address public gatherings on important occasions, which he was able to do with ease and eloquence and to the edification and delight of his hearers.

Dr. Sawyer was one of the founders of the Worcester North District Medical Society, and for two years its president. He was also a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society and of the American Medical Congress. During the war he was appointed examining physician by Governor Andrew, a position which he filled with credit to himself and acceptably to all.

Politically he was a Democrat of the "old school," and as such received the nomination of his party as a candidate for important offices in both the State and National Legislatures. But he was not guilty of "offensive partisanship," and so commanded the respect of his political opponents and received a commission of justice of the peace at three different times from a Republican Governor.

As a member of the Masonic order he was held in high regard by his brethren, and was honored with repeated tokens of their confidence and favor. He was a charter member of Hope Lodge, and for many years occupied in it the high and responsible position of Master. He received all the usual degrees of the order attainable in this country, and was well versed in its ritual and mysteries. In recognition of his ability and worth as "a just and upright Mason," he was appointed Deputy Grand Master for the Masonic district in which he resided.

In religion Dr. Sawyer was an Orthodox Congregationalist of the modern type, and a member of the First Church of Gardner; one who proved the sincerity and intelligence of his Christian profession by the purity and uprightness of his character and life. He served the God he believed in and adored by serving well his fellow-men.

As an indication of the high place which Dr. Sawyer had gained in the esteem of those most intimately associated with him, the testimonials given below are respectfully submitted. The first is from the record of the action taken by his Masonic associates with regard to his death, and the second from remarks made by Dr. J. P. Lynde, of Athol, President of the Worcester North Medical Society, in view of the same event, which were adopted as expressing the sentiments of the members, and ordered to be placed upon the records of their association, as a fitting tribute to his memory:

WHEREAS, The intimate relations so long held by the deceased with the members of Hope Lodge as their Master and otherwise render it proper and desirable that they should record their appreciation of his many virtues and eminent services for the good of Masonry, whether as Master of Hope Lodge, or as District Deputy Grand Master, or in humbler positions, &c.; therefore,

Resolved, That we extend to the family of the deceased our heartfelt sympathy in this their great affliction, and assure them that his memory will ever be treasured by us as an incentive to noble and right endeavor.

Resolved, That with profound sorrow and regret we mourn the loss of our brother, consoled only by the trust and confidence that what is our loss is his gain. JOHN D. EDGELL, *Secretary*.

As a physician he was prudent, intelligent, skillful and successful. In his intercourse with his patrons he was kind, courteous, urbane, self-denying, and was held by them in high esteem, and had to a great degree their confidence and love. . . As a citizen and as a man among men, he was respected by his neighbors and all who shared his society. . . He had reached the meridian of life and was rapidly growing in usefulness and influence. . We shall remember his manly form, his dignified presence, his cheerful greetings, his work and worth among us for twenty-five years past, and we will cherish his memory with affectionate respect, and sympathize with his family in their bereavement. CHARLES H. RICE, *Secretary*.

CALVIN S. GREENWOOD.

Calvin S. Greenwood was born in Gardner, May 18, 1810, and died there August 25, 1873, having scarcely passed the summit of an active, useful, honorable life. He was the son of Alvin and Mary (Childs) Greenwood, and the grandson of Jonathan Greenwood, one of the early settlers of the town, whose great-grandfather was Thomas Greenwood, a resident of Newton, Mass., in 1667, and probably the first of the name in this country. He shared the

meagre educational advantages proffered him in his boyhood and youth, and early in life learned the trade which was then just beginning to present some signs of its future prominence in the community, and of which he was destined to become, in after-years, an efficient promoter and a worthy representative. In 1837 he went into company with Mr. David Wright, and, the two having purchased the privilege now occupied by his sons with its appurtenances, and made the requisite changes and improvements, began the manufacture of chairs under the name of Greenwood & Wright—a firm long and favorably known in the vicinity and among business men. Mr. Greenwood was connected with the industry carried on at this stand, either as co-partner with others or as sole proprietor and manager, until his death, a period of thirty-six years, evincing more than usual native business capacity, which was improved by experience, and which crowned his efforts and endeavors with a well-earned and reputable success.

Mr. Greenwood was an earnest, enterprising man, doing with his might what his hands found to do, and entering into whatever project secured his confidence and co-operation with unfaltering purpose and persevering zeal. He accomplished much in the way of advancing the material interests and industrial prosperity of the village of South Gardner, not only by developing and extending the special enterprise with which his name was identified, but by encouraging undertakings outside of his own particular field of activity even to the extent of furnishing at times personal credit and financial support, when those undertakings were entered upon with an honest purpose and were calculated to enhance the common welfare. Indeed, whatever seemed to him conducive to the real prosperity and happiness of the community, was sure to receive sympathy from him and such substantial aid as he could render it.

But he was not only public-spirited in the general sense indicated, he was in every way large-minded and large-hearted, of generous impulses and disinterested aims, desirous of making the world better and happier by his being in it. He had something of an "enthusiasm for humanity" dwelling and burning in his breast, causing him to be actively interested in moral and social reforms, in philanthropic movements, in charitable objects,— in everything that had in its keeping the permanent good of his fellow-men, which he deemed consonant with the honor and glory of God. He was a decided, outspoken anti-slavery man in the early days of that cause, when to be such was to subject one oftentimes to obloquy, scorn and open denunciation—a brave soldier he was in the "irrepressible conflict" which was raging for twenty years or more before the strife at arms, summoning to service the horrid enginery of war, was inaugurated in the land; and which, while it no doubt hastened the crisis, also determined its final issue in the victory of Freedom and the Republic over their misguided and murderous foes. And when the outbreak came and treason struck at the nation's life in order that the slave-power might reign perpetual in the nation's councils, he, grasping the meaning of the fight and the mighty interests at stake, took an active and influential part in rousing the patriotic ardor of his fellow-citizens, and in securing that action of the town which proved its loyalty in the time of the country's need, and contributed in due degree to the triumph of the right, wherein was included the proclamation of "liberty through all the land to all the inhabitants thereof." Mr. Greenwood was, moreover, a strong and tireless friend of temperance, adopting, as of vital importance in advancing the interests of that cause, the principles of total abstinence demonstrating, the sincerity of his faith by his personal habits in his daily life. Other reforms received the smiles of his approving favor and every good word and work found in him an advocate and helper. To him came the blessing pronounced upon those that consider the poor, and he distributed his benefactions liberally, but quietly, among such according to his means.

He received undoubted assurances of the confidence and appreciative regard of his fellow-townsmen, in that he was repeatedly called to the service of the public in positions requiring sound judgment, impartial justice, unimpeachable integrity and an unselfish regard for the good of the community. He filled acceptably positions of grave responsibility in the adminstration of town affairs and in the financial institutions of which he was an associate member. He also represented the town in the Massachusetts Legislature of 1869. He possessed qualities of mind and character, which, supplemented by a kind spirit, an enthusiastic manner and a pleasing address, gave him wide and salutary influence wherever he was known.

An ardent Republican in his political convictions and associations, he was truly democratic in feeling and according to the principles of the Declaration of Independence. Of reverent and devout spirit and of Christian principles and faith, he entered the fellowship of the Evangelical Congregational Church of Gardner, and was earnestly devoted to its interests and prosperity. But he was not dogmatic nor sectarian, but gave a broad interpretation to the teaching of the Gospel, and was happy to recognize and confess the presence and power of the Spirit of God wherever the fruits of that Spirit were found. He was unusually domestic in his habits and tastes, delighting in his home, affectionate and happy in all his relations with those near to him there, to whom he was most dear, and by whom he is held in tender and sacred remembrance. Moreover, he was one of the most genial, approachable and affable of men, always courteous and kind, and withal of cheerful, sunny countenance, making him an agreeable companion as well as a choice friend. To him, as to few

Amasa Burnes

beside might be appropriately applied the significant and highly honorable title of a *Christian gentleman.*

AMASA BANCROFT.

The subject of this notice, whose name appears above, was the son of Smyrna and Sarah (Whitney) Bancroft, and grandson of Jonathan and Sarah (Case) Bancroft, who were among the earliest settlers upon the territory now included within the boundaries of Gardner. He was a descendant of Lieut. Thomas Bancroft, who was born in England in 1622, and, coming to New England in his opening manhood, settled in Lynn for a short time, but before the year 1648 was permanently located at Reading, Mass., where he became the common ancestor of a large posterity bearing his own and other names, among whom are those who have attained distinction and high honor, not only in this but in foreign lands.

Amasa Bancroft was born March 16, 1812, on the place situated three-fourths of a mile northwest of the Common, first occupied and improved by his grandfather some years before the incorporation of the town. His boyhood and youth were spent in the manner that was usual with farmers' sons in this section of the country half a century or more ago. In the routine of his daily tasks, and under the responsibilities laid upon him, there were developed in him those habits of industry, prudence and general thriftiness, and that self-reliant spirit, so essential to a strong and reliable character, which, in after-years, served him so well in the various positions and relations in life he was called upon to fill. Arriving at mature age, he did not go out to seek his fortune in larger communities, where there was greater promise of promotion and worldly success, but remained in his native town, content to enter upon whatever career of usefulness might open to him there. The business of chair-making was at that time just becoming established in the community, and beginning to display some indications of what it was destined to be in the future, and he spent three years in learning the trade. This accomplished, he formed a partnership with Frederick Parker, and the two carried on the manufacture for a year in a small shop standing near the present residence of Mr. Henry Lawrence. They then associated with themselves Messrs. Jared Taylor and Joel Baker, forming a company which bore the name of Taylor, Bancroft & Co., and bought the so-called "Pail Factory" property in the south part of the town, of Sawin & Damon, who had started the making of pails, buckets and kindred wooden-ware by machinery not long before, for the purpose of continuing the production of the same line of goods. This they did for four years, or till 1840, when Mr. Bancroft purchased his partners' interest, and went on from that time, as represented heretofore, till his death, which occurred January 25, 1888, when he is said to have been the oldest pail and tub manufacturer in the United States.

Mr. Bancroft was a man in whom the town of Gardner might take a just and laudable pride. Born within its borders, trained in one of its homes, educated in its schools and churches, aiding in the development of its industrial prosperity, and extending sympathy and support to whatever might promote its intellectual, social, moral and religious interests, he merited, as he received, the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, and of all classes of the community. He was repeatedly called to fill places of responsibility and trust, and discharged the duties of those positions with conscientious fidelity, and to the satisfaction of all concerned. He was a member of the Board of Selectmen for five years; he was the first president of the First National Bank, an office which he held for seven years; and he was trustee of the Savings Bank from its establishment in 1865 to the time of his death.

Endowed by nature with a good mental and moral constitution, Mr. Bancroft made it the foundation of an upright, useful, exemplary life. Among other native gifts, he was the possessor of an unusually musical voice, combined with a quick ear and delicate taste for the concord of sweet sounds. These capabilities, improved by such culture as he could command, made him a favorite in musical circles wherever he was known. With pleasing address, and power of imparting whatever musical knowledge he had acquired, he was for many years an acceptable and efficient teacher of singing-schools in the neighborhood round about, and a respected leader of the choir of the church to which he belonged for forty years. His singing was with power and effect. His early pastor in characterizing it said, "He sang from his own heart into other hearts."

A man of cheerful disposition, humane feelings, tender sympathies and generous impulses, every good work found in Mr. Bancroft a helper, and every philanthropic cause a friend. He was considerate of the men in his employ, of the unfortunate and worthy poor, and his benefactions to such were many, but scrupulously kept from the public eye. He shrank from whatever might seem like notoriety or love of display, and many of his donations to objects he held most dear were not only unknown to the world, but to those nearest to him in life.

In his home he was genial, affectionate, kind and helpful, making life there sunny and glad by his presence. His immediate relatives were very dear to him, and upon them he lavished the wealth of his tender, manly heart. He dispensed a liberal hospitality, and his friends were always met at his door with a warm and earnest welcome.

Mr. Bancroft was a man of strong religious convictions and of deep religious feeling. A Congregationalist of the Evangelical school, he was sincerely devoted to his church, and to the doctrines for which it stood. But with him religion was not simply a form of belief, but also a mode of life. He accepted

the Christian faith as the basis and inspiring source of a Christian character, and his daily walk and conversation before God and men testified to the sincerity of his convictions, to the purity of his motives, and to the exalted quality of his purposes and aims. When he passed away the church lost a conscientious and faithful devotee, his native town a worthy son and citizen, and the world a high-minded, honorable man.

GEORGE S. COLBURN.

The student of local history who has carefully followed the pages of these volumes has not failed to be impressed with the record of mechanical devices produced and perfected by the men of Worcester County. To their inventive genius is due the thanks of all our citizens, for they primarily, have produced the whirling wheels of the mill and factory to sing of comfortable homes and good table for the operatives there employed.

The manufacture of chairs, which forms by far the largest part of our industry, has materially changed during the past quarter of a century, and prominent among the names of the men who have by their brain invented and developed machinery for this particular branch of our industry is that of George S. Colburn, the subject of this sketch, who was born in Leominster, May 5, 1820. His father, Simeon Colburn, died when the boy was but three months old, leaving his widow in straitened circumstances, and as soon as the boy was sufficiently large to "do chores" he was sent to live with an uncle in Cambridge, where he remained working for his board two years. Then he went to live with Deacon Joseph Dickenson in Swansea, N. H., with whom he remained until his seventeenth year, working early and late on the rocky farm nine months in the year, attending the district school the other three, and acquiring the branches then taught therein.

A taste for mechanics developed itself early in Mr. Colburn's life, and in boyhood he was wont to arrange and adjust small mechanical devices. At the age of seventeen he apprenticed himself with Mr. James Clark, of Royalston, to learn the shoe-maker's trade, remaining four years, receiving his board and $2.00 for his labor, out of which he had to clothe himself. At the age of twenty-four he went to work in a furniture shop. Here he was impressed with the lack of machinery for the treament of cane, and began to study and experiment upon machinery for doing this work. He was so successful that he gave his whole attention to the manufacture of this class of machinery and to the manipulation of cane.

In 1857 he went to Wakefield to assist Mr. Cyrus Wakefield in the development of the "Wakefield Rattan Co.," one of the most important industries of that whole section. Here he remained until, his health breaking down, he was obliged to go out of doors and so purchased a small farm. After about a year he recovered, and in 1875 came to Gardner to assist Messrs. Heywood & Co. in the development of that part of their extensive plant relating to the treatment of cane. He remained with them several years, and having acquired a competency, he retired from active business, and with his wife, who was Miss Frances R. Sawyer, of Royalston, and whom he married in 1843, he occupies a charming home in the west village, conscious of having performed life's allotted tasks uncomplainingly and faithfully.

S. W. A. STEVENS.

Simeon W. A. Stevens, the oldest merchant in Gardner and the postmaster in the South Village for thirty-five years, was the son of Abel and Sally (Spaulding) Stevens of Westford, Mass., where he was born July 27, 1818, and where he lived until he was about eleven years of age. At that time, his father having died, he came to Gardner and worked as office and errand boy for his brother, Abel Stevens, who was then running the South Gardner Hotel. At the expiration of two years he returned to Westford, his mother still residing there, remaining nearly the same length of time employed in helping one of the townspeople about his farm and in supplementing his previous district school education by a few terms' tuition at the widely-known Westford Academy. He then, being fifteen years old, came again to Gardner, went into the chair-shop, learned the trade of making chairs and worked as a journeyman till he was twenty-one. His health having become somewhat impaired by continuous in-door employment, he left the shop and engaged in driving team for Mr. Stephen Taylor, by whom he had previously been employed at his trade. He continued in this service two years, going then to Leominster and running a team on his own account from that place to Boston. This continued till the opening of the Fitchburg Railroad four years later put an end to that method of transportation. Returning once more to Gardner, he carried on the same business for several years, having David Kendall for a partner a portion of the time, and serving the general public even after the railroad was built through the place, by carting goods to and from the depots at both ends of the line.

On the 1st of January, 1850, Mr. Lewis H. Bradford, who had for some years been engaged in the miscellaneous merchandise traffic in South Gardner, being about to remove to Fitchburg, formed a partnership with Mr. Stevens and William Hogan, to whom he committed the care of the store previously occupied by him. A few years later, Stevens and Hogan bought Mr. Bradford's interest and went on in their own behalf. When the South Gardner Manufacturing Company was formed, they merged their special business in the general undertaking, which aimed to ab-

Geo. B. Carpenter

Anastasia

sorb and control nearly all the industrial activities in that part of the town. While the new experiment was going on and proving its incapacity, Mr. Stevens turned his attention for a while to the manufacture of chairs at the stand now occupied by Wright & Read. But not succeeding to his satisfaction, and the joint stock enterprise failing to meet the expectations of its friends and coming to an end, he, in the readjustment of affairs, took the store and its contents, and associating with himself Mr. George Greenwood, went on as before under the name of S. W. A. Stevens & Co. Ten years after, in 1868, Mr. Stevens by purchase became sole proprietor of the establishment. In 1876 he received as partner his son Ambrose, and the two have been in company since, the firm-name being S. W. A. Stevens & Son. They do the same kind of miscellaneous business that has always been transacted where they are located, after the manner of an old-fashioned country store.

According to the above review it appears that at the opening of the present year (1889), Mr. Stevens has been in trade at the same stand for a period of thirty-nine years, with the exception of the brief interval alluded to (and even then he was indirectly connected with it), and has fairly earned the title of the veteran merchant of Gardner. By close attention to his business interests and careful management, combined with his gentlemanly manners and evident disposition to accommodate and please, he has gained for himself a widely-extended patronage, and achieved what may be regarded as an honorable success in life and a good standing among his business associates, and elsewhere. In addition to the personal qualities mentioned, he is characterized by a sense of justice, and a purpose to deal fairly and honorably with all men, that are calculated to inspire and secure that confidence and respectful esteem in the community where he has lived for nearly sixty years, which he seems fortunate enough to share to a very high degree. The fact that he has held the office of postmaster for more than a generation, having been first appointed to the position under the administration of Franklin Pierce in 1854, through all the vicissitudes of political life, and especially through six successive terms of the supremacy of his political opponents, he being an outspoken and well-known Democrat, and without any special effort on the part of himself or his friends, is an enviable testimonial to his kindness, courtesy and readiness to oblige, as well as to the honest, equitable and impartial manner in which he has discharged the duties of the station he has been called upon to fill. His ability, fidelity and trustworthiness in other directions have been recognized by his fellow-citizens and publicly acknowledged, in that they have chosen him selectman at different times, and assessor, and appointed him on committees to which important public interests have been referred. He was one of the first directors of the National Bank in Gardner, and has been a trustee of the Savings Bank from the beginning. He is a member, and has been for some years the treasurer, of the Baptist Society, to the activities connected with which he has long been a cheerful and liberal contributor. He is also president of the Green Bower Cemetery Association.

The career of such a man as Mr. Stevens is full of lessons of wisdom and practical utility for all classes and conditions of people, and especially for those who, having come to, or are approaching mature years, are soon to enter upon the more active duties and labors of life. It indicates to every aspiring, right-minded youth the direction in which true success lies, and the general conditions upon which a good standing in the world, the esteem of those whose esteem is worth having, usefulness, honor and happiness may be gained. It presents an example which furnishes instruction and encouragement for such and is commended to them as worthy of study and emulation.

JOHN EDGELL.

William Edgell, first of Woburn and afterward of Lexington, a tinman by trade, who married Elizabeth Norman, of Marblehead, about the year 1720 and died before 1734, leaving four sons, was, so far as is known, the common ancestor of the family in New England. The name was probably Edgehill at the outset, as it so appears in some of the earlier records, and, if so, was very likely derived from Edgehill in the mother country, a locality whence the emigrant may have come to these shores, and in which his ancestors may have for a long time resided. The youngest of the sons referred to, also called William, was an early settler in Westminster, where he purchased lands in 1750, on which he soon after located, becoming a prominent man and an influential citizen in local and public affairs. Among the children of this second William was a third William, who married Thankful Puffer, of which union John Edgell, the subject of this notice, was born October 15, 1804.

The first years of John Edgell's life were spent upon the farm of his father, but before arriving at his majority he learned the trade of shoemaking, which he followed for a time, going from house to house with his kit of tools, after the fashion of those days, and stopping where his services were required long enough to supply the existing family needs in that particular —a practice familiarly termed "whipping the cat." He subsequently learned to make chairs, and was engaged in that business for many years under different auspices in his own and neighboring towns. An important change occurred in his life when, in 1836, he removed from Westminster to Gardner, just in season to take advantage of the tide, then beginning to rise, which was to bear the little town of a thousand people on to prosperous fortunes and an undreamed-of success. He resumed there his former calling, pursuing it for some years by himself in a shop attached to

his dwelling-house, and attending personally to the transporting and selling of his own goods, and afterward for a time, with the late Charles W. Bush and others for partners, in the oldest of the buildings now composing the large establishment of Philander Derby & Co., some other kinds of work being connected with that of manufacturing chairs.

Long before this, however, he had been running a weekly coach to Worcester, going on Tuesdays and returning on Wednesdays, for the accommodation of travelers, the distribution of Worcester papers to patrons along the route and the transaction of a general carrying and express business in the interest of the public. This was but incidental and subsidiary to his regular vocation. As more rapid means of transit and more frequent intercourse between the towns through which he passed were established, his patronage declined and his coach line was eventually given up. But his experience in this direction opened the way to the more satisfactory employment of his later years. His miscellaneous business at the county-seat brought him into contact with gentlemen representing some of the more important interests located there, with which he afterwards became permanently identified. This was especially the case with reference to the matters of fire insurance, of settling estates and of conveyancing, to each and all of which he has devoted himself as a means of livelihood and of profit for the last thirty or more years. He was the first regular underwriter in Gardner, and for a long time was without a competitor. No one probably in the vicinity did as much conveyancing for a generation as he, and no one in that northwest part of Worcester County has probably taken so many cases to the Probate Court and carried them through satisfactorily as he has done. In actual knowledge upon all these important matters, and in ability to transact business relating to them, he has rarely been equaled, perhaps never excelled. In all these matters, too, and especially in the settlement of estates,—a department in which he has had much to do with people in the humbler walks of life,—there has been such confidence in his knowledge, ability, impartial judgment, conscientious regard for what is just and right, and disposition to make reasonable charges for services rendered, as that the humblest and those least skilled in business of any sort would entrust their monetary affairs, sometimes their all, to him, as to a tried and devoted friend, assured that their interests would be guarded and promoted with scrupulous watchfulness and care.

Aside from the duties devolving upon him in the lines of activity indicated, Mr. Edgell has been called upon by his fellow-citizens to fill almost every office at their disposal. To his efforts and influence the founding of both the National and Savings Banks in Gardner was largely due. Of the former he has been one of the directors from the beginning, as he has been one of the trustees of the latter, and its president for three years after the decease of Francis Richardson, Esq. He has always been on the investment committeee of the Savings Bank, a position to which he brought qualities fitting him pre-eminently for the efficient discharge of the responsible duties it required. No man for a generation has been better acquainted with landed property and every kind of real estate in Gardner and vicinity than he, and the judgment of no one in regard to such property has been more earnestly sought for or more implicitly trusted.

Mr. Edgell is a man of decided opinions upon questions of both private virtue and of public policy, and is open and frank in the expression of them. But his recognized kindness of heart, sincerity of purpose and high character generally have prevented personal alienation or distrust on that account. Naturally modest and retiring, he yet shirks no duty when laid upon him and evades no responsibility when once assumed or made known. He has much of the spirit of a reformer, and has given aid and encouragement to the great moral movements of the age. He called himself an Abolitionist when the name was a reproach; he has been for long years in precept and practice a friend and promoter of the temperance cause, and other needful and important changes in personal and social life he has advocated and maintained. Originally a Whig in politics, his sympathy with the anti-slavery cause inclined him, after a while, to withdraw from the support of that party and to look for the rising of a political movement which should stand boldly against the usurpations of the slave power, inscribing upon its banner "Liberty" as well as "Independence." He was consequently ready with his sympathy and support for the Free-Soil party in 1848, and even more so for the advent or formation of the Republican party in 1856, to the principles, interests and fortunes of which he has ever been warmly and conscientiously attached. Elected to the Lower House of the Legislature of Massachusetts in 1850 and 1851 by the suffrages of his neighbors and friends, he counts it an honor to have belonged to that company of the faithful who, after a hotly-contested struggle extending through twenty-six successive ballotings, at length succeeded in sending that noble son of the good old Commonwealth, Charles Sumner, for the first time to the Senate of the United States, where for more than twenty years he rendered valiant service for his country and for liberty.

Though not of late years connected with any great industry or popular organization which would give him influence in the community, yet few men have exerted greater power for good than he or done more for the prosperity and enduring welfare of the town of his adoption. Withdrawn somewhat from active business and from open participation in public affairs by reason of his advanced age, he nevertheless still retains in a marked degree the full possession and use of his intellectual and moral faculties, and his counsel and guidance are still much sought for and heeded in the practical concerns of life.

Yours Truly